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governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 7 April 2018

This weekly digest is intended to aggregate and distill key content from a broad spectrum of practice domains and organization types including key agencies/IGOs, NGOs, governments, academic and research institutions, consortiums and collaborations, foundations, and commercial organizations. We also monitor a spectrum of peer-reviewed journals and general media channels. The Sentinel's geographic scope is global/regional but selected country-level content is included. We recognize that this spectrum/scope yields an indicative and not an exhaustive product.

The Sentinel is a service of the Center for Governance, Evidence, Ethics, Policy & Practice, a program of the [GE2P2 Global Foundation](#), which is solely responsible for its content. Comments and suggestions should be directed to:

David R. Curry
Editor, *The Sentinel*
President, GE2P2 Global Foundation
david.r.curry@ge2p2center.net

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***Contents* [click on link below to move to associated content]**

- :: [Week in Review](#)***
- :: [Key Agency/IGO/Governments Watch](#)* - Selected Updates from 30+ entities**
- :: [INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch](#)* - Media Releases, Major Initiatives, Research**
- :: [Foundation/Major Donor Watch](#)* - Selected Updates**
- :: [Journal Watch](#)* - Key articles and abstracts from 100+ peer-reviewed journals**

:: Week in Review

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



Governance

Editor's Note:

Of course, there is no shortage of thoughtful editorials and comment pieces published in major global newspapers or distributed through electronic media outlets. We will very selectively include examples such as the piece by former U.S. Secretary of State Madeline Albright below.

Will We Stop Trump Before It's Too Late?

Fascism poses a more serious threat now than at any time since the end of World War II.

By MADELEINE ALBRIGHT

APRIL 6, 2018

New York Times, *Sunday Review / Opinion*

On April 28, 1945 — 73 years ago — Italians hung the corpse of their former dictator Benito Mussolini upside down next to a gas station in Milan. Two days later, Adolf Hitler committed suicide in his bunker beneath the streets of war-ravaged Berlin. Fascism, it appeared, was dead. To guard against a recurrence, the survivors of war and the Holocaust joined forces to create the United Nations, forge global financial institutions and — through the Universal Declaration of Human Rights — strengthen the rule of law. In 1989, the Berlin Wall came down and the honor roll of elected governments swelled not only in Central Europe, but also Latin America, Africa and Asia. Almost everywhere, it seemed, dictators were out and democrats were in. Freedom was ascendant.

Today, we are in a new era, testing whether the democratic banner can remain aloft amid terrorism, sectarian conflicts, vulnerable borders, rogue social media and the cynical schemes of ambitious men. The answer is not self-evident. We may be encouraged that most people in most countries still want to live freely and in peace, but there is no ignoring the storm clouds that have gathered. In fact, fascism — and the tendencies that lead toward fascism — pose a more serious threat now than at any time since the end of World War II.

Warning signs include the relentless grab for more authority by governing parties in Hungary, the Philippines, Poland and Turkey — all United States allies. The raw anger that feeds fascism is evident across the Atlantic in the growth of nativist movements opposed to the idea of a united Europe, including in Germany, where the right-wing Alternative für Deutschland has emerged as the principal opposition party. The danger of despotism is on display in the Russia of Vladimir Putin — invader of Ukraine, meddler in foreign democracies, accused political assassin, brazen liar and proud son of the K.G.B. Putin has just been re-elected to a new six-year term, while in Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, a ruthless ideologue, is poised to triumph in sham balloting next month. In China, Xi Jinping has persuaded a docile National People's Congress to lift the constitutional limit on his tenure in power.

Around the Mediterranean, the once bright promise of the Arab Spring has been betrayed by autocratic leaders, such as Abdel Fattah el-Sisi of Egypt (also just re-elected), who use security to justify the jailing of reporters and political opponents. Thanks to allies in Moscow and Tehran, the tyrant Bashar al-Assad retains his stranglehold over much of Syria. In Africa, the presidents who serve longest are often the most corrupt, multiplying the harm they inflict with each passing year. Meanwhile, the possibility that fascism will be accorded a fresh chance to strut around the world stage is enhanced by the volatile presidency of Donald Trump.

If freedom is to prevail over the many challenges to it, American leadership is urgently required. This was among the indelible lessons of the 20th century. But by what he has said, done and failed to do, Mr. Trump has steadily diminished America's positive clout in global councils. Instead of mobilizing international coalitions to take on world problems, he touts the doctrine of "every nation for itself" and has led America into isolated positions on trade, climate change and Middle East peace. Instead of engaging in creative diplomacy, he has insulted United States neighbors and allies, walked away from key international agreements, mocked multilateral organizations and stripped the State Department of its resources and role. Instead of standing up for the values of a free society, Mr. Trump, with his oft-vented scorn for democracy's building blocks, has strengthened the hands of dictators. No longer need they fear United States criticism regarding human rights or civil liberties. On the contrary, they can and do point to Mr. Trump's own words to justify their repressive actions.

At one time or another, Mr. Trump has attacked the judiciary, ridiculed the media, defended torture, condoned police brutality, urged supporters to rough up hecklers and — jokingly or not — equated mere policy disagreements with treason. He tried to undermine faith in America's electoral process through a bogus advisory commission on voter integrity. He routinely vilifies federal law enforcement institutions. He libels immigrants and the countries from which they come. His words are so often at odds with the truth that they can appear ignorant, yet are in fact calculated to exacerbate religious, social and racial divisions. Overseas, rather than stand up to bullies, Mr. Trump appears to like bullies, and they are delighted to have him represent the American brand. If one were to draft a script chronicling fascism's resurrection, the abdication of America's moral leadership would make a credible first scene.

Equally alarming is the chance that Mr. Trump will set in motion events that neither he nor anyone else can control. His policy toward North Korea changes by the day and might quickly return to saber-rattling should Pyongyang prove stubborn before or during talks. His threat to withdraw from the 2015 Iran nuclear agreement could unravel a pact that has made the world safer and could undermine America's reputation for trustworthiness at a critical moment. His support of protectionist tariffs invites retaliation from major trading partners — creating unnecessary conflicts and putting at risk millions of export-dependent jobs. The recent purge of his national security team raises new questions about the quality of advice he will receive. John Bolton starts work in the White House on Monday.

What is to be done? First, defend the truth. A free press, for example, is not the enemy of the American people; it is the protector of the American people. Second, we must reinforce the principle that no one, not even the president, is above the law. Third, we should each do our part to energize the democratic process by registering new voters, listening respectfully to those with whom we disagree, knocking on doors for favored candidates, and ignoring the cynical counsel: "There's nothing to be done."

I'm 80 years old, but I can still be inspired when I see young people coming together to demand the right to study without having to wear a flak jacket.

We should also reflect on the definition of greatness. Can a nation merit that label by aligning itself with dictators and autocrats, ignoring human rights, declaring open season on the environment, and disdaining the use of diplomacy at a time when virtually every serious problem requires international cooperation?

To me, greatness goes a little deeper than how much marble we put in our hotel lobbies and whether we have a Soviet-style military parade. America at its best is a place where people

from a multitude of backgrounds work together to safeguard the rights and enrich the lives of all. That's the example we have always aspired to set and the model people around the world hunger to see. And no politician, not even one in the Oval Office, should be allowed to tarnish that dream.

Madeleine Albright, the author of "Fascism: A Warning," served as United States secretary of state from 1997 to 2001.

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Human Rights/Poverty/Governance

The State of Social Safety Nets 2018

World Bank

2018 :: 189 pages

PDF:

<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/29115/9781464812545.pdf?sequence=5&isAllowed=y>

Overview

The State of Social Safety Nets 2018 Report examines global trends in the social safety net/social assistance coverage, spending, and program performance based on the World Bank Atlas of Social Protection Indicators of Resilience and Equity (ASPIRE) updated database. The report documents the main social safety net programs that exist globally and their use to alleviate poverty and to build shared prosperity. The 2018 report expands on the 2015 edition, both in administrative and household survey data coverage. A distinct mark of this report is that, for the first time, it tells the story of what happens with SSN/SA programs spending and coverage over time, when the data allow us to do so. This 2018 edition also features two special themes: Social Assistance and Ageing, focusing on the role of old-age social pensions, and Adaptive Social Protection, focusing on what makes SSN systems/programs adaptive to various shocks.

Press Release

Social Safety Net Programs Help Millions Escape Poverty, But Coverage Gaps Persist

WASHINGTON, April 4, 2018— Among the very poor who received safety net benefits, 36% escaped extreme poverty, providing clear evidence that social safety net programs are making a substantial impact in the global fight against poverty, says a new World Bank Group report. The impact of social safety nets on poverty is measured based on available household data from 79 countries by comparing the welfare of the safety nets beneficiaries to what it would have been had they not received such support.

Data from the State of the Social Safety Nets 2018 report shows that safety nets—which include cash, in-kind transfers, social pensions, public works, and school feeding programs targeted to poor and vulnerable households—also lower inequality, and reduce the poverty gap by about 45 percent, even if they do not emerge from poverty. These positive effects of safety net transfers hold true for low and middle-income countries alike.

Despite the increased adoption of safety net programs by countries in recent years, global coverage of poor and vulnerable people remains inadequate. About 2.5 billion people worldwide are covered by a social safety net, of which 650 million are in the poorest 20 percent. However, only one out of five persons living in a low-income country is covered by a social safety net.

Furthermore, countries at high risk of natural disasters often have lower safety net coverage. Developing and transition countries spend an average of 1.5 percent of GDP on social safety net programs. Many countries are spending more on such programs because they see the impact they make on poverty reduction. Countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia regions are also introducing flagship social safety net programs and are rapidly expanding coverage. For example, in Senegal, the flagship National Cash Transfer Program expanded swiftly from 3 to 16 percent of the population in just four years, while in the Philippines, the Pantawid conditional cash transfer program has expanded from 5 to 20 percent of the population since 2010...

Despite the evident aging trend, most countries do not have systems and benefits that can fully cover elderly people or their special needs. While nearly 90 percent of Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) economies have old age social pensions, only 70 percent of Latin America and the Caribbean economies, and nearly 65 percent of Europe and Central Asian do...

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Yemen

Donors Pledge \$2 Billion to Scale Up Aid Delivery in Yemen [EN/AR]

(Geneva, 3 April 2018) International donors today pledged more than US\$2 billion to support the delivery of urgently needed humanitarian aid to millions of people in Yemen during a pledging event in Geneva, co-chaired by the United Nations, Sweden and Switzerland.

"This pledging conference represents a remarkable success of international solidarity to the people of Yemen," said UN Secretary-General António Guterres. He added that "humanitarian resources are very important, but they are not enough. We need unrestricted access everywhere inside Yemen and we need all the parties to the conflict to respect international humanitarian law, and to protect civilians. Above all, we need a serious political process to lead to a political solution."

Pledges were made by 40 Member States and organizations, including the Central Emergency Response Fund, for humanitarian action in Yemen in 2018. These pledges will support the UN and partners' 2018 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (YHRP) which requires \$2.96 billion for lifesaving assistance to 13 million people, and other activities. On 27 March, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates provided \$930 million toward the YHRP which is reflected in today's pledging result. Securing full funding for this plan remains an urgent priority.

The full list of pledges is online <https://bit.ly/2GtXrjW>

Joint INGO Statement for the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen

3 April 2018

This statement was read by Shane Stevenson, Oxfam's Country Director in Yemen, on behalf of Oxfam and 21 other international NGOs currently working in Yemen.

INGOs are delivering life-saving humanitarian assistance to millions of vulnerable Yemenis, despite the complex and serious nature of the security situation and sustained bureaucratic access constraints.

For the record, we would like to formally acknowledge the dedication and commitment of all national, international and UN humanitarian aid workers in Yemen. Delivering humanitarian

assistance in Yemen is neither safe nor simple, particularly for the thousands of Yemeni staff whose work to deliver shows fortitude and courage.

The reality is that despite these gallant efforts, the humanitarian response is still failing to meet the basic needs of the 22 million Yemenis requiring assistance and protection. Yemeni people are dying of preventable illnesses, and the number on the brink of famine continues to rise.

As INGOs we are grateful for the financial commitments made by member states here today, but more is needed to tackle a humanitarian catastrophe of the scale we see in Yemen. What we need is a marked increase in engagement from the international community in the complexities of this conflict in order to reduce the suffering of the Yemeni people.

Therefore, today, INGOs are inviting donors and high-level Ministerial visits to Yemen, to enable you to ground your engagement and approach to supporting the country.

By being in Yemen you will better understand the short term but also the longer term needs of the Yemeni people, delve into the narrative and stories behind the figures cited in the HNO today. To understand the needs of the two million people that have fled their homes, the plight of the unpaid health worker, the frustration of the teachers with a classroom of hungry children, and the fear the conflict brings to daily life.

By being in Yemen you will better understand the grounded realities of delivering humanitarian aid and to be better placed to help resolve the daily impediments in delivering that support; to experience the frustration that comes from knowing that people are suffering because we are being prevented from reaching them - that more people could be helped if administration processes were fast tracked and security improved.

By being in Yemen you will better understand the modalities of the humanitarian response and the need for increased funding for livelihoods, community resilience building, and kick start the process of early recovery in parts of the country where there is some stability.

By being in Yemen you will better understand the devastation created by the failure of authorities to pay public servants for nearly two years. We need you to take responsibility for finding modalities to address this, and ensure hospitals, schools and water networks are operational.

By being in Yemen you will better understand that restrictions in imports and unstable supply chains lead to critical shortages, and to see the impact of inflated prices across basic commodities such as food, fuel and medicines.

By being in Yemen you will better understand that the future of the country is at risk as close to 2 million children are denied access to education.

Finally, by being in Yemen you will foster and strengthen engagement with all important stakeholders. We need leadership from the international community that doesn't just passively support a peace process but takes an active role in driving it forward.

Despite the generosity of member states and the gallant efforts of the humanitarian response, the plight of the Yemeni people continues to deteriorate. We are all fearful that another year will pass, no progress will be made, and more people will suffer and die.

Agencies who have signed:

ACTED
Action Against Hunger
ADRA
CARE International
Danish Refugee Council
Human Appeal
Humanity and Inclusion (Handicap International)
International Medical Corps
International Rescue Committee
INTERSOS
Medecins du Monde
Norwegian Refugee Council
Oxfam
Premiere Urgence Internationale
Pure Hands
Relief International
Saferworld
Save the Children
Search for Common Ground
Solidarites International
War Child
ZOA

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Featured Journal Content

The Lancet

Apr 07, 2018 Volume 391 Number 10128 p1331-1454
<http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>

Editorial

The collapse of the Venezuelan health system

The Lancet

When Hugo Chavez became Venezuela's new president in 1998, he promised to provide free health care to all and enshrined this right within Venezuela's new constitution, rewritten in 1999. Progress was rapid and initial results were promising: according to the World Bank, life expectancy at birth rose from 71·8 to 74·1 years for both genders and infant mortality fell from 26·7 to 14·6 deaths per 1000 live births between 1998 and 2013, the period of Chavez's rule. Success was recognised on the international stage and Venezuela achieved most of the UN's Millennium Development Goals set for 2010. This initial success came on a backdrop of high oil prices providing the necessary government funding for public health-care spending and food imports. At the same time, a strong relationship with Cuba saw an agreement in 2003 that, in exchange for low-cost oil, Cuba would provide doctors, medical training, and medical supplies free of charge to Venezuela.

However, when the oil price began to fall in 2008 and Chavez's revolutionary politics alienated foreign investors, the tide turned. The largest oil reserves in the world could not stave off economic collapse as lower demand for oil, excessive government spending, US sanctions, and price controls led to rocketing inflation and falling gross domestic product. The impact on the health-care system was exacerbated by exchange rate controls, which led to a shortage of the foreign currency needed to import equipment, food, and medicines.

Official government data are hard to come by. The last official report from the Venezuelan Ministry of Health was published in 2016 ([Boletin Epidemiologico](#)) and the then Health Minister, Antonieta Corporale, was rewarded by being sacked immediately thereafter by Nicolas Maduro, who has been leading the country since 2013 (Venezuela has had 17 different ministers of health in the past 20 years). The results of this report were highlighted in a Lancet World Report in August, 2017, which noted the untenable situation in Venezuela. This government report revealed a 65% increase in maternal mortality and a 30% increase in infant mortality, with 11 466 infants dying during 2016. It also revealed that while Venezuela had been the first country in the world to eliminate malaria in populated areas, this and other diseases such as diphtheria, which had previously been controlled, had returned in several outbreaks.

Health-care outcomes have continued to deteriorate rapidly. The Venezuelan Government has steadily reduced the share of its annual expenditure dedicated to public health-care spending from a high of 9·1% in 2010 to 5·8% in 2014. Medical supplies have been reported as going missing or getting embargoed and sitting in ports, with some media alleging corruption hindering distribution. Some of these are for treating heart disease and diabetes—the leading causes of death in Venezuela, according to [WHO](#). As a result, patients have resorted to bringing their own surgical instruments, drugs, and food to hospital. In private practice, medical professionals charge in US dollars, which makes health care unaffordable to most of the population.

A recent national survey—[Encuesta Nacional de Hospitales 2018](#) from the political opposition, the National Assembly, and the Venezuelan non-governmental organisation Médicos por la Salud—revealed that Venezuela's health crisis is worse than anticipated. The survey, conducted between March 1–10, 2018, assessed the performance of 104 public and 33 private hospitals in Venezuela. According to the figures, most laboratory services and hospital nutrition services are only available intermittently or are completely inoperative. Shortages of items such as basic medicines, catheters, surgical supplies, and infant formula are highlighted in the survey; 14% of intensive care units have been shut down because they are unable to operate and 79% of the facilities analysed have no water at all.

Venezuela's Government has allowed the country's infrastructure to crumble, with fatal consequences for ordinary Venezuelans. Without regular reports on basic health indicators, assessment of the impact of the crisis is difficult. However, the Encuesta Nacional de Hospitales 2018 survey shows a shocking decline in health-care performance and a failure of the system. Aware of this humanitarian crisis, as declared by the political opposition in 2017, worldwide humanitarian aid has been offered by multiple countries and the UN. Yet Venezuela's Government has refused this humanitarian aid, denying the existence of a crisis. It is time to end the abuse of power by the Venezuelan Government, and take immediate steps to address the heavy toll on the wellbeing of Venezuelans.

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

[Polio this week as of 3 April 2018](#) [GPEI]

Summary of newly-reported viruses this week:

Afghanistan: Afghanistan: One new case of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) has been confirmed this week, occurring in Kunar province.

Pakistan: One new case of wild poliovirus type 1 (WPV1) has been confirmed this week, occurring in Balochistan province. This is the first case reported in 2018.

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 7 April 2018]

The Syrian Arab Republic - *No new announcements identified*

Iraq - *No new announcements identified*

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified*

South Sudan - *No new announcements identified.*

Yemen - *No new announcements identified.*

[See High-Level Pledging Conference coverage in Milestones above]

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WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 7 April 2018]

Democratic Republic of the Congo

:: Reanalysing the humanitarian context to better redefine priorities for action [French]

WHO/Eugene Kabambi

5 April 2018 -- The crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo affect more than 13.1 million people, specially affected areas are Tanganyika, Kasai region, Kivus and Ituri. WHO national experts from the Health Emergency Management Team (WHE) and other Country Office clusters (epidemiologists, logisticians, internal and external communications, data managers, finance and travel services etc.), and international experts deployed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo gathered together to review WHO emergency operations in the county.

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

Cameroon - *No new announcements identified*

Central African Republic - *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

:: Humanitarian Conference on the DRC (13 April 2018)

OCHA, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the United Arab Emirates and the European Union are hosting a Humanitarian Conference on the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on Friday 13 April 2018, at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

Syrian Arab Republic

:: Syrian Arab Republic: Response to the East Ghouta Crisis in Rural Damascus Situation Report No. 2 (26 March - 2 April 2018)

Published on 04 Apr 2018

Highlights - Since 9 March, nearly 133,000 IDPs have left the besieged enclave of East Ghouta, either through established corridors to the IDP sites in Rural Damascus or through evacuation agreements to Idlib and Aleppo governorates...

Yemen

:: 2018 Yemen High-Level Pledging Event 3 April 2018

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 - *No new announcements identified.*

Rohingya Refugee Crisis - *No new announcements identified.*

Somalia - *No new announcements identified.* - *No new announcements identified.*

Nigeria - *No new announcements identified.*

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Agency/Government/IGO Watch

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

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 7 April 2018]

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

5 April 2018

SC/13279

Full Investigation Must Swiftly Identify, Apprehend Perpetrators, Security Council Hears during Heated Discussion on Salisbury Chemical Attack

The Security Council met this afternoon for the second time in less than a month to discuss a nerve-agent attack against Sergei Skripal and his daughter in the British city of Salisbury in March, with the representative of the Russian Federation — which had requested the meeting — saying the United Kingdom was engaged in “a theatre of the absurd” by seeking to pin responsibility on his country.

5 April 2018

SG/SM/18976-PKO/720

Secretary-General Condemns Deadly Mortar Attack against Mali Mission, Recalling Targeting of Peacekeepers May Constitute War Crimes

5 April 2018

SC/13280-DC/3767-PKO/718

Security Council Committee on Democratic Republic of Congo Meets with Special Representative, United Nations Mine Action Service

On 23 March 2018, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo met with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) on the arms embargo monitoring mandate of MONUSCO. Also present during the meeting were the representatives of MONUSCO's Joint Mission Analysis Centre (JMAC), United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the Coordinator of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo

4 April 2018

SC/13276

Questions Remain over Syria's Chemical Weapons Programme, Security Council Hears, as Speakers Call for Agreement on Suitable Accountability Mechanism

After more than four years of work, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) was still unable to verify that Syria's initial declaration on its chemical weapons programme was accurate, delegates told the Security Council today, underlining that questions remained about the use of such weapons in that country.

3 April 2018

SG/SM/18968-IHA/1450

With 22 Million People across Yemen Suffering, \$2.96 Billion Humanitarian Response Must Be Fully, Rapidly Funded, Secretary-General Tells Pledging Conference

3 April 2018

SC/13274

New Mission in Haiti Preparing Transition from Peacekeeping to Development Role, Under-Secretary-General Tells Security Council Ahead of Mandate Renewal

With the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) fully operational, preparations have already begun for that follow-up peacekeeping operation to make way for a new United Nations presence by the end of 2019 that would focus on the Caribbean nation's long-term sustainable development, the Organization's top peacekeeping official told the Security Council today.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true>

Selected Press Releases – "TOP NEWS"

[Press briefing note on Gaza and Guatemala](#)

[UN rights experts condemn Israel's response to Palestinian protests in Gaza](#)

[UN expert urges Spain not to pursue criminal charges of rebellion against political figures in Catalonia](#)

[Statement by UN Human Rights Office on Venezuela jail deaths](#)

[France urged by UN experts to take effective measures to bring water and sanitation services to migrants](#)

[UN experts urge Thailand to show leadership on business and human rights](#)

[UN Human Rights Committee publishes findings on Guatemala, El Salvador, Norway, Lebanon and Hungary](#)

[UN expert on torture to visit Argentina from April 9-20](#)

Human Rights Council [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 7 April 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 7 April 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 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 7 April 2018]

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

03 Apr 2018

[UN Special Representative Pramila Patten calls on the prompt establishment of the Steering Committee to organize the trials for the crimes of 28 September 2009 in Guinea](#)

Almost nine years after the events at the Conakry national stadium on 28 September 2009, which left at least 156 persons killed or disappeared and at least 109 victims of sexual violence, United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramila Patten, conducted a visit to Guinea from 26 to 28 March 2018, in the framework of the Joint Communiqué signed between the United Nations and the Government of Guinea in November 2011 to fight impunity for sexual violence..

UN OCHA [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases

6 April 2018

[DR Congo: 2017-2019 Humanitarian Response Plan - Summary Update 2018](#)

4 April 2018

[Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock: Statement on United Nations and Humanitarian Community Making Progress in Scaling Up Aid to People in the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

[Statement by Panos Moumtzis, Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for the Syria Crisis, on the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action \[EN/AR\]](#)

[2 million Ukrainians are affected by landmines in Ukraine's eastern conflict regions \[EN/UK\]](#)

3 April 2018

[Donors Pledge \\$2 Billion to Scale Up Aid Delivery in Yemen \[EN/AR\]](#)

[Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock, opening remarks at the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen](#)

2 April 2018

[UN Deputy Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria strongly condemns the continued targeting of civilians in north-east Nigeria](#)

Centre for Humanitarian Data/HDX [to 7 April 2018]

<https://centre.humdata.org/>

No new digest content identified.

UNICEF [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 7 April 2018]

<http://www.unhcr.org/en-us/media-centre.html>

Briefing Notes

[Response stepped up in Brazil as Venezuelan arrivals grow](#)

6 Apr 2018

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, working with the Brazilian Government and partners is ramping up the humanitarian response for the growing number of Venezuelans arriving in the north of the country with increasing needs...

Press releases and news comments

[Transcript: UNHCR's top Asia official briefs press on Australian offshore processing on Nauru, and UNHCR talks with Bangladesh and Myanmar](#) 4 Apr 2018

[UNHCR launches #WithRefugees solidarity tour](#) 4 Apr 2018

UNHCR Statement regarding the cancellation of Israel-UNHCR agreement 3 Apr 2018

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Announcements

2018-04-06 14:58

Micro Gardening Scheme to Help Feed Rohingya Refugees, Bangladeshi Local Communities

Cox's Bazar – IOM and the Food and Agriculture Organization are distributing 50,000 vegetable gardening kits to tackle malnutrition in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

Canada Supports IOM Scale-up of Humanitarian Aid for Displaced People in DR Congo

2018-04-06 14:54

Goma – The Government of Canada announced it will fund IOM in its response to the ongoing displacement crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

UN Migration Agency Supports Relocation of Venezuelan Migrants in Brazil

2018-04-06 14:52

Boa Vista – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, is supporting the Government of Brazil to relocate about 300 Venezuelan migrants from the State of Roraima, which borders Venezuela, to other cities in Brazil.

Mediterranean Migrant Arrivals Reach 15,289 in 2018; Deaths Reach 517

2018-04-06 14:46

Geneva – IOM, the UN Migration Agency, reports that 15,289 migrants and refugees have entered Europe by sea through the first 95 days of 2018, with about 44 per cent arriving in Italy and the remainder divided between Greece (33%) Spain (23%) and Cyprus (less than 1%).

UNAIDS [to 7 April 2018]

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

Update

Bordeaux signs Paris Declaration to end the AIDS epidemic in cities

05 April 2018

On 4 April, Bordeaux became the latest city to sign up to the Paris Declaration to end the AIDS epidemic in cities. The Mayor of Bordeaux and former French Prime Minister Alain Juppé signed the declaration alongside UNAIDS Executive Director Michel Sidibé at the opening of AFRAVIH, the international francophone HIV and hepatitis conference being held in Bordeaux, France, from 4 to 7 April.

WHO & Regional Offices [to 7 April 2018]

Latest News

Celebrating World Health Day

6 April 2018 – On World Health Day, 7 April, WHO marks its 70th anniversary. Over the past 7 decades, WHO has spearheaded efforts to rid the world of killer diseases like smallpox and to fight against deadly habits like tobacco use.

To celebrate this occasion, UN Postal Administration, has issued stamps to highlight universal

health coverage, this year's theme for the World Health Day, as a subject of universal concern to the peoples of the world.

News release

:::::

WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

Selected Featured News

:: Countries urged to strive for universal access to good quality health to spur economic growth
06 April 2018

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: PAHO calls for breaking down barriers that keep one in three people in the Americas from accessing health (04/04/2018)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: Prioritize Universal Health Coverage; provide quality health services to all: WHO New Delhi, 4 April 2018:

WHO European Region EURO

:: Bringing health services closer to people in Kyrgyzstan 05-04-2018

:: On World Health Day, recommit to health for all 05-04-2018

:: Tuberculosis services in Moscow extend "health for all" even to the most vulnerable 03-04-2018

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: WHO keeping hospitals and feeding centres alive in Yemen 2 April 2018

WHO Western Pacific Region

- *No new announcements identified.*

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

UN Shows Strong Support for Economic Stability in Lebanon

One month before Lebanon holds its first parliamentary elections in nearly a decade, the United Nations called for continued international support for Lebanon's political and economic stability,...

Posted on April 6, 2018

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 7 April 2018]
<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>
No new digest content identified.

UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) [to 7 April 2018]
<http://unsdsn.org/news/>
April 3, 2018

SDSN TReNDS engages with global experts and data community in Bristol, UK

In March, the Data for Development Festival, hosted by the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD) and the UK Government and co-organized by over 50 global organizations, including SDSN's Thematic Research Network on Data and Statistics (TReNDS), brought together more than 300 participants from around the world to exchange new ideas to harness the data [...]

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 7 April 2018]
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm>
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/commission.htm>
<http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/>

Seventh meeting of the IAEG-SDGs

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

This meeting will follow a different format from previous IAEG-SDG meetings. There will be a Members meeting taking place during the first day (9 April) and a Plenary Session taking place during the following three days (10 - 12 April). During the plenary session, all countries, international and regional agencies and entities, and other stakeholders are invited to attend.

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 7 April 2018]
<https://www.unenvironment.org/>
05 Apr 2018 *Press release*

Banking on Sunshine: World Added Far More Solar Than Fossil Fuel Power

Generating Capacity in 2017

China leads with more than half of world's new solar capacity Global solar investment jumps 18 percent to \$160.8 billion Cumulative renewable energy investment since 2004: \$2.9 trillion Frankfurt/Nairobi,

UNISDR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.unisdr.org/archive>
5 Apr 2018

UN welcomes Bhutan to Making Cities Resilient Campaign

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) today welcomed Thimphu, the capital of earthquake-prone Bhutan, as the newest member of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 7 April 2018]

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

6 April 2018, New York

Economic boom for whom? To end poverty, we must share economic gains more equally

On paper, we have every reason to be optimistic. After years of turbulence, the global economy is back on track with a healthy 3 per cent growth, extreme poverty has declined dramatically over the past 20 years and unemployment is falling in many parts of the world. Yet, large parts of the global population will struggle to see similar advancements in their personal financial situation.

In developing and developed countries alike, the global economic rebound has been slow to translate into higher wages and lower poverty. One reason behind this is the deepening income inequality. Evidence from several developed countries suggests that the recent growth in wages is benefitting primarily the high-earners. This is particularly true for the United States, where many analysts have linked growing inequality to the popularity of inward-looking policies...

4 April 2018, New York

Business leaders at UN forum challenged to invest in a more sustainable future for all

Three years into the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations continues brokering new partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), participants told a forum at UN Headquarters on Wednesday.

“Business as usual approaches won’t work,” said Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed at the 2018 ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council) Partnership Forum, an annual event promoting inclusive societies, including through innovative business models and mobilizing big data for public good.

“We need action – and bold action – to build an inclusive, resilient and sustainable future that leaves no one behind,” she continued...

UNESCO [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 7 April 2018]

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

05/04/2018 –

Statement of the UNODC Executive Director, Yury Fedotov, on International Day of Sport for Peace and Development

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 7 April 2018]

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

Posted April 3, 2018

UN-Habitat Executive Director clarifies that the Agency’s headquarter functions remain in Nairobi

Nairobi, 3 April 2018—UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimuna Moh’d Sharif, in a rejoinder to a story by Kenya’s Star newspaper, has allayed the fears that the agency might be split and some of the functions at the global...

UN-Habitat, local leaders to address youth’s problems in Kenya’s Marsabit County

Nairobi, 3 April 2018—UN-Habitat last week hosted a high level ministerial team from the Marsabit County Government, Kenya to discuss how to improve the livelihoods of youth in that region. The meeting identified key areas that UN-Habitat...

Posted April 3, 2018

Cleaning, Greening and Painting Campaign kicks off in Kabul

Kabul, 3 April 2018 – Kabul citizens launch a three-day campaign on cleaning, greening and painting the capital city of Afghanistan on the celebration of the traditional New Year holiday (Nawroz). With technical support from UN-Habitat, this activity intends to...

Posted April 3, 2018

Inauguration of the first safe and inclusive community garden in Al Shoka town in Gaza Strip

Al Shoka, Gaza Strip, 29 March 2018 – UN-Habitat jointly with UN-Women, the Palestinian Housing Council, Aisha Association for Woman and child protection, and GGateway inaugurated the first safe and inclusive community garden in Al-Shoka town in...

Posted April 3, 2018

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

5-04-2018

The FAO Food Price Index rises for the second consecutive month

In March, the FAO Food Price Index averaged 172.8 points, 1.1 percent higher than in February and 0.7 percent above its value a year earlier.

Family farmers must remain central to agroecology scale-up

Family farmers must remain central to bringing agroecology to scale, FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva stressed in his closing remarks to the 2nd International Agroecology Symposium at FAO in Rome.

5-04-2018

FAO helps Bolivian smallholder farmers produce sustainable world-class cocoa

Since 2015, FAO supports El Ceibo in different ways, by providing technical support, facilitating access to new markets, and brokering agreements with the Bolivian government to protect the interests of small cocoa farmers.

4-04-2018

Agroecology can help change the world's food production for the better

FAO Director-General José Graziano da Silva called for healthier and more sustainable food systems, and said agroecology can contribute to such a transformation. José Graziano da Silva made the call during his opening remarks at the 2nd International Agroecology Symposium in Rome (3-5 April).

3-04-2018

ILO International Labour Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 7 April 2018]

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

By Clare Naden on 7 April 2018

[**How ISO standards support World Health Day**](#)

Health for all is the theme of the World Health Organization's World Health Day, and a new ISO committee recently formed aims to help.

By Clare Naden on 4 April 2018

[**Secrets of business success in new ISO standard**](#)

The freshly published [ISO 9004](#), *Quality management – Quality of an organization – Guidance to achieve sustained success*, divulges the secrets and strategies of some of the longest lasting businesses around the world to help other organizations prepare for such challenges, optimizing their performance at the same time.

By Clare Naden on 3 April 2018

[**Spoiled for choice: an international guide to effective product labelling has just been updated**](#)

International guide [ISO/IEC Guide 14](#), *Products and related services – Information for consumers*, helps to improve the quality of product information for more informed and satisfactory purchasing choices. It has recently been updated to reflect changes in product labelling technology and consider the needs of a wider audience

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 7 April 2018]

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

2018-04-06

Message of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Dr. Cristiana Pasca Palmer, on the occasion of World Health Day 7 April 2018

:::::

USAID [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases

U.S. Agency for International Development Counselor Tom Staal's Intervention at the UN 2018 Yemen High-Level Pledging Event

April 3, 2018

Remarks

While the United States will continue to provide much needed aid, no amount of humanitarian or development assistance will end this conflict and the suffering of millions. An enduring solution will only come through a comprehensive political agreement, which will require compromise from all sides. To that end, we support the UN Special Envoy's efforts to restart talks.

United States Announces Additional Humanitarian Assistance for Yemen

April 3, 2018

Today, the United States announced nearly \$87 million in additional humanitarian assistance to help the people of Yemen, who face the world's largest food-security emergency and worst cholera outbreak, driven by more than three years of war. This funding brings the total U.S. humanitarian assistance for the Yemen response since the beginning of Fiscal Year 2017 to more than \$854 million.

DFID [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases

UK to save 50,000 people from threat of landmines worldwide

4 April 2018 DFID Press release

... From today, UK aid will help save the lives of 50,000 more people in South Sudan, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Burma and Cambodia by clearing mines from over five million square metres of land – the equivalent of over 19,000 tennis courts – and through educating vulnerable people about the dangers of landmines, keeping entire communities safe from maiming or death....

UK gives more emergency food for Yemen as number at risk of starvation reaches all time high of 8 million

3 April 2018 DFID Press release

ECHO [to 7 April 2018]

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

03/04/2018

EU pledges €107.5 million to address urgent needs of Yemeni civilians

As the crisis in Yemen continues to worsen, the European Union has pledged €107.5 million in new funding for 2018 to help civilians most in need across the country. The announcement was made at the High Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian...

02/04/2018

The EU announces €180 million in emergency support to support refugees in Greece

Greece bore the weight of responsibility at the height of the Mediterranean refugee and migrant crisis which at its peak saw 10 000 men women and children arriving in the country in one day. Currently there are over 45 000 refugees and migrants who...

:::::

African Union [to 7 April 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]

April 07, 2018

Commemoration of the 24th Anniversary of the Rwanda Genocide

April 04, 2018

African Union Commission mourns Winnie Mandela; eulogizes her as a mother and pride of Africa.

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 7 April 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]

ASEAN companies awarded for providing safe and healthy workplaces

SIEM REAP, 4 April 2018 - Nineteen private companies from ten ASEAN countries received the 2nd ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Awards in Siem Reap, Cambodia yesterday. Jointly presented by Dr. Ith Samheng, Minister of Labour and Vocational Training of Cambodia and ASEAN Secretary-General Dato Lim Jock Hoi, the awards recognised the companies' excellent [...]

ASEAN, United States reaffirm commitment to strengthen partnership

SELANGOR, 3 April 2018 – The United States reaffirmed its strong commitment to strengthen its strategic partnership with ASEAN. This was reaffirmed by Senior Officials from both sides when they met in Selangor, Malaysia today, for the 31st ASEAN-U.S. Dialogue. ASEAN and the U.S. were pleased to note the upward trajectory of their partnership and [...]

European Commission [to 7 April 2018]

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

06/04/2018

The EU aims to generate €1.5 billion investments in Lebanon over 3 years

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 6 April 2018 Today the European Union has announced a package of up to €150 million to support the revitalisation of the Lebanese economy as part of its longstanding commitment to the economic development of Lebanon.

EU pledges €107.5 million to address urgent needs of Yemeni civilians

European Commission - Press release Geneva, 3 April 2018 As the crisis in Yemen continues to worsen, the European Union has pledged €107.5 million in new funding for 2018 to help civilians most in need across the country.

Supporting refugees in Greece: €180 million in emergency support

European Commission - Press release Brussels, 2 April 2018 Commission announces new emergency support to help refugees in Greece. The European Commission has announced today new funding of €180 million for aid projects in Greece, including to scale up the flagship 'Emergency Support to Integration & Accommodation' (ESTIA) programme which helps.. Commission announces new emergency support to help refugees in Greece.

OECD [to 7 April 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]

No new digest content identified

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 7 April 2018]

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

April 4, 2018

FACT SHEET: Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacture of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA)

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Group of 77 [to 7 April 2018]

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

[Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Mr. Mohamed Gad, Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations, at the ECOSOC Partnership Forum \(New York, 4 April 2018\)](#)

:::::

UNCTAD [to 7 April 2018]

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

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

Press Releases

03 Apr 2018 –

Israel And The International Community Should End The Occupation And Its Cost For The Palestinian People: Unctad Study

World Customs Organization – WCO [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 7 April 2018]

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

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

5 April 2018

China files WTO complaint over the United States' tariff measures on Chinese goods

China has requested consultations with the United States under the WTO's Dispute Settlement Mechanism regarding the United States' tariff measures on certain Chinese goods which would allegedly be implemented through Section 301-310 of the US Trade Act of 1974. The request was circulated to WTO members on 5 April.

4 April 2018

DDG Wolff: "Common ground must be found, new balances struck"

Speaking at an event at the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C. on 4 April, Deputy Director-General Alan Wolff said it is imperative that the major beneficiaries of the world trading system come together and identify their common ground. He concluded: "Change must come in the conduct of members, but also through improvements in the existing agreements and how they are implemented."

:::::

IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Court of Justice [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 7 April 2018]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

04 April 2018

AI Hassan Ag Abdoul Aziz Ag Mohamed Ag Mahmoud makes first appearance before the ICC

:::::

World Bank [to 7 April 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]

Project Signing: Government of India and the World Bank Sign a New Project to Benefit Over 25 Million Small and Marginal Farmers in Maharashtra

New Delhi, April 6, 2018 – The Government of India, Government of Maharashtra and the World Bank today signed a US\$ 420 million project to help small and marginal farmers in the Marathwada and Vidarbha...

Date: April 06, 2018 Type: Press Release

Oceans, Fisheries and Coastal Economies

Context Billions of people worldwide—especially the world's poorest—rely on healthy oceans to provide jobs and food, underscoring the urgent need to sustainably use and protect this natural resource...

Date: April 06, 2018 Type: Brief

Social Safety Net Programs Help Millions Escape Poverty, But Coverage Gaps Persist

WASHINGTON, April 4, 2018— Among the very poor who received safety net benefits, 36% escaped extreme poverty, providing clear evidence that social safety net programs are making a substantial impact in...

Date: April 04, 2018 Type: Press Release

[See Week in Review above for more detail]

IMF [to 7 April 2018]

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

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

No new digest content identified.

African Development Bank Group [to 7 April 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]

World Health Day: Strengthened health systems and sound financing key to achieving Health for All

06/04/2018 - On the occasion of World Health Day, April 7, 2018, the African Development Bank calls for increased and more quality investments in Africa's health sector to achieve universal health coverage.

Fund for African Private Sector Assistance approves three projects to spur SME development in Africa

06/04/2018 - Donors to the Fund for African Private Sector Assistance (FAPA) – consisting of the African Development Bank, the Government of Japan and the Government of Austria – have approved three catalytic projects totaling US \$2,480,000 to stimulate the growth of Africa's small and medium enterprises.

Asian Development Bank [to 7 April 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]

2 April 2018

ADB, World Bank Support High-Speed Internet for Micronesia

ADB's Board of Directors has approved a total of \$36.6 million in grants to help fund the delivery of low-cost, high quality internet service in the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, and Nauru.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 7 April 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]

Beijing, April 05, 2018

AIIB Adopts Strategy on Private Capital Mobilization

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has released its "Strategy on Mobilizing Private Capital for Infrastructure" to further define the bank's approach to making investment in emerging market infrastructure more attractive to private investors.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 7 April 2018]

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

04 Apr 18

United Nations agency welcomes former EBRD director to lead newly-created External Relations and Governance Department

04 Apr 18

Organizing farmers is crucial to feeding West and Central Africa and achieving global development goals

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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 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Amref Health Africa [to 7 April 2018]

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

April 7th, 2018

World Health Day: CHWs not Volunteers for Universal Health Coverage in sub-Saharan Africa

Aravind Eye Care System [to 7 April 2018]

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

CURRENT NEWS

Launch of Mobile Applications for the Visually Challenged

Aravind - Madurai, March 2, 2018

Aravind Eye Hospital, Madurai in collaboration with Mindtree Foundation developed and launched two mobile applications, 'Dignify' that reads out texts for the visually impaired and

'Visual Intervention Kit with Analytics for children with Special needs (VIKAS)' for children with special needs...

BRAC [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.brac.net/#news>

April 5, 2018

Violence Against Women campaigns: Is raising awareness alone enough?
by Wendy Xiao

There are campaigns and movements across the world dedicated to raising awareness of violence against women. But beyond raising awareness, what actual action takes place? What are the tangible effects?

CARE International [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.care-international.org/news/press-releases>
6th Apr 2018

Building with resilience: One year after Cyclone Dineo, CARE ensures better school structures for thousands of students in Inhambane province

Mozambique
Following the devastating impact of Cyclone Dineo in February 2017, CARE Mozambique, in cooperation with the government of Inhambane province, recently completed the rebuilding of 163 classrooms for more than 14,000 students. CARE also repaired nine of the province's most severely damaged health centers, serving approximately 120,000 people.

6th Apr 2018

Joint INGO Statement for the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Clubhouse International [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.clubhouse-intl.org/news.html>
No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 7 April 2018]
<https://www.drc.dk/news>
No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.ecpat.net/news>
No new digest content identified.

Fountain House [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.fountainhouse.org/about/news-press>
Posted on: March 8, 2018
Fountain House Receives \$4 Million Gift in Recognition of its Work Helping People with Schizophrenia Recover through a Community System of Care

Humanity & Inclusion [nee Handicap International] [to 7 April 2018]
http://www.handicap-international.us/press_releases
April 03, 2018
Joint INGO Statement for the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen
[See Week in Review above for full text]

Heifer International [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.heifer.org/about-heifer/press/press-releases.html>
No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.helpage.org/newsroom/press-room/press-releases/>
No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 7 April 2018]
<https://www.icrc.org/en/whats-new>
Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports
The troubling (and rising) human toll in Gaza

We are concerned about the human toll of the violence on the border of Gaza and Israel, in particular, the high number of rising casualties
05-04-2018 | Statement

ICRC President says conflicts more complex, still killing too many civilians
The changing nature of conflict is blurring the lines between military and civilian, ICRC President Peter Maurer said on Wednesday, noting the devastating consequences of this and other trends and urging more respect for IHL.
04-04-2018 | News release

Global security in a polycentric world
Speech given by Mr Peter Maurer, President of the ICRC, during the Conference on International Security (Moscow).
04-04-2018 | Statement

Yemen: Bridging the gap between wishful thinking and the reality on the ground.
ICRC statement on behalf of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement delivered by Robert Mardini, ICRC Regional Director for the Near and Middle East, Yemen High-Level Pledging Event, Geneva, 3 April 2018.
03-04-2018 | Statement

Ethics and autonomous weapon systems: An ethical basis for human control?
As part of continuing reflections on the legal and ethical issues raised by autonomous weapons systems, the ICRC convened a round-table meeting in Geneva on 28-29 August 2017 to explore the ethical aspects.
03-04-2018 | Report:
https://www.icrc.org/en/download/file/69961/icrc_ethics_and_autonomous_weapon_systems_report_3_april_2018.pdf

IFRC [to 7 April 2018]

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

Africa, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda

Uganda Red Cross expands response as cholera outbreak threatens Congolese refugees

Nairobi/Geneva, 5 April 2018 — The increasing flow of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has put Ugandan health facilities in affected areas under unprecedented strain at a time when inadequate hygiene conditions have already led to a ...

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Press Releases & Statements

Press Release

The Conflict in Yemen: Time for a New Approach

April 5, 2018

The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) hosted a public event on the challenges that the humanitarian situation in Yemen presents to the world. The keynote address from President and CEO of the IRC David Miliband is below.

IRCT [to 7 April 2018]

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

News 04 Apr 2018

IRCT members come together to fight torture through data

Last month, five IRCT member centres came together to spearhead the expansion of the movement's work on collecting data on torture, by developing a training agenda on data security and responsible data management, establishing a common framework for measuring wellbeing, and creating guidelines on gender-sensitive rehabilitation

Under the auspices of the Global Anti-Torture Evidence (GATE) Project, the five IRCT members gathered to decide on a shared approach to collecting and using data from the IRCT's Anti-Torture Database with other rehabilitation centres from around the world.

The Anti-Torture Database is a clinical record-keeping system that was developed by the IRCT to help rehabilitation centres capture, store and analyse data in a standardised manner. This data can then be used as a robust evidence base to advocate for the rights of torture survivors. The Anti-Torture Database is particularly unique as it gives centres the ability to make individual torture experiences count in a quantifiable manner and which can then be compared across centres, countries and regions of the world...

Islamic Relief [to 7 April 2018]

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

News Undated

Five Things We Said at UN CSW

At this year's UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), Islamic Relief helped shape the current global policy framework on women's empowerment and gender equality by hosting, and taking part in, a number of events.

News Undated

Islamic Relief releases gender pay gap data

Islamic Relief Worldwide is publishing its gender pay gap data, as required under government regulations, to show the difference between the average hourly rate paid to men within the organisation and the average hourly rate paid to women... the mean gender pay gap for staff is 11% and the median gender pay gap is 22%.

Landsea [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 7 April 2018]

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

Press release

[Gaza Strip: MSF Provides Postoperative Care to Wounded](#)

APRIL 5, 2018—Clinics operated by the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) have provided postoperative care to 102 patients who suffered gunshot wounds during recent demonstrations in the [Gaza Strip](#). MSF is increasing its capacity in the event more people are wounded in further demonstrations.

Press release

[U.S. Signals End to Relief and Recovery Funding for Syria Despite Urgent Needs for Demining and Medical Care](#)

GENEVA/NEW YORK, APRIL 4, 2018—The number of patients treated for injuries related to land mines and improvised explosives has doubled at an MSF-supported hospital in Hassakeh in northeast [Syria](#) in recent months, with more than half of the injuries affecting children, some as young as one, the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) said today.

Press release

[MSF Statement on Yemen Donor Conference: Aid Still Failing to Reach Many in Need](#)

APRIL 3, 2018—In response to an international conference underway today in Geneva, where governments are pledging funds for aid in [Yemen](#), Mercedes Tatay, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) international medical secretary, gave the following statement:

Press release

[Mediterranean: MSF's Search and Rescue Ship Aquarius Evacuates 39 Vulnerable People from Boat in Distress](#)

April 01, 2018

On the morning of March 31, the search and rescue ship Aquarius—operated in partnership by MSF and SOS MEDITERRANEE—along with the Libyan Coastguard, were alerted by the Italian Rescue Maritime Coordination Centre (IMRCC) to a rubber boat in distress with an estimated 120 people in international waters 23-24 nautical miles from the Libyan coast.

Mercy Corps [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Operation Smile [to 7 April 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 7 April 2018]

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

3 April 2018

Joint INGO Statement for the High-Level Pledging Event for the Humanitarian Crisis in Yemen

[See Week in Review above for full text]

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 7 April 2018]

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

Published 03. Apr 2018

Latest Afghan school attack must be investigated

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) calls for an investigation of a deadly attack against a place for informal education in Kunduz Province, which took place on Monday.

Published 02. Apr 2018

More than money needed to stop humanitarian catastrophe in Yemen

As donors convene in Geneva tomorrow for a high-level pledging event on Yemen, aid workers in the country assert that it will take more than donations from the international community to keep millions of Yemeni people alive.

Pact [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

PATH [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Plan International [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 7 April 2018]
<https://www.savethechildren.net/news>
No new digest content identified.

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/about-sos/press/press-releases>
New publication – 5 April 2018

Launch of global study on care leavers

For the first time, a report collates evidence from 12 countries across four regions of the world, detailing the ways in which young people with alternative care backgrounds cope with the challenges of becoming self-reliant and are supported by the state and other actors on their path towards decent work and social inclusion.

In the midst of a global youth employment crisis, young people ageing out of alternative care are especially at risk of poverty and social exclusion, due to the lack of family relations and networks that many young people increasingly rely on well beyond the age of majority.

It is urgent that social forces partner up to empower young care leavers all along their path towards self-reliance and that governments devise public policy responses to address their special challenges – this is the call for action arising from the findings of the global report Decent work and social protection for young people leaving care.

The report is launched today at a multi-stakeholder panel discussion hosted by the Permanent Mission of Germany, SOS Children's Villages International and Deutsche Post DHL Group at the United Nations Headquarters in New York...

Tostan [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.tostan.org>
No new digest content identified.

Women for Women International [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.womenforwomen.org/press-releases>
<http://www.tostan.org>
No new digest content identified.

World Vision [to 7 April 2018]
<http://wvi.org/>
No new digest content identified.

:::::

Center for Media Ethics and Responsibility/CMFR [to 7 April 2018]
<http://cmfr-phil.org/media-ethics-responsibility/>
No new digest content identified.

Electronic Frontiers Foundation
<https://www.eff.org/>
April 6, 2018
To #DeleteFacebook or Not to #DeleteFacebook? That Is Not the Question

[Deeplinks Blog by Gennie Gebhart |](#)

Since the Cambridge Analytica news hit headlines, calls for users to ditch the platform have picked up speed. Whether or not it has a critical impact on the company's user base or bottom line, the message from #DeleteFacebook is clear: users are fed up. EFF is not here to...

April 5, 2018

[John Perry Barlow: Honoring an Internet Hero](#)

[Deeplinks Blog by Aaron Jue |](#)

Individuals from the furthest corners of cyberspace will gather in San Francisco this weekend to celebrate the life and incredible legacy of Internet visionary, Grateful Dead lyricist, and EFF co-founder John Perry Barlow. If you are unable to attend in person, we encourage you to join us virtually to...

Freedom House [to 7 April 2018]

<https://freedomhouse.org/news>

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Research

Press Releases

[Botswana: New President Can Expand Democratic Governance Leadership](#)

April 3, 2018

Freedom House issued a statement in response to the ascension of Mokgweetsi Masisi as president of Botswana, replacing Ian Khama, the outgoing president and son of liberation icon Seretse Khama.

Transparency International [to 7 April 2018]

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

3 Apr 2018

[Weak governance at UN shipping agency delaying action on climate change](#)

The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) is at risk of unresolved conflicts of interest due to shortcomings in its governance, according to preliminary key findings of a new study by Transparency International.

:::::

ChildFund Alliance [to 7 April 2018]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 7 April 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 7 April 2018]
<http://theelders.org/news-media>

Press release 2 April 2018

The Elders urge US, Korean leaders to seize chance for nuclear breakthrough

Praising recent gestures of reconciliation and inter-Korean cooperation, The Elders call on leaders in Washington, Pyongyang and Seoul to redouble efforts to resolve the nuclear tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

Press release 2 April 2018

The Elders mourn the death of Winnie Madikizela-Mandela

The Elders' statement on the passing of South African anti-Apartheid campaigner and former first lady Winnie Madikizela-Mandela.

END Fund [to 7 April 2018]

<https://end.org/media-hub/>

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 7 April 2018]

www.evidenceaid.org

April 5, 2018

Does human milk reduce infection rates in preterm infants

Claire Allen

Read the full review here

The advantage of human milk (HM) in preventing infection in preterm, very low birth weight (VLBW) infants is not proven by the existing studies. Recommendations have been made regarding the methodology required for further study of this important topic.

Gavi [to 7 April 2018]

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

03 April 2018

New typhoid vaccine to receive Gavi support

Gavi has earmarked US\$ 85 million to fund the introduction of the vaccine in the world's poorest countries.

Geneva, 3 April 2018 – Governments across Africa and Asia can apply for funding to protect children against typhoid fever. Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance will support eligible countries to introduce the new typhoid conjugate vaccine into their routine immunisation schedules. "The typhoid conjugate vaccine will not only save lives, but also bolster the fight against anti-microbial drug-resistance," said Dr Seth Berkley CEO of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. "Expanding vaccine coverage will play an important role in reducing illnesses and deaths from typhoid. Gavi is looking forward to working with countries to support the introduction of this safe and effective vaccine."...

Global Fund [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 7 April 2018]

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

An Alliance of Hilton Prize Recipients

April 2, 2018

ARTICLE: "[Rethinking rice: how a collaborative approach to fortification can reduce malnutrition in Myanmar](#)," by Catherine May, Philanthropy News Journal

ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 7 April 2018]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

No new digest content identified.

INEE – an international network for education in emergencies [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 7 April 2018]

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

03 Apr 18

[Start Fund interventions in 'slow onset' crises. What have we learned so far?](#)

by Ian Simcox-Heat

:::::

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 7 April 2018]

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

04 Apr 2018 :: 134pp

[What's Missing? Adding context to the urban response toolbox](#)

Recognition of the need for humanitarian response to be 'context relevant' has been increasing. It comes up in discussions on coordination, accountability, localisation, and effectiveness and is now broadly accepted as something humanitarian response should be striving towards. Despite this awareness, there is little clarity about what context relevance looks like or how to achieve it...

CHS Alliance [to 7 April 2018]

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

03/04/2018

[Sharing good practices and learnings on localisation - workshop hosted by Shifting the Power project and the CHS Alliance](#)

On 13 March 2018, Shifting the Power (StP) and the CHS Alliance gathered together 55 humanitarian actors representing local and national NGOs, INGOs, UN agencies and International Committee of the Red Cross in 13 countries to present and discuss the key findings of StP's end of project evaluation.

Development Initiatives [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC [to 7 April 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 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 7 April 2018]

<https://phap.org/>

No new digest content identified.

::::::

Center for Global Development [to 7 April 2018]

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

Publications

More Mobilizing, Less Lending: A Pragmatic Proposal for MDBs

4/3/18

Nancy Lee

MDB private sector operations or windows (PSWs) are essential actors in mobilizing private finance for development, but their mobilization track record to date falls far short of a meaningful contribution to annual SDG financing gaps in the trillions

Keynote Speech at Harvard University's 9th Annual African Development Conference

4/2/18

Antoinette Monsio Sayeh

On March 24, 2018, Antoinette Sayeh gave the afternoon keynote speech at Harvard University's 9th Annual African Development Conference. She highlighted four immediate economic challenges facing sub-Saharan Africa, what they mean for the long-term, and the need for action to address them.

ODI [to 7 April 2018]

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

Selected Research/Publications

Incubating policy for economic transformation: lessons from Nepal

Research reports and studies | April 2018 | David Booth

This paper reports some early successes from a UK Department for International Development-funded programme in Nepal, the Economic Policy Incubator.

Aid, security and Britain's role in the world: proposals for coherent government action

Briefing papers | April 2018 | Victoria Metcalfe-Hough, Malcolm Chalmers, Alina Rocha Menocal, Hanna Nomm and David Watson

This briefing outlines five areas for action that could promote a more integrated and effective UK government approach to aid and security.

Water security in the protracted crises and post-conflict reconstruction of the Middle East

Briefing papers | April 2018 | Guy Jobbins, Steve Commins and Bryn Welham

This briefing note outlines how water sector interventions can meet the needs of countries in crisis and conflict in the Middle East and North Africa.

Our shared prosperous future: an agenda for values-led trade, inclusive growth and sustainable jobs for the Commonwealth

Research reports and studies | April 2018 | Tom Pengelly, Stacey Mills-Smith, Stephanie Gillibrand, Dirk Willem te Velde and Maximiliano Mendez-Parra

Shared prosperity in the Commonwealth is a major challenge. This inquiry report presents a case for a trade and investment agenda to help reduce poverty.

Urban Institute [to 7 April 2018]

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

April 5, 2018 *Brief*

Where Is Student Debt Highest?

While there is great focus on student debt at the national level, little attention has been given to the geographic distribution of student loans and how it relates to cost of attending college in a state. This brief shows that the states where the largest shares of college students have student debt are in the Midwest and the Northeast. The Western region of the country has the lowest share of college students with student

[Breno Braga](#), [Sandy Baum](#)

Coming Together for Change: A Qualitative Study of Social Connectedness Outcomes Produced by the Love Your Block Program

The Cities of Service Love Your Block (LYB) program connects mayor's offices with community residents to revitalize their neighborhoods one block at a time. Cities of Service commissioned this study to better understand how the LYB program affects the social connectedness of the residents and communities involved in LYB mini-grant projects, as well as how social connectedness outcomes might relate to impact outcomes, such as

[Mary Bogle](#), [Leiha Edmonds](#), [Ruth Gourevitch](#)

April 4, 2018

Research Report

What Fueled the Financial Crisis?

There is a good deal of debate on the causes of the housing crisis. Using Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae loan level data, this paper compares the default and loss behaviors of purchase, rate refinance and cash out refinance loans. Our results show that cash out refinances have the poorest performance, especially during the financial crisis. Purchase loans exhibit much better performance than rate refinances before and during the

[Laurie Goodman](#), [Jun Zhu](#)

April 4, 2018

Bifurcation of State Regulation of Charities

In 27 United States jurisdictions, the attorney general is the sole state-level regulator of charitable organizations and charitable solicitation. In the other 24 jurisdictions, state-level charity regulation is split between two entities: the state attorney general and another state agency, most commonly the secretary of state. This division of regulatory authority is called "bifurcation." This paper provides

[Cindy M. Lott](#), [Nathan Dietz](#), [Marcus Gaddy](#)

April 3, 2018

Brief

A Targeted Minimum Benefit Plan: A New Proposal to Reduce Poverty Among Older Social Security Recipients

In light of concerns about Social Security costs and benefit adequacy, we propose an effective and relatively inexpensive targeted program to provide a minimally adequate floor to old-age income through the program. This minimum benefit plan would provide a cost-effective method for reducing elder poverty to low levels. A key element is that the benefit would not count toward other social programs' income eligibility

[Pamela Herd](#), [Melissa M. Favreault](#), [Madonna Harrington](#), [Timothy M. Smeeding](#)

April 2, 2018

Research Report

Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery: Toward a 10-Year Plan for Improving Mental Health and Wellness in Tulsa

Tulsa residents living with mental illness and addiction die 27 years earlier than other Oklahoma residents. Their early deaths are most often caused by accidents, suicide, homicide, and overdoses. And their lives are often marked by poor physical health, poverty, and isolation. Mental illness takes a toll not only on these individuals, but also on their families, their communities, and the Tulsa region as a whole. Yet residents

[Laudan Y. Aron](#), [Mary Bogle](#), [Mychal Cohen](#), [Micaela Lipman](#)

April 2, 2018

Research Report

World Economic Forum [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

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:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch

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

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.gatesfoundation.org/Media-Center/Press-Releases>
No new digest content identified.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.aecf.org/newsroom/>
No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 7 April 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 7 April 2018]
<https://www.clintonfoundation.org/press-releases-and-statements>
Press Release
April 3, 2018
[**President Clinton Launches CGI Action Network on Post Disaster Recovery, Announces Eight Commitments to Address Ongoing Hurricane Recovery Needs**](#)
Press Release
Action Network will continue meeting quarterly with leaders from government, business, and civil society to continue work; Commitments to Action announced today include solarization of health clinics in Puerto Rico; mental health worker training; and resiliency investment funding in Dominica

Co Impact [to 7 April 2018]
www.co-impact.io
Co-Impact is a global philanthropic collaborative for systems change focused on improving the lives of millions of people around the world.
No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.fordfoundation.org/?filter=News>
News 5 April 2018
[**International and Brazilian Partners Announce a Fund to Honor Marielle Franco**](#)
In honor of the late Marielle Franco, the Ford Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, and the Ibirapitanga Institute are partnering to foster and support black women who aspire to political leadership in Brazil.

In less than a month after black human right's activist and city councilor Marielle Franco was brutally assassinated in Rio de Janeiro, three international and a Brazilian foundation have come together to donate \$10 million to the Baobá Fund in honor of Franco.

The Baobá Fund is the only fund specifically focused on promoting racial equality in the country. The Ford Foundation has been supporting the Baobá Fund since its creation in 2011,

with grants totaling more than \$1 million. The \$10 million donation will be used to build up the Fund's endowment, and invest in projects focused on empowering Brazilian black women all over the country...

GHIT Fund [to 7 April 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 7 April 2018]

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

04/05/2018

Grameen Foundation to Launch Workplace Protection Project for Women's Economic Empowerment Initiatives

Grameen Foundation is proud to announce a new project, funded by the United States Department of Labor, to integrate the issues of child labor alleviation and safe working conditions into women's economic empowerment initiatives.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Kaiser Family Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

April 5, 2018 *News Release*

Analysis: Cost of Treating Opioid Addiction Rose Rapidly for Large Employers as the Number of Prescriptions Has Declined

A new Kaiser Family Foundation analysis finds that while the use of prescription opioids among people with employer-based health coverage has declined to its lowest levels in over a decade, the cost of treating addiction and overdoses has increased sharply. The annual cost of treating opioid addiction and overdose –...

April 3, 2018 *News Release*

Poll: Survey of the Non-Group Market Finds Most Say the Individual Mandate Was Not a Major Reason They Got Coverage in 2018, And Most Plan to Continue Buying Insurance Despite Recent Repeal of the Mandate Penalty

Very Few Say They Would Want to Purchase a Short-Term Plan, A Regulation Being Drafted By The Trump Administration Nine in 10 enrollees in the non-group market say they intend to continue buying their own insurance even after being told that Congress has repealed the individual mandate penalty for not...

Aga Khan Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Kellogg Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

April 7, 2018

Philanthropic matching to Brazil's Baobá Fund for Racial Equity expanded

During a site visit this week to Brazil, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF) announced an expansion of its philanthropic match to the Baobá Fund for Racial Equity.

WKKF will begin matching Brazilian donor contributions to the Baobá Fund three-to-one and international donations to the fund two-to-one, with half going to an endowment and the other half going to programming.

The decision was inspired by the Baobá Fund's ability to provide continued local philanthropic leadership during a time of great momentum for advancing racial equity for all Brazilians – especially in light of the groundswell of community and global responses to the recent, tragic loss of slain Afro-Brazilian Councilwoman Marielle Franco.

"In this crisis, the people of Brazil have been uplifted even as they grieve. Franco's death is making many only more determined to continue her work to improve the lives of the vulnerable and advance racial equity for all in Brazil," said La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of the Kellogg Foundation...

MacArthur Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 7 April 2018]

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

April 5, 2018

The importance of long-term financing and management of Brazil's protected areas

The Andes-Amazon region is home to more than 30 million people, 20 percent of the world's fresh water and an estimated ten percent of the Earth's species. Approximately the same size as the continental United States, the Amazon is the world's largest remaining rainforest. It's important to conserve this treasure not only for the present and for proximate communities, but long into the future, for our planet's health.

Since 2001, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation's [Andes-Amazon Initiative](#) has dedicated more than \$380 million in grants to ensure the long-term ecological integrity and climatic function of the Amazon basin. We also continue to support work by organizations in the region who are ensuring that a core set of protected areas are managed effectively...

Open Society Foundation [to 7 April 2018]
<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/issues/media-information>
No new digest content identified.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.packard.org/news/>
No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.pewtrusts.org/en/about/news-room/press-releases>
No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 7 April 2018]
<https://www.rockefellerfoundation.org/about-us/news-media/>
April 4, 2018
[**To Support Economic Opportunity In a Changing Jobs Landscape, The Rockefeller Foundation and the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative Launch \\$10M Funding Opportunity for Community-Driven Solutions**](#)

Nationwide Challenge Will Provide Funding to 10 Local Approaches that Help Low-Income and Financially Insecure People Find and Retain Well-Paid and...

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 7 April 2018]
<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/news-releases.html>
April 3, 2018 *Blog Post*
[**What's the Connection Between Residential Segregation and Health?**](#)

Donald F. Schwarz
RWJF's Don Schwarz highlights the need to take steps that will reduce health risks caused by segregation and lead to more equitable, healthier communities.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 7 April 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..."
April 5, 2018
[**Open Philanthropy Project awards \\$11M to protein designers for universal flu vaccine \[via Geekwire\]**](#)

The University of Washington's Institute for Protein Design has won an \$11.3 million grant from the Open Philanthropy Project to cook up a public [...]

SDG Philanthropy Platform
<http://sdgfunders.org/>
SDG Philanthropy Platform is a collaboration between philanthropy and the greater international development community led by Foundation Center, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, and supported by the Conrad N. Hilton

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

No new digest content identified.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 7 April 2018]

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

No new digest content identified.

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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

April 2018 Volume 46, Issue 4, p363-478, e25-e30

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

April 2018 Volume 54, Issue 4, p479-610, e59-e82

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

April 2018 108(4)

<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

3 April 2018 Vol: 168, Issue 7

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health

March 2018 - Volume 3 - 2

<http://gh.bmj.com/content/3/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

Research article

Health sector involvement in the management of female genital mutilation/cutting in 30 countries

Authors: R. Elise B. Johansen, Mai Mahgoub Ziyada, Bettina Shell-Duncan, Adriana Marcusàn Kaplan and Els Leye

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2018 18:240

Published on: 4 April 2018

Abstract

Background

For the last decades, the international community has emphasised the importance of a multisectoral approach to tackle female genital mutilation (FGM/C). While considerable improvement concerning legislations and community involvement is reported, little is known about the involvement of the health sector.

Method

A mixed methods approach was employed to map the involvement of the health sector in the management of FGM/C both in countries where FGM/C is a traditional practice (countries of origin), and countries where FGM/C is practiced mainly by migrant populations (countries of migration). Data was collected in 2016 using a pilot-tested questionnaire from 30 countries (11 countries of origin and 19 countries of migration). In 2017, interviews were conducted to check for data accuracy and to request relevant explanations. Qualitative data was used to elucidate the quantitative data.

Results

A total of 24 countries had a policy on FGM/C, of which 19 had assigned coordination bodies and 20 had partially or fully implemented the plans. Nevertheless, allocation of funding and incorporation of monitoring and evaluation systems was lacking in 11 and 13 of these countries respectively. The level of the health sectors' involvement varied considerably across and within countries. Systematic training of healthcare providers (HCP) was more prevalent in countries of origin, whereas involvement of HCP in the prevention of FGM/C was more prevalent in countries

of migration. Most countries reported to forbid HCP from conducting FGM/C on both minors and adults, but not consistently forbidding re-infibulation. Availability of healthcare services for girls and women with FGM/C related complications also varied between countries dependent on the type of services. Deinfibulation was available in almost all countries, while clitoral reconstruction and psychological and sexual counselling were available predominantly in countries of migration and then in less than half the countries. Finally, systematic recording of FGM/C in medical records was completely lacking in countries of origin and very limited in countries of migration.

Conclusion

Substantial progress has been made in the involvement of the health sector in both the treatment and prevention of FGM/C. Still, there are several areas in need for improvement, particularly monitoring and evaluation.

Research article

Health workforce cultural competency interventions: a systematic scoping review

Addressing health workforce cultural competence is a common approach to improving health service quality for culturally and ethnically diverse groups. Research evidence in this area is primarily focused on cul...

Authors: Crystal Jongen, Janya McCalman and Roxanne Bainbridge

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2018 18:232

Published on: 2 April 2018

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

Debate

| 3 April 2018

Real-world evidence: How pragmatic are randomized controlled trials labeled as pragmatic?

Pragmatic randomized controlled trials (RCTs) mimic usual clinical practice and they are critical to inform decision-making by patients, clinicians and policy-makers in real-world settings.

Pragmatic RCTs assess effectiveness of available medicines, while explanatory RCTs assess efficacy of investigational medicines. Explanatory and pragmatic are the extremes of a continuum. This debate article seeks to evaluate and provide recommendation on how to characterize pragmatic RCTs in light of the current landscape of RCTs. It is supported by findings from a PubMed search conducted in August 2017, which retrieved 615 RCTs self-labeled in their titles as "pragmatic" or "naturalistic". We focused on 89 of these trials that assessed medicines (drugs or biologics).

Authors: Rafael Dal-Ré, Perrine Janiaud and John P. A. Ioannidis

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

Research article

| 5 April 2018

Magnitude and factors associated with adherence to Iron-folic acid supplementation among pregnant women in Eritrean refugee camps, northern Ethiopia

Globally, anemia is a public health problem affecting the life of more than two billion people. Pregnant women are at high risk of iron deficiency anemia due to increased nutrient requirement during pregnancy. Iron-folic acid supplementation is the main strategy for prevention and control of iron deficiency anemia and its effectiveness depends on adherence to Iron-Folic Acid tablets. In the refugee camps of Ethiopia, despite the efforts made to reduce iron deficiency anemia during pregnancy, information about adherence to iron-folic acid supplementation and its associated factors are lacking. The objective of this study was to assess magnitude and factors associated with adherence to iron-folic acid supplementation, among pregnant women, in Shire refugee camps.

Authors: Mekdemariam Getachew, Mebrahtu Abay, Hiwet Zelalem, Tirhas Gebremedhin, Teklit Grum and Alemayehu Bayray

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

Research note

War zone refugia? Establishing a baseline for protected waterbirds in a wildlife refuge flanked by agriculture and militarization

The welfare of threatened fauna should not be assumed merely because their refuges have been designated with protected status. This is particularly true in geographical areas where social/military events drive an under-reported, but potentially lethal, type of human–wildlife interaction. Waterbirds of Gharana Wetland Conservation Reserve consist mostly of threatened species. However, as occurs globally, 'protected' fauna near contested borders are sometimes affected by military forces. As part of a larger project to document regional avifauna, we report the seasonal status of waterbirds in order to help establish a baseline for comparing conservation of wildlife within contested areas to that of fauna in more secure refuges. We examined 24 avifauna surveys for relationships between seasons, temperature, individuals and species.

Authors: Michael H. Parsons and Prameek M. Kannan

Citation: BMC Research Notes 2018 11:212

Published on: 2 April 2018

BMJ Open

April 2018 - Volume 8 - 4

<http://bmjopen.bmjjournals.org/content/current>

Evidence based practice

Protocol

Transdisciplinary research for impact: protocol for a realist evaluation of the relationship between transdisciplinary research collaboration and knowledge translation (7 April, 2018)

Transdisciplinary teams are increasingly regarded as integral to conducting effective research. Similarly, knowledge translation is often seen as a solution to improving the relevance and benefits of health research. Yet, whether, how, for whom and under which circumstances transdisciplinary research influences knowledge translation is undertheorised, which limits its potential impact. The proposed research aims to identify the contexts and mechanisms by which transdisciplinary research contributes to developing shared understandings and behaviours of knowledge translation between team members.

Mandy M Archibald, Michael Lawless, Gillian Harvey, Alison L Kitson

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 96, Number 4, April 2018, 225-296

<http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/96/4/18-000418/en/>

EDITORIALS

How can we accelerate progress on civil registration and vital statistics?

Carla AbouZahr, Martin W Bratschi, Daniel Cobos Muñoz, Romain Santon, Nicola Richards, Ian Riley & Philp Setel

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.18.211086>

RESEARCH

Prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV: a cross-sectional study in Malawi

M van Lettow, M Landes, JJ van Oosterhout, E Schouten, H Phiri, E Nkhoma, T Kalua, S Gupta, N Wadonda, A Jahn & B Tippett-Barr

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.17.203265>

SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

Antibiotic stewardship interventions in hospitals in low-and middle-income countries: a systematic review

Christophe Van Dijck, Erika Vlieghe & Janneke Arnoldine Cox

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.17.203448>

LESSONS FROM THE FIELD

Post-earthquake health-service support, Nepal

Sophie Goyet, Rajan Rayamajhi, Badry Nath Gyawali, Bhola Ram Shrestha, Guna Raj Lohani, Damodar Adhikari, Edwin Salvador, Roderico Ofrin, Jos Vandelaer & Reuben Samuel

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.17.205666>

PERSPECTIVES

A global campaign to combat ageism

Alana Officer & Vânia de la Fuente-Núñez

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.17.202424>

Child Care, Health and Development

Volume 44, Issue 3 Pages: 343-506 May 2018

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13652214/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Clinical Therapeutics

March 2018 Volume 40, Issue 3, p353-496
<http://www.clinicaltherapeutics.com/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

Research

Risk factors for vitamin A and D deficiencies among children under-five in the state of Palestine

Vitamin A and D are essential for the proper growth and development of a child. Due to the complex political circumstances in the state of Palestine, research on micronutrient deficiency is scarce.

Authors: Aeysha Bushra Chaudhry, Shakoor Hajat, Najwa Rizkallah and Ala'a Abu-Rub

Citation: Conflict and Health 2018 12:13

Published on: 2 April 2018

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 2, 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

Volume 36, Issue 3 Pages: i-iv, 263, 265-386 May 2018

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/dpr.2018.36.issue-2/issuetoc>

ARTICLES

Rwandan "home grown initiatives": Illustrating inherent contradictions of the democratic developmental state

Malin Hasselskog

Pages: 309-328

First Published: 24 January 2017

Engaging decentralization in an uncertain political context: Lessons from Liberia

Kelly Krawczyk, Raymond Muhula

Pages: 369-386

First Published: 19 March 2017

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 13, Issue 4, 2018

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 12 - Issue 1 - February 2018

<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 April 2018; volume 19, issue 4

<http://embor.embopress.org/content/19/4?current-issue=y>

Science & Society

Open Access

The power of synthetic biology for bioproduction, remediation and pollution control

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals will inevitably require the application of molecular biology and biotechnology on a global scale

Víctor de Lorenzo, Kristala LJ Prather, Guo-Qiang Chen, Elizabeth O'Day, Conrad von Kameke, Diego A Oyarzún, Leticia Hosta-Rigau, Habiba Alsafar, Cong Cao, Weizhi Ji, Hideyuki Okano, Richard J Roberts, Mostafa Ronaghi, Karen Yeung, Feng Zhang, Sang Yup Lee

The agenda of the UN's *Sustainable Development Goals* (SDGs) [1] challenges the synthetic biology community—and the life sciences as a whole—to develop transformative technologies that help to protect, even expand our planet's habitability. While modern tools for genome editing already benefit applications in health and agriculture, sustainability also asks for a dramatic transformation of our use of natural resources. The challenge is not just to limit and, wherever possible revert emissions of pollutants and greenhouse gases, but also to replace environmentally costly processes based on fossil fuels with bio-based sustainable alternatives. This task is not exclusively a scientific and technical one but will also require guidelines and regulations for the development and large-scale deployment of this new type of bio-based

production. Some recent advances that can (or soon could) enable us to make progress in these areas—and several possible governance principles—need to be addressed...

Emergency Medicine Journal

March 2018 - Volume 35 - 3

<http://emj.bmjjournals.org/content/35/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 24, Number 4—April 2018

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Epidemics

Volume 22, Pages 1-78 (March 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/22/suppl/C>

Special Issue: The RAPIDD Ebola Forecasting Challenge

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 146 - Issue 5 - April 2018

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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 28, Issue 1, 1 February 2018

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/28/1>

[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. 2, Fall 2017

<https://www.utpjournals.press/toc/gsi/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

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)

Vol. 6, No. 1 March 21, 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 13, 2017 Issue 5

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

[No digest content identified]

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 33, Issue 3, 1 April 2018

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

Original Articles

Jeopardizing quality at the frontline of healthcare: prevalence and risk factors for disrespect and abuse during facility-based childbirth in Ethiopia

Kathleen P Banks; Ali M Karim; Hannah L Ratcliffe; Wuleta Betemariam; Ana Langer

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 33, Issue 3, 1 April 2018, Pages 317–327,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx180>

The role of the Technical Review Panel of the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: an analysis of grant recommendations

Guido Schmidt-Traub

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 33, Issue 3, 1 April 2018, Pages 335–344,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx186>

Sector-wide or disease-specific? Implications of trends in development assistance for health for the SDG era

Anne L Buffardi

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 33, Issue 3, 1 April 2018, Pages 381–391,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx181>

How to convene an international health or development commission: ten key steps

Gavin Yamey; Lawrence H Summers; Dean T Jamison; Jessica Brinton

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 33, Issue 3, 1 April 2018, Pages 429–435,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx179>

Review

How far is mixed methods research in the field of health policy and systems in Africa? A scoping review

M De Allegri; I Sieleunou; G A Abiilo; V Ridde

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 33, Issue 3, 1 April 2018, Pages 445–455,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czx182>

Health Promotion International

Volume 33, Issue 2, 1 April 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 40, Number 1, February 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

Number 71 March 2018

<https://odihpn.org/magazine/humanitarian-response-urban-areas/>

Humanitarian response in urban areas

Humanitarian crises are increasingly affecting urban areas either directly, through civil conflict, hazards such as flooding or earthquakes, urban violence or outbreaks of disease, or indirectly, through hosting people fleeing these threats. The humanitarian sector has been slow to understand how the challenges and opportunities of working in urban spaces necessitate changes in how they operate. For agencies used to working in rural contexts, the dynamism of the city, with its reliance on markets, complex systems and intricate logistics, can be a daunting challenge. Huge, diverse and mobile populations complicate needs assessments, and close coordination with other, often unfamiliar, actors is necessary.

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 7 April 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 7 April 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 4 (2018) April 2018

<http://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/36>

Editorial

Rise of human devastation syndrome in Syria

Syed Roshaan Ahmed, Syed Uzair Mahmood, Haema Waheed

Abstract

The Syria Civil War, which started in 2011, has killed 400,000 people. It has forced more than 11 million people to suffer and has caused not only the people to migrate but also to be displaced within their own country. The war has brought only misery in the lives of Syrians as the damage has only focused on residents of the region in combat. The children have faced the worst, losing their parents, siblings or even friends to violence, suffering physical and psychological trauma. Out of the 11 million and more people who have suffered, 4.9 million Syrians are refugees and 6.1 million have displaced within Syria, out of which half of those affected are children.

The end result of the continued Syria Civil War is that those who have managed to survive have been severely damaged both physically and psychologically, disturbing their interpersonal, psychosocial, physical and mental health. The incidence of post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) increases in such a situation, which tends to affect the lives of the Syrian people permanently.

Original Research Articles

Compliance of anti-rabies vaccine among dog bite victims in an urban slum of Chennai: a cross sectional study

Shivasakthimani R., Vinoth Gnana Chellaiyan D., Ravivarman G., Murali R.

DOI: [10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20181222](https://doi.org/10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20181222)

Evaluation of dog anti rabies vaccination centres and post exposure prophylaxis against rabies centres in an urban area

Rambadan P. Chauhan

DOI: [10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20181231](https://doi.org/10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20181231)

A study of vaccination delay among under-five attendees at an immunisation clinic in a rural area of Goa

Elvira Noronha, Hemangini K. Shah
DOI: [10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20181247](https://doi.org/10.18203/2394-6040.ijcmph20181247)

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 47, Issue 1, 1 February 2018
<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/47/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Heritage Studies
Volume 24, Issue 6 2018
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rjhs20/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare
Volume 11 Issue 1 2018
<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
March 2018| Vol 16| Issue 1
<http://www.interventionjournal.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>
[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

April 3, 2018, Vol 319, No. 13, Pages 1293-1405

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

Viewpoint

Institutional Research Misconduct Reports Need More Credibility

C. K. Gunsalus, JD; Adam R. Marcus, MA; Ivan Oransky, MD

free access

JAMA. 2018;319(13):1315-1316. doi:10.1001/jama.2018.0358

This Viewpoint highlights the inadequacy and lack of transparency of most research institutions' responses to allegations of research misconduct, and describes development of a proposed checklist to establish definitions and standards for complete research integrity investigations.

Abstract

Institutions have a central role in protecting the integrity of research. They employ researchers, own the facilities where the work is conducted, receive grant funding, and teach many students about the research process. When questions arise about research misconduct associated with published articles, scientists and journal editors usually first ask the researchers' institution to investigate the allegations and then report the outcomes, under defined circumstances, to federal oversight agencies and other entities, including journals.¹

Big Data and Machine Learning in Health Care

Andrew L. Beam, PhD; Isaac S. Kohane, MD, PhD

JAMA. 2018;319(13):1317-1318. doi:10.1001/jama.2017.18391

This Viewpoint discusses how newer technologies such as machine learning and the compilation of "big data" can be used for research and clinical applications.

Abstract

Nearly all aspects of modern life are in some way being changed by big data and machine learning. Netflix knows what movies people like to watch and Google knows what people want to know based on their search histories. Indeed, Google has recently begun to replace much of its existing non-machine learning technology with machine learning algorithms, and there is great optimism that these techniques can provide similar improvements across many sectors. It is no surprise then that medicine is awash with claims of revolution from the application of machine learning to big health care data. Recent examples have demonstrated that big data and machine learning can create algorithms that perform on par with human physicians.¹ Though machine learning and big data may seem mysterious at first, they are in fact deeply related to traditional statistical models that are recognizable to most clinicians. It is our hope that elucidating these connections will demystify these techniques and provide a set of reasonable expectations for the role of machine learning and big data in health care.

JAMA Pediatrics

April 2018, Vol 172, No. 4, Pages 309-400

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

JBI 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, Supplement, S1-S86
[http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X\(17\)X0028-1](http://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X(17)X0028-1)

Adolescent and Young Adult Male Health

Edited by Paritosh Kaul

Editorial

Serving the Underserved: The Health and Well-Being of Adolescent and Young Adult Males

Paritosh Kaul, Charles E. Irwin Jr

S1–S2

[Initial text]

Adolescent and young adult male health has received little attention despite decades of high mortality and morbidity rates [\[1\]](#), [\[2\]](#). Across the lifespan, particularly during the second and third decades of life, males have worse outcomes than females in a number of areas, such as substance use, unintentional injury, and suicide [\[1\]](#). And yet, males have lower health-care utilization and higher levels of unmet needs than females [\[3\]](#), [\[4\]](#). In the United States, life expectancy for males is also consistently lower than for females [\[5\]](#). The adolescent and young adult (AYA) male is underserved in health-care delivery systems, public health and policy, and research arena. In 2012, Saewyc lamented that sexual and reproductive health research aimed at impacting policy and clinical practice did not include boys and young men [\[6\]](#). In 2017, after a gap of 5 years, Fortenberry also noted the lack of progress in addressing AYA male sexual health services [\[7\]](#). In the recent Global Adolescent Study, Blum et al. highlighted many of the gender differences that are accentuated during the onset and completion of puberty, and how these changes place adolescent boys at risk for a number of negative health outcomes [\[8\]](#). In publishing this supplement of the Journal of Adolescent Health, our endeavor is to further increase attention on AYA males, and, in so doing, inspire some possible solutions to clinicians, policy makers, and investigators concerned with improving the health and well-being of AYA males...

Review Articles

Age-Specific Global Prevalence of Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, and Tuberculosis Among Incarcerated People: A Systematic Review

This study is a systematic review and meta-analysis of studies reporting the age-specific prevalence of each infection in prisoners. We grouped age-specific prevalence estimates into three overlapping age categories: AYA prisoners (<25 years), older prisoners (≥25 years), and mixed category (spanning age 25 years). We used random effects meta-analysis to estimate the relative risk (RR) of each infection in AYAs versus older prisoners.

Stuart A. Kinner, Kathryn Snow, Andrea L. Wirtz, Frederick L. Altice, Chris Beyerer, Kate Dolan
S18–S26

Published in issue: March 2018

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 132 Pages 1-150 (May 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/132/suppl/C>

Regular Articles

Formalization without certification? Experimental evidence on property rights and investment

Original research article

Pages 57-74

Markus Goldstein, Kenneth Houngbedji, Florence Kondylis, Michael O'Sullivan, Harris Selod

Abstract

We present evidence from the first large-scale randomized-controlled trial of a land formalization program. We examine the link between land demarcation and investment in rural Benin in light of a model of agricultural production under insecure tenure. The demarcation process involved communities in the mapping and attribution of land rights; cornerstones marked parcel boundaries and offered lasting landmarks. The tenure security improvement through demarcation induces a 23 to 43 percent shift toward long-term investment on treated parcels. We explore gender and parcel location as relevant dimensions of heterogeneity. We find that female-managed landholdings in treated villages are more likely to be left fallow—an important soil fertility investment. Women respond to an exogenous tenure security change by shifting investment away from relatively secure, demarcated land and toward less secure land outside the village to guard those parcels.

Migration and development: Dissecting the anatomy of the mobility transition

Original research article

Pages 88-101

Thu Hien Dao, Frédéric Docquier, Chris Parsons, Giovanni Peri

Abstract

Emigration first increases and then decreases as a country experiences economic development. This inverted U-shaped, cross-sectional relationship between emigration and development was first hypothesized by Zelinsky's theory of the mobility transition. Although several mechanisms have been proposed to explain the upward segment of the curve (the most common being the existence of financial constraints), they have not been examined in a systematic way. In this paper, we propose two decomposition methods to disentangle the main drivers of the mobility transition curve to OECD destination countries. Our simple decompositions shed light on the role of both microeconomic drivers (i.e., financial incentives and constraints) and macroeconomic drivers, as well as the skill composition of the population. Our double decomposition further distinguishes between migration aspirations and realization rates by education level. Overall, we provide consistent evidence that the role of financial constraints, while relevant for the poorest countries, is limited. Rather, a large fraction of the increasing segment is explained by the skill composition and by macroeconomic drivers (i.e., by factors that do not change in the short-run).

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 2, April 2018

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

Ethical Issues in Biobanking and use of Biospecimens

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

April 2018 - Volume 72 - 4

<http://jech.bmjjournals.org/content/current>

Commentary

[**Call for a new epidemiological approach to disaster response**](#) (8 March, 2018)

Michio Murakami, Shuhei Nomura, Masaharu Tsubokura

Research reports

[**Prison environment and non-communicable chronic disease modifiable risk factors: length of incarceration trend analysis in Mexico City**](#) (8 March, 2018)

Omar Silverman-Retana, Edson Servan-Mori, Stefano Michele Bertozzi, Emanuel Orozco-Nuñez, Sergio Bautista-Arredondo, Ruy Lopez-Ridaura

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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 3, 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 8 Issue 1

<https://www.emeraldinsight.com/toc/jhlscm/8/1>

[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 8 15 April 2018

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

PERSPECTIVE

Call to Action: Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of Hepatitis B in Africa

Peyton Wilson; Jonathan B Parr; Ravi Jhaveri; Steve R Meshnick

The Journal of Infectious Diseases, Volume 217, Issue 8, 28 March 2018, Pages 1180–1183,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/infdis/jiy028>

Abstract

Hepatitis B virus (HBV) is a significant public health issue that has not been adequately addressed, especially in the high-prevalence region of Africa. Despite the incorporation of HBV vaccines into the Expanded Program on Immunization, children continue to be infected with HBV through maternal-to-child transmission (MTCT). The addition of a birth dose of HBV vaccine would be a cost-effective method to reduce MTCT. Birth-dose HBV vaccine policies have been adopted in the Western Pacific region but not yet in Africa. Even better protection against HBV MTCT can be achieved by treatment of pregnant women with high HBV viral loads with tenofovir. Tenofovir is already widely used in prevention of HIV MTCT (PMTCT) programs. We suggest that existing HIV PMTCT programs could be expanded to deliver care for HBV-infected pregnant women. With appropriate adoption of birth-dose vaccination policies and expansion of PMTCT programs, elimination of HBV MTCT in Africa is achievable.

Journal of International Development

March 2018 Volume 30, Issue 2 Pages: 159-364

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/10991328/current>

Fiscal Policy, State Building and Economic Development

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

April 2018 - Volume 44 - 4

<http://jme.bmjjournals.org/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Internet Research

Vol 20, No 4 (2018): April
<http://www.jmir.org/2018/4>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Operations Management
Pages 1-54 (January 2018)
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-operations-management/vol/57/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
April 2018 Volume 195, p1-312
<http://www.jpeds.com/current>
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice
<https://joppp.biomedcentral.com/>
[Accessed 7 April 2018]
[No new digest content identified]

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

Apr 07, 2018 Volume 391 Number 10128 p1331-1454

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

Editorial

The collapse of the Venezuelan health system

The Lancet

When Hugo Chavez became Venezuela's new president in 1998, he promised to provide free health care to all and enshrined this right within Venezuela's new constitution, rewritten in 1999. Progress was rapid and initial results were promising: according to the World Bank, life expectancy at birth rose from 71·8 to 74·1 years for both genders and infant mortality fell from 26·7 to 14·6 deaths per 1000 live births between 1998 and 2013, the period of Chavez's rule. Success was recognised on the international stage and Venezuela achieved most of the UN's Millennium Development Goals set for 2010. This initial success came on a backdrop of high oil prices providing the necessary government funding for public health-care spending and food imports. At the same time, a strong relationship with Cuba saw an agreement in 2003 that, in exchange for low-cost oil, Cuba would provide doctors, medical training, and medical supplies free of charge to Venezuela.

However, when the oil price began to fall in 2008 and Chavez's revolutionary politics alienated foreign investors, the tide turned. The largest oil reserves in the world could not stave off economic collapse as lower demand for oil, excessive government spending, US sanctions, and price controls led to rocketing inflation and falling gross domestic product. The impact on the health-care system was exacerbated by exchange rate controls, which led to a shortage of the foreign currency needed to import equipment, food, and medicines.

Official government data are hard to come by. The last official report from the Venezuelan Ministry of Health was published in 2016 ([Boletin Epidemiologico](#)) and the then Health Minister, Antonieta Corporale, was rewarded by being sacked immediately thereafter by Nicolas Maduro, who has been leading the country since 2013 (Venezuela has had 17 different ministers of health in the past 20 years). The results of this report were highlighted in a Lancet World Report in August, 2017, which noted the untenable situation in Venezuela. This government report revealed a 65% increase in maternal mortality and a 30% increase in infant mortality, with 11 466 infants dying during 2016. It also revealed that while Venezuela had been the first country in the world to eliminate malaria in populated areas, this and other diseases such as diphtheria, which had previously been controlled, had returned in several outbreaks.

Health-care outcomes have continued to deteriorate rapidly. The Venezuelan Government has steadily reduced the share of its annual expenditure dedicated to public health-care spending from a high of 9·1% in 2010 to 5·8% in 2014. Medical supplies have been reported as going missing or getting embargoed and sitting in ports, with some media alleging corruption hindering distribution. Some of these are for treating heart disease and diabetes—the leading causes of death in Venezuela, according to [WHO](#). As a result, patients have resorted to bringing their own surgical instruments, drugs, and food to hospital. In private practice, medical

professionals charge in US dollars, which makes health care unaffordable to most of the population.

A recent national survey—[Encuesta Nacional de Hospitales 2018](#) from the political opposition, the National Assembly, and the Venezuelan non-governmental organisation Médicos por la Salud—revealed that Venezuela's health crisis is worse than anticipated. The survey, conducted between March 1–10, 2018, assessed the performance of 104 public and 33 private hospitals in Venezuela. According to the figures, most laboratory services and hospital nutrition services are only available intermittently or are completely inoperative. Shortages of items such as basic medicines, catheters, surgical supplies, and infant formula are highlighted in the survey; 14% of intensive care units have been shut down because they are unable to operate and 79% of the facilities analysed have no water at all.

Venezuela's Government has allowed the country's infrastructure to crumble, with fatal consequences for ordinary Venezuelans. Without regular reports on basic health indicators, assessment of the impact of the crisis is difficult. However, the Encuesta Nacional de Hospitales 2018 survey shows a shocking decline in health-care performance and a failure of the system. Aware of this humanitarian crisis, as declared by the political opposition in 2017, worldwide humanitarian aid has been offered by multiple countries and the UN. Yet Venezuela's Government has refused this humanitarian aid, denying the existence of a crisis. It is time to end the abuse of power by the Venezuelan Government, and take immediate steps to address the heavy toll on the wellbeing of Venezuelans.

Lancet Global Health

Apr 2018 Volume 6 Number 4 e351-e468

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Apr 2018 Volume 18 Number 4 p357-474 e107-e159

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Apr 2018 Volume 6 Number 4 p231-314 e11-e15

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 22, Issue 4, April 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/volumesAndIssues/10995>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 38, Issue 3, April 2018

<http://mdm.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

Volume 96, Issue 1 Pages: 1-212 March 2018

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14680009/96/1>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nature

Volume 556 Issue 7699, 5 April 2018

http://www.nature.com/nature/current_issue.html

Comment | 03 April 2018

Developing countries must lead on solar geoengineering research

The nations that are most vulnerable to climate change must drive discussions of modelling, ethics and governance, argue A. Atiq Rahman, Paulo Artaxo, Asfawossen Asrat, Andy Parker and 8 co-signatories.

Letter | 21 March 2018

Shifts in tree functional composition amplify the response of forest biomass to climate

Forest inventory data from the 1980s and 2000s show the response of eastern USA forests to climate variability; direct effects of climate on forest biomass are amplified by changes in tree species composition.

Tao Zhang, Ülo Niinemets[...] & Jeremy W. Lichstein

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

April 5, 2018 Vol. 378 No. 14

<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

Review Article

The Key Role of Epigenetics in Human Disease Prevention and Mitigation

Andrew P. Feinberg, M.D., M.P.H.

Epigenetics is the regulation of gene expression through alterations in DNA or associated factors (other than the DNA sequence). These factors control the diverse manifestations of diseases. Insights into epigenetic modification may lead to new therapies for common diseases.

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 47, Issue 2, April 2018

<http://nvs.sagepub.com/content/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Oxford Monitor of Forced Migration

VOL. 7, NO. 1 (AUGUST 2017)

<http://oxmofm.com/current-issue/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

April 2018, VOLUME 141 / ISSUE 4

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/141/4?current-issue=y>

Articles

[Emotional Health Among Youth Experiencing Family Homelessness](#)

Andrew J. Barnes, Jace Gilbertson, Debanjana Chatterjee

Pediatrics Apr 2018, 141 (4) e20171767; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2017-1767

In 4594 children with family homelessness, elevated emotional health risks were mitigated by developmental assets but not to the same extent as for nonhomeless youth.

[Mobile Phone Incentives for Childhood Immunizations in Rural India](#)

Rajeev Seth, Ibukunoluwa Akinboyo, Ankur Chhabra, Yawar Qaiyum, Anita Shet, Nikhil Gupte, Ajay K. Jain, Sanjay K. Jain

Pediatrics Apr 2018, 141 (4) e20173455; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2017-3455

The delivery of automated compliance-linked mobile phone incentives via a cloud-based, biometric-linked record and reminder software platform improves childhood immunizations in rural India.

Review Articles

[Stimulation Interventions and Parenting in Low- and Middle-Income Countries: A Meta-analysis](#)

Joshua Jeong, Helen O. Pitchik, Aisha K. Yousafzai

Pediatrics Apr 2018, 141 (4) e20173510; DOI: 10.1542/peds.2017-3510

In this systematic review and meta-analysis, the medium-to-large effects of early childhood stimulation interventions on improving parenting outcomes in LMICs are demonstrated.

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 36, Issue 4, April 2018

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/36/4/page/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLOS Currents: Disasters

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

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

[Do Natural Disasters Affect Voting Behavior? Evidence from Croatian Floods](#)

April 6, 2018 · *Disasters*

Introduction: Studies show that natural disasters influence voters' perception of incumbent politicians. To investigate whether voters are prone to punish politicians for events that are out of their control, this study was conducted in the previously unstudied context of Croatia, and by considering some of the methodological issues of previous studies. **Method:** Matching method technique was used, which ensures that affected and non-affected areas are matched on several control variables. The cases of natural disaster in the present study were floods that affected Croatia in 2014 and 2015. **Results:** Main results showed that, prior to matching, floods had an impact on voting behaviour in the 2014 and 2015 elections. Voters from flooded areas decreased their support for the incumbent government and president in the elections following the floods. However, once we accounted for differences in control variables between flooded

and non-flooded areas, the flood effect disappeared. Furthermore, results showed that neither the presence nor the amount of the government's relief spending had an impact on voting behaviour. Discussion: Presented results imply that floods did not have an impact on the election outcome. Results are interpreted in light of the retrospective voter model.

PLoS Currents: Outbreaks

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

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

Essay

[Preprints: An underutilized mechanism to accelerate outbreak science](#)

Michael A. Johansson, Nicholas G. Reich, Lauren Ancel Meyers, Marc Lipsitch

| published 03 Apr 2018 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002549>

Summary points

:: Preprints—manuscripts posted openly online prior to peer review—offer an opportunity to accelerate the dissemination of scientific findings to support responses to infectious disease outbreaks.

:: Preprints posted during the Ebola and Zika outbreaks included novel analyses and new data, and most of those that were matched to peer-reviewed publications were available more than 100 days before publication.

:: Despite the advantages of preprints and the endorsement of journals and funders in the context of outbreaks, less than 5% of Ebola and Zika journal articles were posted as preprints prior to publication in journals.

:: With broader adoption by scientists, journals, and funding agencies, preprints can complement peer-reviewed publication and ensure the early, open, and transparent dissemination of science relevant to the prevention and control of disease outbreaks.

Research Article

[Integration of postpartum healthcare services for HIV-infected women and their infants in South Africa: A randomised controlled trial](#)

Landon Myer, Tamsin K. Phillips, Allison Zerbe, Kirsty Brittain, Maia Lesosky, Nei-Yuan Hsiao, Robert H. Remien, Claude A. Mellins, James A. McIntyre, Elaine J. Abrams

Research Article | published 30 Mar 2018 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1002547>

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 7 April 2018)

Viewpoints

[Safeguarding against Ebola: Vaccines and therapeutics to be stockpiled for future outbreaks](#)

Eric M. Espeland, Chia-Wei Tsai, Joseph Larsen, Gary L. Disbrow

| published 05 Apr 2018 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0006275>

[See Week in Review – Featured Journal Content above for full text]

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

Research Article

Context matters (but how and why?) A hypothesis-led literature review of performance based financing in fragile and conflict-affected health systems

Maria Paola Bertone, Jean-Benoît Falisse, Giuliano Russo, Sophie Witter

Research Article | published 03 Apr 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0195301>

Abstract

Performance-based financing (PBF) schemes have been expanding rapidly across low and middle income countries in the past decade, with considerable external financing from multilateral, bilateral and global health initiatives. Many of these countries have been fragile and conflict-affected (FCAS), but while the influence of context is acknowledged to be important to the operation of PBF, there has been little examination of how it affects adoption and implementation of PBF. This article lays out initial hypotheses about how FCAS contexts may influence the adoption, adaption, implementation and health system effects of PBF. These are then interrogated through a review of available grey and published literature (140 documents in total, covering 23 PBF schemes). We find that PBF has been more common in FCAS contexts, which were also more commonly early adopters. Very little explanation of the rationale for its adoption, in particular in relation with the contextual features, is given in programme documents. However, there are a number of factors which could explain this, including the greater role of external actors and donors, a greater openness to institutional reform, and lower levels of trust within the public system and between government and donors, all of which favour more contractual approaches. These suggest that rather than emerging despite fragility, conditions of fragility may favour the rapid emergence of PBF. We also document few emerging adaptations of PBF to humanitarian settings and limited evidence of health system effects which may be contextually driven, but these require more in-depth analysis. Another area meriting more study is the political economy of PBF and its diffusion across contexts.

Research Article

Innovative technologies and social inequalities in health: A scoping review of the literature

Daniel Weiss, Håvard T. Rydland, Emil Øversveen, Magnus Rom Jensen, Solvor Solhaug, Steinar Krokstad

| published 03 Apr 2018 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0195447>

Abstract

The aim of this study was to systematically review the range, nature, and extent of current research activity exploring the influence of innovative health-related technologies on social inequalities in health, with specific focus on a deeper understanding of the variables used to measure this connection and the pathways leading to the (re)production of inequalities. A review process was conducted, based on scoping review techniques, searching literature published from January 1, 1996 to November 25, 2016 using MEDLINE, Scopus, and ISI web of science. Search, sorting, and data extraction processes were conducted by a team of researchers and experts using a dynamic, reflexive examination process. Of 4139 studies collected from the search process, a total of 33 were included in the final analysis. Results of this study include the classification of technologies based on how these technologies are accessed and used by end users. In addition to the factors and mechanisms that influence

unequal access to technologies, the results of this study highlight the importance of variations in use that importantly shape social inequalities in health. Additionally, focus on health care services technologies must be accompanied by investigating emerging technologies influencing healthy lifestyle, genomics, and personalized devices in health. Findings also suggest that choosing one measure of social position over another has important implications for the interpretation of research results. Furthermore, understanding the pathways through which various innovative health technologies reduce or (re)produce social inequalities in health is context dependent. In order to better understand social inequalities in health, these contextual variations draw attention to the need for critical distinctions between technologies based on how these various technologies are accessed and used. The results of this study provide a comprehensive starting point for future research to further investigate how innovative technologies may influence the unequal distribution of health as a human right

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

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

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

[China, the United States, and competition for resources that enable emerging technologies](#)

Andrew L. Gulley, Nedal T. Nassar and Sean Xun

PNAS April 2, 2018. 201717152; published ahead of print April 2, 2018.

<https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1717152115>

Significance

Expanding demand for nonfuel minerals that enable pivotal technologies has elevated concerns regarding supply security, especially for nations that are highly import reliant. Although import reliance has become a prominent concern, few studies assess import reliance and none compare import reliance of countries concurrently. Doing so provides insights into resource interdependency and competition potential. Here, we compare the net import reliance of 42 minerals for the two largest national economies, China and the United States. We find that China relies on imports for over half of its consumption for 19 minerals, compared with 24 for the United States—11 of which are common to both. It is for these 11 minerals that competition between the United States and China may become the most contentious.

Abstract

Historically, resource conflicts have often centered on fuel minerals (particularly oil). Future resource conflicts may, however, focus more on competition for nonfuel minerals that enable emerging technologies. Whether it is rhenium in jet engines, indium in flat panel displays, or gallium in smart phones, obscure elements empower smarter, smaller, and faster technologies, and nations seek stable supplies of these and other nonfuel minerals for their industries. No nation has all of the resources it needs domestically. International trade may lead to international competition for these resources if supplies are deemed at risk or insufficient to satisfy growing demand, especially for minerals used in technologies important to economic development and national security. Here, we compare the net import reliance of China and the United States to inform mineral resource competition and foreign supply risk. Our analysis indicates that China relies on imports for over half of its consumption for 19 of 42 nonfuel minerals, compared with 24 for the United States—11 of which are common to both. It is for these 11 nonfuel minerals that competition between the United States and China may become the most contentious, especially for those with highly concentrated production that prove irreplaceable in pivotal emerging technologies.

Volume 33 - Issue 2 - April 2018

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 109 Pages 1-124 (April 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/109/suppl/C>

Regular Articles

A survey instrument for measuring vaccine acceptance

Original research article

Pages 1-7

Dilshani Sarathchandra, Mark C. Navin, Mark A. Largent, Aaron M. McCright

Abstract

Accurately measuring vaccine acceptance is important, especially under current conditions in which misinformation may increase public anxiety about vaccines and politicize vaccination policies. We integrated substantive knowledge, conceptualization and measurement expertise, and survey design principles to develop an instrument for measuring vaccine acceptance across the general public. Given this broad goal, we expect our novel instrument will complement, rather than replace, existing instruments designed specifically to measure parents' vaccine hesitancy. Our instrument measures five key facets of vaccine acceptance: (1) perceived safety of vaccines; (2) perceived effectiveness and necessity of vaccines; (3) acceptance of the selection and scheduling of vaccines; (4) positive values and affect toward vaccines; and (5) perceived legitimacy of authorities to require vaccinations. We report results of analyses demonstrating the reliability and validity of this instrument. High Cronbach's alpha values for five sub-scales and for the full scale indicate the instrument's reliability, and the consistent performance of expected predictors (i.e., trust in biologists, conspiratorial ideation, and political ideology) demonstrates the instrument's construct validity. Further, scientific reasoning increases vaccine acceptance among liberals but decreases vaccine acceptance among conservatives, which is consistent with motivated cognition. Also, trust in biologists has a stronger positive effect on vaccine acceptance among conservatives than among liberals, signaling a potentially promising means to reduce political polarization on vaccines and increase vaccine acceptance across the general public. We end by identifying key ways that public health researchers, science studies scholars, and health practitioners may employ the full (or short) version of our vaccine acceptance instrument.

Service quality and parents' willingness to get adolescents HPV vaccine from pharmacists

Original research article

Pages 106-112

Parth D. Shah, William A. Calo, Macary W. Marciniak, Carol E. Golin, ... Noel T. Brewer

Abstract

We sought to examine whether pharmacy service quality was associated with parents' willingness to have immunizing pharmacists administer human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine to their adolescent children. Participants were a national sample of 1504 US parents of adolescents ages 11 to 17 who completed an online survey in 2014. Analyses used structural equation modeling. Parents rated service quality and feelings of satisfaction with their pharmacies as moderate to high. Many (44%) were willing to get HPV vaccine from immunizing pharmacists for their adolescent children. Compared with parents who went to chain pharmacies, parents who went to independent pharmacies gave higher ratings of service quality (professionalism, confidentiality, milieu, all $p < .001$). Parents who went to clinic pharmacies, compared with parents who went to chain pharmacies gave lower ratings for milieu ($p < .01$). Parents who

went to independent pharmacies had lower willingness to get HPV vaccine from pharmacists compared to parents who went to chain pharmacies ($p = .001$), but there was no difference in willingness for parents who went to clinic versus chain pharmacies. Service quality and satisfaction partially mediated the effect between independent pharmacies compared to chain pharmacies and willingness ($p < .05$). Parents who knew their pharmacists or expressed more confidence in HPV vaccine also had higher willingness to get their children HPV vaccine from pharmacist. Many parents were willing to go to immunizing pharmacists for their children's HPV vaccination. Pharmacies that are considering offering HPV vaccine may be able to improve vaccine uptake by increasing perception of service quality.

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

April 2018 Volume 157, p1-152

<http://www.publichealthjrnl.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 2, March/April 2018

<http://phr.sagepub.com/content/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 28, Issue 5, April 2018

<http://qhr.sagepub.com/content/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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 7 April 2018]

Research

| 7 April 2018

Mapping the lack of public initiative against female genital mutilation in Denmark

Authors: Gro Møller Christoffersen, Peter James Bruhn, Rosanna de Neergaard, Susanne Engel and Vibeke Naeser

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health

(RPSP/PAJPH)

http://www.paho.org/journal/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=101

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Analysis

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

30 March 2018 Vol 359, Issue 6383

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 199, Pages 11-240 (February 2018)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/199/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

<http://www.stabilityjournal.org/articles>

[accessed 7 April 2018]

[Reviewed earlier]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Winter 2018 Volume 16, Number 1

https://ssir.org/issue/winter_2018

The only way that climate change will be reversed is by continuing to develop new technologies and turning them into products and services. Philanthropists play an important role

in that process, particularly by investing in risky, early-stage, science-based startups that traditional investors shy away from. Read more about this in "The Investment Gap That Threatens the Planet," the cover story in the Winter 2018 issue.

Health

Health Insurance for Migrants

By Kristine Wong

The M-FUND offers affordable health insurance to the vulnerable Burmese migrant population on Thailand's western border.

Sustainability

Volume 10, Issue 3 (March 2018)

<http://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/10/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Systematic Reviews

<https://systematicreviewsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles>

[Accessed 7 April 2018]

[No new digest content identified]

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LIV No. 4 2017 January 2018

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

Global Citizenship

This issue focuses on global citizenship, which has been defined as the concept that one's identity transcends, even as it respects, geographical and national borders, and that our social,

political, environmental and economic actions occur in an interconnected world. The articles examine, among other things, the nexus between reducing inequality and global citizenship, safeguarding cultural and linguistic diversity, and the rights and responsibilities derived from being a global citizen.

In this issue of the UN Chronicle, we have invited a number of distinguished contributors to share with us their perspectives on what global citizenship is and how this concept can be translated into solutions to global challenges and concerns.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 13, Issue 2, 2018

<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rvch20/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

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>

[Reviewed earlier]

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