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governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 4 April 2020 :: Number 308

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

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:: Week in Review

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

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COVID-19 :: United Nations Response

Shared responsibility, global solidarity: Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19

United Nations

March 2020 :: 28 pages

INTRODUCTION

We are facing a global health crisis unlike any in the 75-year history of the United Nations — one that is killing people, spreading human suffering, and upending people's lives. But this is much more than a health crisis. It is a human crisis. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is attacking societies at their core..

...This report is a call to action, for the immediate health response required to suppress transmission of the virus to end the pandemic; and to tackle the many social and economic dimensions of this crisis. It is, above all, a call to focus on people – women, youth, low-wage workers, small and medium enterprises, the informal sector and on vulnerable groups who are already at risk...

CALL TO ACTION

The COVID-19 Pandemic is a defining moment for modern society, and history will judge the efficacy of our response not by the actions of any single set of government actors taken in isolation, but by the degree to which the response is coordinated globally across all sectors to the benefit of our human family.

The United Nations global footprint at the national level is an asset for the global community to be leveraged to deliver the ambition needed to win the war against the virus.

With the right actions, the COVID-19 pandemic can mark the rebirthing of society as we know it today to one where we protect present and future generations. It is the greatest test that we have faced since the formation of the United Nations, one that requires all actors -governments, academia, businesses, employers and workers' organizations, civil society organizations, communities and individuals- to act in solidarity in new, creative, and deliberate ways for the common good and based on the core United Nations values that we uphold for humanity.

UN launches COVID-19 plan that could 'defeat the virus and build a better world'

NEW YORK, 31 March 2020 - The UN Secretary-General António Guterres has launched a new plan to counter the potentially devastating socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, calling on everyone to "act together to lessen the blow to people".

"The new coronavirus disease is attacking societies at their core, claiming lives and people's livelihoods", said the UN chief, pointing out that the potential longer-term effects on the global economy and individual countries are "dire".

The new report, ["Shared responsibility, global solidarity: Responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19"](#), describes the speed and scale of the outbreak, the severity of cases, and the societal and economic disruption of the coronavirus.

"COVID-19 is the greatest test that we have faced together since the formation of the United Nations," underscored the UN chief.

"This human crisis demands coordinated, decisive, inclusive and innovative policy action from the world's leading economies – and maximum financial and technical support for the poorest and most vulnerable people and countries."

Guterres called for "an immediate coordinated health response to suppress transmission and end the pandemic" that "scales up health capacity for testing, tracing, quarantine and treatment, while keeping first responders safe, combined with measures to restrict movement and contact."

He underscored that developed countries must assist those less developed, or potentially "face the nightmare of the disease spreading like wildfire in the global South with millions of deaths and the prospect of the disease re-emerging where it was previously suppressed".

"Let us remember that we are only as strong as the weakest health system in our interconnected world", he stressed.

In tackling the devastating social and economic dimensions of the crisis, the UN chief pushed for a focus on the most vulnerable by designing policies that, among other things, support providing health and unemployment insurance and social protections while also bolstering businesses to prevent bankruptcies and job losses.

Debt alleviation must also be a priority he said, noting that the UN is "fully mobilized" and is establishing a new multi-partner [Trust Fund for COVID19 Response and Recovery](#) to respond to the emergency and recover from the socio-economic shock.

"When we get past this crisis, which we will, we will face a choice", said the UN chief, "we can go back to the world as it was before or deal decisively with those issues that make us all unnecessarily vulnerable to crises".

Measures to cope with coronavirus impacts:

:: Global actions must include a stimulus package reaching double-digit percentage points of the world's GDP, with explicit actions to boost the economies of developing countries.

:: Regional mobilization must examine impacts, monetary coordination, fiscal and social measures, while engaging with private financial sector to support businesses and addressing structural challenges.

:: National solidarity needs to prioritize social cohesion and provide fiscal stimulus for the most vulnerable along with support to small- and medium-sized enterprises, decent work and education.

The report includes estimates from a host of UN agencies.

According to the UN International Labour Organization (ILO), five to 25 million jobs will be eradicated, and the world will lose \$860 billion to \$3.4 trillion in labor income.

The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) projected a 30 to 40 per cent downward pressure on global foreign direct investment flows while the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) saw a 20–30 per cent decline in international arrivals.

Meanwhile, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) anticipated that 3.6 billion people will be offline and the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) forecast that 1.5 billion students out of school.

The report calls for a large-scale, coordinated, comprehensive multilateral response that amounts to at least 10 per cent of global gross domestic product (GDP) and warns that there is no time to lose in mounting the most robust, cooperative health response the world has ever seen.

In closing, Guterres called the pandemic “a defining moment for modern society”, saying the “history will judge the efficacy of the response not by the actions of any single set of government actors taken in isolation, but by the degree to which the response is coordinated globally across all sectors for the benefit of our human family”.

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COVID-19 – Refugees, Migrants, Trafficked and Stateless Persons

[The Rights and Health of Refugees, Migrants and Stateless Must be Protected in COVID-19 Response](#)

2020-03-31 18:52

OHCHR, IOM, UNHCR and WHO - Joint Press Release

Geneva - In the face of the COVID-19 crisis, we are all vulnerable. The virus has shown that it does not discriminate - but many refugees, those forcibly displaced, the stateless and migrants are at heightened risk.

Three-quarters of the world’s refugees and many migrants are hosted in developing regions where health systems are already overwhelmed and under-capacitated. Many live in overcrowded camps, settlements, makeshift shelters or reception centers, where they lack adequate access to health services, clean water and sanitation.

The situation for refugees and migrants held in formal and informal places of detention, in cramped and unsanitary conditions, is particularly worrying. Considering the lethal consequences a COVID-19 outbreak would have, they should be released without delay. Migrant children and their families and those detained without a sufficient legal basis should be immediately released.

This disease can be controlled only if there is an inclusive approach which protects every individual’s rights to life and health. Migrants and refugees are disproportionately vulnerable to exclusion, stigma and discrimination, particularly when undocumented. To avert a catastrophe, governments must do all

they can to protect the rights and the health of everyone. Protecting the rights and the health of all people will in fact help control the spread of the virus.

It is vital that everyone, including all migrants and refugees, are ensured equal access to health services and are effectively included in national responses to COVID-19, including prevention, testing and treatment. Inclusion will help not only to protect the rights of refugees and migrants, but will also serve to protect public health and stem the global spread of COVID-19.

While many nations protect and host refugee and migrant populations, they are often not equipped to respond to crises such as Covid-19. To ensure refugees and migrants have adequate access to national health services, States may need additional financial support. This is where the world's financial institutions can play a leading role in making funds available.

While countries are closing their borders and limiting cross-border movements, there are ways to manage border restrictions in a manner which respects international human rights and refugee protection standards, including the principle of non-refoulement, through quarantine and health checks.

More than ever, as COVID-19 poses a global threat to our collective humanity, our primary focus should be on the preservation of life, regardless of status. This crisis demands a coherent, effective international approach that leaves no-one behind. At this crucial moment we all need to rally around a common objective, fighting this deadly virus. Many refugees, displaced, stateless people and migrants have skills and resources that can also be part of the solution.

We cannot allow fear or intolerance to undermine rights or compromise the effectiveness of responses to the global pandemic. We are all in this together. We can only defeat this virus when each and every one of us is protected.

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[UN experts call on Governments to adopt urgent measures to protect migrants and trafficked persons in their response to COVID-19](#)

GENEVA (3 April 2020) – States worldwide must urgently adopt inclusive measures aimed at protecting migrants and trafficked persons in their national response to COVID-19, such as prevention measures, testing, medical treatment, health services and social assistance, two UN human rights experts said today.

"States should also take steps towards the regularisation of undocumented migrants whenever necessary, in view of facilitating their access to health services during the fight against the pandemic," said the UN Special Rapporteurs on migrants, Felipe González Morales, and on trafficking in persons, Maria Grazia Giammarinaro.

"Migrants in irregular situations, asylum seekers, exploited and trafficked persons may be particularly at risk of COVID-19 because their living or working environment may expose them to the virus without necessary protection," they said.

"I am concerned that some migrants, including asylum seekers, do not have access to minimal protection against the contagion, not even clean water to wash their hands. Many live in overcrowded shelters or detention centres without the possibility to observe physical distance. Some migrants are working in agriculture or in informal sectors without any protection measures," González Morales said. "People who have been granted residence permits on grounds of trafficking and have a job or are participating in a training programme should be allowed to obtain work permits through facilitated procedures. Such a measure aims to avoid precariousness and to ensure their full access to healthcare," Giammarinaro added.

The UN experts welcomed the decision adopted by some States to grant temporary residency rights, including access to social and health benefits to migrants including asylum seekers, amid the fight against the pandemic.

"No one should be left behind in this global fight against the pandemic. Governments must adopt measures ensuring every individual in the national territory, regardless of their migration status, is included and has access to health services in order to achieve successful containment of the COVID-19 pandemic," they said.

The UN Special Rapporteurs also called for an automatic extension for at least six months of all protection and assistance programmes for migrants in vulnerable situations and trafficked persons that are close to their expiration date, to ensure continuity of survivors' social inclusion process.

"The protection granted to unaccompanied children close to adulthood must also be extended for a minimum period of six months. Particular attention should be given to inadequate or overcrowding facilities where migrants are accommodated," the experts said. Residents at such facilities, whether open or closed, should be provided with accurate and accessible information on the COVID19 outbreak, practical advice on preventing infection and access to clean water, sanitation facilities and other prevention materials.

"In overcrowded facilities where it is impossible for all residents to practise physical distancing, alternatives venues should be identified and consideration should be given to releasing those who have a place to stay in the community. It is crucial to establish protocols with local health providers to ensure access to testing, medical consultation and treatment of all residents in immigration facilities," said the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants.

"Human rights must be at the centre of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Inclusive measures aimed at protecting the rights and health of the whole population, including all migrants and trafficked persons, regardless of their migration status, are urgent and necessary, and can contribute to the effectiveness of the general national measures against COVID-19," the UN experts said.

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COVID-19 – OAS :: Indigenous Peoples

[Statement from the OAS General Secretariat on the Situation of Indigenous Peoples during the COVID-19 Crisis](#)

Organization of American States

April 2, 2020

The OAS General Secretariat calls on member states to pay special attention to their indigenous populations during the health crisis caused by COVID-19.

Considering the double situation of vulnerability suffered by indigenous communities due to their historical marginalization and geographic isolation, we urge local, regional, and national authorities in each member state to work in coordination with specific protocols that aim to protect the health and well-being of their indigenous population from an intercultural approach, as established in the Declaration of the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples of the United Nations, approved in 2007, and the American Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the Organization of American States, approved in 2016.

The General Secretariat also urges member states to generate specific programs and policies to sustain the economies of their indigenous communities with the aim of mitigating the social and economic consequences of the pandemic.

Finally, the General Secretariat invites member states and the international community to maintain, during this global crisis, the spirit of unity, solidarity, and reciprocity that has been the historic guiding principle of indigenous peoples.

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Featured Journal Content

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

Editorial

Migrant and refugee health: Complex health associations among diverse contexts call for tailored and rights-based solutions

Paul Spiegel, Kolitha Wickramage, Terry McGovern

| published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003105>

Migration is a natural state of humankind and has been documented throughout history. Some people may flee violence and persecution, while others simply seek a better life. Although migration is often classified into these two basic categories, the reality is more complex and nuanced: people migrate for a myriad of interconnected cultural, economic, religious, ethnic, and political reasons. Depending upon the epoch, migration has been seen in a positive or a negative light. Currently, the terms migrant and refugee have become politically charged and are widely misused for political and populist purposes. However, no matter how migration is portrayed at a specific point in time, it will inexorably continue. Thus, the need to ensure the protection, health, and welfare of people on the move is imperative and provides the rationale for the accompanying PLOS Medicine Special Issue on Refugee and Migrant Health [1]. This imperative is not only a matter of humanity and equity but is also necessary for the global economy, as migration is inherently linked to economic growth [2].

The governance needed to provide health services to this diverse and widespread group of people—from low-waged migrant workers and undocumented migrants to refugees—is unclear. How can we

attain universal health coverage in this complex and uncertain environment? At the 72nd World Health Assembly in May 2019, a global action plan was agreed upon that seeks to establish a “framework of priorities and guiding principles...to promote the health of refugees and migrants.” The Global Compact on Migration, developed through intergovernmental negotiations and adopted in December 2018, enshrined health as a cross-cutting priority for migration governance. It is, however, unlikely that governments will apply such frameworks, unfortunately. Despite widespread recognition of the numerous migration-related health risks, mobile populations are often met with punitive border policies, arbitrary detention, abuse, and extortion and are denied access to healthcare. All too often, government policies prioritize the politics of xenophobia over their responsibilities to act forcefully to counter them. As human beings, migrants are entitled to universal human rights without discrimination, and to the “highest attainable standard of health” according to international law. Migration health remains at the margins of policy prioritization for most governments, and thus universal health coverage remains elusive for the vast majority of migrants and refugees [3].

Seeking to raise awareness of the health inequities and different contexts faced by migrants and forcibly displaced persons, as well as to promote research, service, and policy innovation in this area, this Special Issue is devoted to migrant and refugee health in the broadest sense. The articles included, as well as the findings themselves, are as diverse as the topic itself. Here, we discuss the results from some of the articles illustrating different themes to portray this diversity.

The health status of migrants and refugees, along with healthcare coverage and utilization, has quite naturally been explored in some detail among different migrant populations and, unsurprisingly, the health effects vary according to the populations and contexts studied. In a study done in a high-income setting (the city of Bradford in the United Kingdom) where about one-third of mothers had been born in a different country, for example, the proportion of mothers who had visited the emergency department at least once for a consultation involving their children was found to be lower for migrants compared to nonmigrant mothers. However, among all mothers who utilized emergency services, the utilization rate was significantly higher than that of nonmigrant mothers [4]. Such findings can be useful for planning health provision and identifying possible barriers to attendance.

Mobility and relocation can create substantial vulnerabilities, including an increased risk of sexual violence, human trafficking, and labor exploitation, along with a need for child protection [5]. In conflict-affected settings, migration may coincide with weakened protections from family and social networks that leave people, particularly women and girls, vulnerable to exploitation. In a study by Amber Lalla and colleagues, Oromo and Somali refugee women in the Kakuma Refugee camp in Kenya were found to experience multiple sources of insecurity, including violence and neglect, in all spaces of the refugee camp [6]. Health services, including sexual and reproductive health services, are also often limited. However, a qualitative study done in a humanitarian setting in the Democratic Republic of the Congo documents knowledge of contraceptive methods among adolescent and young women as well as unmet need, indicating that other factors may play a greater role in influencing contraceptive use than displacement [7].

While migration often creates new vulnerabilities, it may also serve as a protective factor for migrants leaving highly disadvantaged contexts. In a comparison of international migrants, internal migrants, and nonmigrants in Bangladesh, Randall Kuhn and colleagues [8] found that people who moved primarily to become guest workers in Gulf Cooperative Countries faced comparable or lower injury and mortality risks compared to those who remained in their country of origin.

Health authorities often cite concerns over communicable diseases in migrant populations, which could be perceived to increase risks of disease transmission. However, there are often insufficient data and misinformation about these risks, and the reality is much more nuanced and context specific. A study of HIV diagnosis and care cascades in Australia found an overall improvement among all persons between 2013 and 2017, while cascades for migrants had larger gaps compared to nonmigrants, particularly among key migrant populations [9]. Investigations among Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh found that, despite multiple vaccination campaigns, immunity gaps still existed among children, particularly for diphtheria and polio [10,11].

These and other research studies featured in this Special Issue address a great diversity of migration trajectories and contexts. The evidence harnessed has highlighted different effects and complex associations between migration and health across different settings, including diverse mobility dynamics across different phases of the migration cycle. Policymakers, practitioners, and researchers need to calibrate national and regional policy and programmatic levers by using the best available evidence for their specific context; clearly there is no “one size fits all” conclusion and recommendations when it comes to migration health. Governments and policymakers must commit to and invest in evidence-informed processes while avoiding perceptions and misinformation.

It is clear from the articles in this Special Issue that much of the research in migration health is generated in high-income countries, with limited research productivity on migrant typologies occurring in low- and middle-income countries. With anticipated increases in the numbers of refugees and migrants in the future, there is a clear call for increased investment and support for health research in settings in which the needs of refugees and migrants are greatest. In addition, the health impacts for the largest populations of migrants who are engaged in low-wage work in precarious contexts remain poorly researched [12]. We hope that the research approaches and evidence featured in this issue will encourage future migration health research to address these evidence and equity gaps for the benefit of the growing and vulnerable populations of refugees and migrants worldwide.

References at title link above.

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Pandemics and Violence Against Women and Children

Center for Global Development - Working Paper

Amber Peterman , Alina Potts , Megan O'Donnell , Kelly Thompson , Niyati Shah , Sabine Oertelt-Prigione and Nicole van Gelder

April 1, 2020

Times of economic uncertainty, civil unrest and disaster are linked to a myriad of risk factors for increased violence against women and children (VAW/C). Pandemics are no exception. In fact, the regional or global nature and associated fear and uncertainty associated with pandemics provide an enabling environment that may exacerbate or spark diverse forms of violence. Understanding mechanisms underlying these dynamics are important for crafting policy and program responses to mitigate adverse effects.

Based on existing published and grey literature, we document nine main (direct and indirect) pathways linking pandemics and VAW/C, through effects of (on): (1) *economic insecurity and poverty-related stress*, (2) *quarantines and social isolation*, (3) *disaster and conflict-related unrest and instability*, (4) *exposure to exploitative relationships due to changing demographics*, (5) *reduced health*

service availability and access to first responders, (6) inability of women to temporarily escape abusive partners, (7) virus-specific sources of violence, (8) exposure to violence and coercion in response efforts, and (9) violence perpetrated against health care workers. We also suggest additional pathways with limited or anecdotal evidence likely to effect smaller sub-groups.

Based on these mechanisms, we suggest eight policy and program responses for action by governments, civil society, international and community-based organizations. Finally, as research linking pandemics directly to diverse forms of VAW/C is scarce, we lay out a research agenda comprising three main streams, to better (1) *understand the magnitude of the problem*, (2) *elucidate mechanisms and linkages with other social and economic factors* and (3) *inform intervention and response options*. We hope this paper can be used by researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to help inform further evidence generation and policy action while situating VAW/C within the broader need for intersectional gender- and feminist-informed pandemic response.

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Masks and handwashing Vs. physical distancing: Do we really have evidence-based answers for policymakers in resource-limited settings?

BRAC April 4, 2020

by Asif Saleh and Richard A. Cash

...For the first time, more than half of the world's population is under some form of movement restriction to reduce the transmission of an infectious disease.

As more governments grapple with the immense difficulty of bringing their country to a halt, we see an important pattern emerging: leaders from low and middle-income countries are increasingly skeptical of mimicking policies that may have worked in China, South Korea, Germany, and elsewhere because of radical differences in demography, health system capacity, and cultural context.

Given the economic shock created by physical distancing policies, they are right to ask questions. Our own assessment of disease modeling, such as that conducted by Walker et al., finds it is deeply, even explicitly, biased towards optimising for the parameters of wealthy countries—on age distribution, ability of families to self-isolate, assumptions on capacity to scale up testing, and the ability to provide critical care and social support. **We have yet to see models that optimise for younger populations in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, extreme population density of megacities, high rates of intergenerational-mingling, the likelihood of reverse migration, or the prevalence of other health conditions. Critical care is unavailable in these societies and health systems will have no ability to provide lifesaving treatment to the vast majority of its citizens. Bangladesh has 500 ventilators for a population of over 165 million; Liberia has three.**

Public health experts seemed surprised to see physical distancing backfire—for example, urban migrants fleeing cities to avoid paying rent and be with their family during the crisis has occurred at an unthinkable scale. An estimated 10 million migrants left Dhaka in the 48 hours prior to Bangladesh's national "holiday" began, and there are similar stories emerging from Kenya and beyond. Have epidemiological models accounted for the possibility that the policies could fuel widespread community transmission, rather than contain COVID-19? To those who know these populations intimately, it was the obvious consequence.

These models do not exclude just small pockets of people with unique circumstances. There are 1.2 billion people globally living in informal slums, which by definition are crowded and lack sufficient access to water and sanitation facilities meaning any force of isolation or quarantine is impossible. In some slums the density is as high as 800,000 people per square mile—for comparison, New York City's is 27,000. If these policies turn out to lack efficacy, then the economic losses will have been for naught. Is the global health community monitoring this risk and updating their advice?

In addition to over prescribing physical distancing, the global health community should consider emergency provision of food or cash as an essential, lifesaving intervention to accompany forced loss of income. These programs have lagged far behind, despite the fact that for the 636 million people living in extreme poverty, severe food insecurity is immediate, predictable, and in many cases, preventable by appropriate policies.

Lastly and most crucially, we urge the global health community to better evaluate and promote infection control measures that are less disruptive to the livelihoods of the poor and feasible in low-resource settings. Some of the best interventions we have, such as handwashing, are underemphasised. The World Health Organization includes good respiratory hygiene as part of its standard guidance on how to reduce respiratory virus transmission. In places where people don't cover their mouth or nose with a tissue or elbow when coughing or sneezing, efforts to promote these practices have been piloted successfully in schools in Bangladesh and may be a good investment to scale quickly. Furthermore, many South Asian countries have factories where masks could be quickly produced at scale, getting some of the millions of workers in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Myanmar and beyond back into factories that are currently closed due to the deepening troubles in the garment industry, while also enabling an infection control measure widely practiced in East Asia. Already India's Ministry of Health has indicated that they are considering recommendations around homemade masks as a protective measure.

There are rapid examples of frugal, innovative improvisations popping up across the world, including some amazing crowd-sourced entertainment on staying healthy, but the global health community remains too fixated on policies built for a different context to consider them seriously.

While it may be difficult for epidemiologists to consider policy options without meaningful physical distancing, rapid expansion of widespread testing, and availability of critical care, this is the scenario most leaders in Africa and South Asia currently face. They deserve every bit as much rigour and decision-making support as the leaders in wealthier countries. There is an opportunity to come out of this pandemic with more solidarity and equality, and in pursuing it we save more lives together.

Asif Saleh is the executive director of BRAC Bangladesh. Richard A. Cash, M.D., M.P.H. is an American global health researcher, public health physician, internist, and Prince Mahidol Award winner. He is a senior lecturer and a director at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

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COVID-19 – Global Trade in Medical Products

WTO issues new report on worldwide trade in COVID-19 medical products

3 April 2020

The WTO Secretariat has released a new report on trade in medical products critical for the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The report traces trade flows for products such as personal protective products, hospital and laboratory supplies, medicines and medical technology while providing information on their respective tariffs.

Trade in medical products which have now been described as critical and in severe shortage during the COVID-19 crisis⁽¹⁾ totalled about US\$ 597 billion in 2019, accounting for 1.7% of total world merchandise trade according to the report. The ten largest supplying economies accounted for almost three-quarters of total world exports of the products while the ten largest buyers accounted for roughly two-thirds of world imports.

Commitments made under various WTO negotiations and agreements have helped slash import tariffs on these products and improve market access, with the average tariff on COVID-19 medical products standing at 4.8%, lower than the 7.6% average tariff for non-agricultural products in general. The statistics show that 52% of 134 WTO members impose a tariff of 5% or lower on medical products. Among them, four members do not levy any tariffs at all: Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Macao, China; and Singapore. The report, however, also identifies markets where tariffs remain high. Tariffs on face masks, for example, can be as high as 55% in some countries.

Key points

- :: Germany, the United States and Switzerland supply 35% of medical products; ⁽²⁾
- :: China, Germany and the United States export 40% of personal protective products;
- :: Imports and exports of medical products totalled about US\$ 2 trillion, including intra-EU trade, which represented approximately 5% of total world merchandise trade in 2019;
- :: Trade of products described as critical and in severe shortage in the COVID-19 crisis totalled about US\$ 597 billion, or 1.7% of total world trade in 2019;
- :: Tariffs on some products remain very high. For example, the average applied tariff for hand soap is 17% and some WTO members apply tariffs as high as 65%;**
- :: Protective supplies used in the fight against COVID-19 attract an average tariff of 11.5% and go as high as 27% in some countries;**
- :: The WTO has contributed to the liberalization of trade in medical products in three main ways:
 - . The results of tariff negotiations scheduled at the inception of the WTO in 1995;
 - . Conclusion of the plurilateral sectoral Agreement on Pharmaceutical Products ("Pharma Agreement") in the Uruguay Round and its four subsequent reviews;
 - . The Expansion of the Information Technology Agreement in 2015.

The report is available [here](#).

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Press Freedom

UNESCO Launches the first Call for the Global Media Defence Fund

01/04/2020

UNESCO seeks partners in promoting media freedom, to be supported under the Global Media Defence Fund, established thanks to the initiative of the governments of the United Kingdom and Canada, within the framework of their Global Campaign for Media Freedom. Under this first call for partnerships, half million USD will be distributed in small grants to relevant not-for-profit organizations.

Until Sunday 10 May 2020, UNESCO will be accepting proposals for innovative projects that will enhance journalists' legal protection and their access to legal assistance, as well support investigative journalism contributing to tackling impunity, at the local, regional and/or international level by advancing at least one of the following Global Media Defence Fund's Outputs:

:: Output 2: Reinforcing the operationalization of national protection mechanisms and peer support networks, including by supporting governments and other institutions to develop national frameworks, action plans and legislation relevant to the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity, to ensure journalists' rapid access to legal assistance, bolster their defense and enhance their safety;

:: Output 3: Supporting investigative journalism that contributes to reduced impunity for crimes against journalists, and enhancing the safety of those conducting this line of work;

:: Output 4: Enhancing structures for fostering strategic litigation in order to protect environments where the legal frameworks are conducive to an independent, free and plural media ecosystem.

Under this first Call for Partnerships, for total amount of USD \$500,000 (five hundred thousand US dollars), the Global Media Defence Fund will consider applications for funding from relevant not-for-profit stakeholders, including civil society organizations, media associations, human rights organizations, rule of law initiatives, investigative journalism networks and academic institutions...

The Global Media Defence Fund is a UNESCO's Multi-Partner Trust Fund with the goal of enhancing media protection and improving the access of journalists to specialized legal assistance. Its particular niches are supporting legal defense based on international standards on media freedom, as well as investigative journalism contributing to tackle impunity for crimes against journalists. The implementation approach consists in seeking applications for funding from external relevant non-profit organizations.

The Global Media Defence Fund was made possible thanks to the initial major donations by the United Kingdom and Canada and their respective pledges of £3 million (USD \$3,7 million) over five years and of 1 million Canadian Dollars (USD \$750,000) to the Fund. Additional donations have been received by the Czech Republic, Latvia, and Luxemburg. This Fund synergizes with other activities implemented by UNESCO in the field of freedom of expression, and its action contributes to the implementation of the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity.

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Featured Journal Content

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

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

Research Article

Measuring the predictability of life outcomes with a scientific mass collaboration

Matthew J. Salganik, et al.

Significance

Hundreds of researchers attempted to predict six life outcomes, such as a child's grade point average and whether a family would be evicted from their home. These researchers used machine-learning methods optimized for prediction, and they drew on a vast dataset that was painstakingly collected by social scientists over 15 y. However, no one made very accurate predictions. For policymakers considering using predictive models in settings such as criminal justice and child-protective services, these results raise a number of concerns. Additionally, researchers must reconcile the idea that they understand life trajectories with the fact that none of the predictions were very accurate.

Abstract

How predictable are life trajectories? We investigated this question with a scientific mass collaboration using the common task method; 160 teams built predictive models for six life outcomes using data from the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study, a high-quality birth cohort study. Despite using a rich dataset and applying machine-learning methods optimized for prediction, the best predictions were not very accurate and were only slightly better than those from a simple benchmark model. Within each outcome, prediction error was strongly associated with the family being predicted and weakly associated with the technique used to generate the prediction. Overall, these results suggest practical limits to the predictability of life outcomes in some settings and illustrate the value of mass collaborations in the social sciences.

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Featured Journal Content – Heritage Stewardship

Nature

Volume 580 Issue 7801, 2 April 2020

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

Review Article | 01 April 2020

Rebuilding marine life

Analyses of the recovery of marine populations, habitats and ecosystems following past conservation interventions indicate that substantial recovery of the abundance, structure and function of marine life could be achieved by 2050 if major pressures, including climate change, are mitigated.

Carlos M. Duarte, Susana Agusti[...] & Boris Worm

Abstract

Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the United Nations aims to “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”. Achieving this goal will require rebuilding the marine life-support systems that deliver the many benefits that society receives from a healthy ocean. Here we document the recovery of marine populations, habitats and ecosystems following past conservation interventions. Recovery rates across studies suggest that substantial recovery of the abundance, structure and function of marine life could be achieved by 2050, if major pressures—including climate change—are mitigated. Rebuilding marine life represents a doable Grand

Challenge for humanity, an ethical obligation and a smart economic objective to achieve a sustainable future.

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Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 21 Issue 4, April 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/21/issues/4>

Review Article | 07 February 2020

Pan-genomics in the human genome era

Although single reference genomes are valuable resources, they do not capture genetic diversity among individuals. Sherman and Salzberg discuss the concept of 'pan-genomes', which are reference genomes that encompass the genetic variation within a given species. Focusing particularly on large eukaryotic pan-genomes, they describe the latest progress, the varied methodological approaches and computational challenges, as well as applications in fields such as agriculture and human disease.

Rachel M. Sherman & Steven L. Salzberg

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International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 26, Issue 5 2020

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

Article

Heritage destruction in Myanmar's Rakhine state: legal and illegal iconoclasm

Ronan Lee & José Antonio González Zarandona

Pages: 519-538

Published online: 21 Sep 2019

ABSTRACT

In this article we map heritage destruction in Myanmar's Rakhine state. We outline the historic and contemporary political context in Myanmar explaining the background of the Rohingya Muslim ethnic group and addressing the contribution of religion and political change to anti-Rohingya discrimination and violence in Myanmar. We trace patterns of heritage destruction as legal and/ or illegal iconoclasm and specify the key elements of heritage destruction in Rakhine state. Our analysis focusses on the use of heritage destruction in Rakhine state as a tool of genocide, and we suggest that heritage destruction in Myanmar's Rakhine state ought to be understood as part the authorities' policies of genocide against the Rohingya. We conclude the article with a call for UNESCO to act to extend its 'Unite4Heritage' campaign to include the destruction of heritage by state actors.

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Global Governance :: Internet

China and Huawei propose reinvention of the internet

New architecture would enable cutting-edge technologies but western countries fear more control for state-run internet services

Anna Gross and Madhumita Murgia

March 27, 2020

China has suggested a radical change to the way the internet works to the UN, in a proposal that claims to enable cutting-edge technologies such as holograms and self-driving cars but which critics say will also bake authoritarianism into the architecture underpinning the web.

The telecoms group Huawei, together with state-run companies China Unicom and China Telecom, and the country's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), jointly proposed a new standard for core network technology, called "New IP", at the UN's International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

The [proposal](#) has caused concerns among western countries including the UK, Sweden and the US, who believe the system would splinter the global internet and give state-run internet service providers granular control over citizens' internet use. It has gained the support of Russia, and potentially Saudi Arabia, according to western representatives at the ITU.

"Below the surface, there is a huge battle going on over what the internet will look like," said a UK delegate to the ITU, who asked not to be named.

"You've got these two competing visions: one which is very free and open and . . . government hands-off . . . and one which is much more controlled and regulated by governments."

Huawei has said that parts of the technology for the new network architecture are already being built, with the help of multiple states and companies, but would not name those involved. It has also said elements will be ready to be tested by early 2021.

In a [PowerPoint presentation](#) and an official [standard proposal](#) obtained by the Financial Times, Huawei describes the existing internet infrastructure that underpins global networks — known as TCP/IP — as "unstable" and "vastly insufficient" to meet the requirements of the digital world by 2030, including self-driving cars, the ubiquitous internet of things and "holo-sense teleportation".

Instead, the Chinese proposals suggest the ITU take a "long-term view" and "shoulder the responsibility of a top-down design for the future network".

Huawei said that New IP is being developed purely to meet the technical requirements of a rapidly-evolving digital world and that it has not built any type of control into its design. It said it was leading a group at the ITU focused on future network technology. "The research and innovation of New IP is open to scientists and engineers worldwide to participate in and contribute to," added a spokesperson.

The ITU is currently led by Chinese telecoms engineer Houlin Zhao, who was nominated to the position by China's MIIT in 2014. But a forthcoming paper for Nato by Oxford Information Labs, a cyber security company, whose authors are also UK delegates to the ITU, warns that New IP will enable "fine-grained controls in the foundations of the network" and that the Chinese approach "will lead to more centralised, top-down control of the internet and potentially even its users, with implications on security and human rights"...

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EMERGENCIES

Coronavirus [COVID-19]

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Editor's Note:

We certainly recognize the velocity of global developments in the COVID-19 pandemic. While we have concentrated the most current key reports just below, COVID-19 announcements, analysis and commentary will be found throughout this issue, in all sections.

Beyond the considerable continuing coverage in the global general media, the WHO's authoritative guidance is available here:

:: Daily WHO situation reports here: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

:: WHO Coronavirus disease (COVID-2019) daily press briefings here: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/media-resources/press-briefings>

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Situation report - 75 [WHO]

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

4 April 2020

[Excerpts]

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Globally

1 051 635 confirmed (79 332)

56 985 deaths (6664)

Western Pacific Region

110 362 confirmed (1432)

3809 deaths (49)

European Region

583 141 confirmed (41 333)

42 334 deaths (5231)

South-East Asia Region

6528 confirmed (647)

267 deaths (22)

Eastern Mediterranean Region

65 903 confirmed (3667)

3592 deaths (154)

Region of the Americas

279 543 confirmed (32 070)

6802 deaths (1202)

African Region

5446 confirmed (183)

170 deaths (6)

WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

Global Level – Very High

HIGHLIGHTS

:: One new country/territory/area reported cases of COVID-19 in the past 24 hours: Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba.

:: As worldwide cases climb above 1 million and deaths over 50 000, Dr Tedros stressed that the best way for countries to end restrictions and ease their economic effects was to attack the virus with an aggressive and comprehensive package of measures. His speech can be found [here](#).

:: WHO has released new technical guidance recommending universal access to public hand hygiene stations and making their use obligatory on entering and leaving any public or private commercial building and any public transport facility. It also recommends that healthcare facilities improve access to and practice of hand hygiene. Find more [here](#).

:: WHO/Europe has received a €30 million contribution from the European Commission for 6 WHO European Region Member States – Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine – to meet immediate needs in their responses to COVID-19. More information is available [here](#).

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Emergencies

Ebola – DRC+

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Ebola Outbreak in DRC 86: 31 March 2020

[Excerpts]

Situation Update

There have been no new cases of Ebola virus disease (EVD) reported since 17 February 2020. The last individual confirmed to have Ebola was discharged from an Ebola Treatment Centre on 3 March after recovering and testing negative for the virus twice. On 9 March, the last contacts finished their follow-up period. These developments are significant milestones in this outbreak. However, there is still a high risk of re-emergence of EVD, and it is critical to maintain response activities to rapidly detect and respond to any new cases, and to continue ongoing support and health monitoring operations for EVD survivors – as outlined in the WHO recommended criteria for declaring the end of the EVD outbreak.

There is ongoing surveillance, pathogen detection, and clinical management activities in previously affected areas, including alert validation, rapid diagnosis of suspected cases, and building partnerships with community members to strengthen investigation of potential EVD deaths in communities. Insecurity remains a challenge in continuing response activities, which could delay the detection of potential flare-ups.

...Conclusion

Due to challenges related to continued insecurity and population displacement in previous hotspots and potential shortages of resources required to carry out response activities amidst other local and global

emergencies, there remains a high risk of re-emergence of EVD in the period leading up to the declaration of the end of the outbreak, as well as for several months following that declaration. In order to mitigate the risk of re-emergence, it is critical to maintain surveillance and rapid detection and response capacities, prioritize survivor care, and maintain cooperative relationships with survivors' associations.

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 01 April 2020

Summary of new viruses this week (AFP cases and ES positives):

- :: Afghanistan:** one WPV1 case
- :: Pakistan:** four WPV1 cases, nine WPV1 positive environmental samples and eight cVDPV2 cases
- :: Benin:** one cVDPV2 case
- :: Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) –** two cVDPV2 cases
- :: Ethiopia:** five cVDPV2 cases
- :: Ghana:** five cVDPV2 cases and four cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
- :: Malaysia:** 15 cVDPV1 positive environmental samples and four cVDPV2 positive environmental samples
- :: Togo:** five cVDPV2 cases

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Call to action to support COVID-19 response

Polio Oversight Board Statement

02/04/2020

The COVID-19 pandemic response requires worldwide solidarity and an urgent global effort. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) stands ready to respond.

GPEI's response to COVID-19 is driven by two principles. The first is our public health imperative to ensure that the polio programme fully plays its part in the COVID-19 response, supported by our second, underlying principle that when the emergency ends we will be ready to end polio with urgency and determination.

[Download the full statement](#)

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 28 Mar 2020]

Democratic Republic of the Congo

:: Ebola Outbreak in DRC 86: 31 March 2020

[See Ebola above for detail]

Mozambique floods

:: World Health Organization: 10 cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Mozambique
02 April 2020

Nigeria - *No new digest announcements identified*
Somalia - *No new digest announcements identified*
South Sudan - *No new digest announcements identified*
Syrian Arab Republic - *No new digest announcements identified*
Yemen - *No new digest announcements identified*

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WHO Grade 2 Emergencies [to 28 Mar 2020]

Iraq

:: The fight to contain COVID-19 in Iraq April 1, 2020

Afghanistan - *No new digest announcements identified*
Angola - *No new digest announcements identified*
Burkina Faso [in French] - *No new digest announcements identified*
Burundi - *No new digest announcements identified*
Cameroon - *No new digest announcements identified*
Central African Republic - *No new digest announcements identified*
Ethiopia - *No new digest announcements identified*
HIV in Pakistan - *No new digest announcements identified*
Iran - *No new digest announcements identified*
Libya - *No new digest announcements identified*
Malawi - *No new digest announcements identified*
Measles in Europe - *No new digest announcements identified*
MERS-CoV - *No new digest announcements identified*
Myanmar - *No new digest announcements identified*
Niger - *No new digest announcements identified*
occupied Palestinian territory - *No new digest announcements identified*
Sudan - *No new digest announcements identified*
Ukraine - *No new digest announcements identified*
Zimbabwe - *No new digest announcements identified*

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WHO Grade 1 Emergencies [to 28 Mar 2020]

Chad - *No new digest announcements identified*
Djibouti - *No new digest announcements identified*
Kenya - *No new digest announcements identified*
Mali - *No new digest announcements identified*
Namibia - viral hepatitis - *No new digest announcements identified*
Tanzania - *No new digest announcements identified*

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UN OCHA – L3 Emergencies

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

Syrian Arab Republic

:: Syrian Arab Republic: COVID-19 Update No. 04 - 2 April 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

:: Number of people confirmed by the Ministry of Health to have COVID-19: 16 (including two fatalities)

:: Areas of concern: Densely populated areas, notably Damascus/Rural Damascus and those living in camps, collective shelters and informal settlements in northeast Syria (NES), as well as areas where hostilities may be ongoing making sample collection more challenging.

:: Populations of concern: All groups are susceptible to the virus. However, the elderly (those 60 years and above) and people with underlying health conditions are particularly at risk; as are vulnerable refugee and IDP populations and healthcare workers with inadequate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Yemen

:: Yemen: Flash Floods in southern governorates - Flash Update No. 1 (As of 31 March 2020)

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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.

CYCLONE IDAI and Kenneth - *No new digest announcements identified*

EBOLA OUTBREAK IN THE DRC - *No new digest 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 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.un.org/press/en>

Selected Meetings/Press Releases/Announcements

3 April 2020 SG/SM/20033

Secretary-General Urges Countries to Designate Humanitarian Workers 'Essential', Fast-Track Their Passage, amid COVID-19 Pandemic

3 April 2020 SG/SM/20032

Secretary-General Reiterates Appeal for Global Ceasefire, Warns 'Worst Is Yet to Come' as COVID-19 Threatens Conflict Zones

31 March 2020 SG/SM/20029

'We Are Only as Strong as the Weakest', Secretary-General Stresses, at Launch of Economic Report on COVID-19 Pandemic

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 4 Apr 2020]
<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/media.aspx?IsMediaPage=true>

Top News

COVID-19: UN human rights chief "distressed" over plight of India's internal migrants, welcomes measures to limit impact

GENEVA (2 April 2020) – UN Human Rights chief Michelle Bachelet said today she was distressed by the plight of millions of internal migrants affected by the sudden announcement of a lockdown in India. She welcomed subsequent measures to address their situation but noted that pervasive challenges remain.

"The lockdown in India represents a massive logistical and implementation challenge given the population size and its density and we all hope the spread of the virus can be checked," the High Commissioner for Human Rights said. "It is nonetheless important to ensure that measures in response to the COVID-19 are neither applied in a discriminatory manner nor exacerbate existing inequalities and vulnerabilities."

Following the announcement of the lockdown to limit the spread of COVID-19, many impoverished migrants were left without work and unable to pay for their rent and food. Without the ability to sustain themselves in urban centres and in light of the almost complete shutdown of public transportation, hundreds of thousands of migrant men, women and children were forced to walk hundreds of kilometres trying to reach their villages and home States. Some have died making the journey.

On 29 March, in an effort to contain the spread of the virus, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued an order to States to intercept migrants on their way home and require them to enter quarantine for a two-week period. The High Commissioner welcomes the Supreme Court of India's subsequent instruction on 31 March to ensure that migrants are provided enough food, water, beds and supplies as well as psychosocial counselling in shelters that should be run by volunteers instead of security forces, and that they should be treated in a humane manner.

"The Supreme Court's order and its implementation will go a long way to ensuring the safety and rights of these vulnerable migrants. Many of these people's lives have been suddenly uprooted by the lockdown, placing them in very precarious situations," Bachelet said...

United Nations Human Rights Council [to 4 Apr 2020]

https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/NewsSearch.aspx?NTID=PRS&MID=HR_COUNCIL
Council News

Human rights experts call for immediate release of political prisoners and detainees in Yemen given risk of spread of covid-19

30/03/2020

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

Abducted, Recruited, Forcibly Married, Detained: Children in Somalia Endured Staggering Levels of Grave Violations

Wednesday, 1 April 2020

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/poverty/pages/srextremepovertyindex.aspx>

Latest News

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 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/culturalrights/pages/srculturalrightsindex.aspx>

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/ipeoples/srindigenouspeoples/pages/sripeoplesindex.aspx>

Latest news

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/migration/srmigrants/pages/srmigrantsindex.aspx>

Latest News

[UN experts call on Governments to adopt urgent measures to protect migrants and trafficked persons in their response to COVID-19](#)

3 April 2020

UN OCHA [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases

02 April 2020

[UN to support Yangon Health Department to tackle COVID-19 \[EN/MY\]](#)

31 March 2020

[UN Nigeria Announces COVID-19 Emergency Response for Displaced and Most Vulnerable in North-east Nigeria](#)

Centre for Humanitarian Data/HDX [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNICEF [to 28 Mar 2020]

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

Press release

[WHO and UNICEF to partner on pandemic response through COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund](#)

Unprecedented fund an 'all hands on deck' approach to tackle COVID-19 pandemic

03/04/2020

Press release

[IPA, WHO and UNICEF launch Read the World on International Children's Book Day to support children and young people in isolation](#)

Geronimo Stilton author to kickstart exclusive children's book reading initiative amid COVID-19 pandemic

01/04/2020

Statement

[COVID-19 pandemic could devastate refugee, migrant and internally displaced populations without urgent international action](#)

Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore

NEW YORK, 1 April 2020 – “COVID-19 will almost certainly gain a foothold in refugee camps, crowded reception centers or detention facilities holding migrant families. Given how quickly the virus is spreading, such a scenario is looking imminent.

“Even absent a pandemic, uprooted children and families – those living as refugees, migrants or internally displaced – face immense barriers to accessing healthcare and preventative services like proper handwashing and sanitation facilities. So, when an infectious disease hits, their risk is compounded.

“An outbreak of a respiratory disease like COVID-19 could spread easily through the overcrowded confines and unsafe conditions typical of many camps or settlements. Families in these environments would be more likely to get sick and less capable of fighting off the disease because of inadequate services.

“We are not talking about a small number of people either. Today, there are 31 million children who have been uprooted from their homes, including over 17 million internally displaced, 12.7 million refugees and 1.1 million asylum seekers. All of them need some form of assistance. Most of them do not have the luxury of calling a doctor when sick, of washing their hands whenever they need to, or of practicing physical distancing to stop disease transmission.

“Any public health response to the pandemic should reach the most vulnerable, including refugees, migrants and those who are internally displaced. This means ensuring equitable access to testing and treatment as well as access to prevention information and to water and sanitation services. There should be plans in place for safe, family-based care and support for children separated from their caregivers or whose caregivers die.

“It also means that containment measures, like border closures and movement restrictions, should not block children’s right to seek asylum and reunite with family members. Nor should it hinder aid agencies’ efforts to provide humanitarian aid. Uprooted children and families should be moved quickly out of harm’s way to adequate accommodations where they have access to water, soap, physical distancing and safety.

“UNICEF is working with partners to prevent the spread of the disease among refugee, migrant and displaced populations. This includes promoting hygiene practices that help prevent transmission in shelters, camps and other accommodation sites. It includes developing accurate, child friendly information on COVID-19 and materials to fight stigma and promote positive parenting. It also includes distributing hygiene supplies and providing access to water.

“But we cannot do this alone. Now, more than ever, governments and the international community should come together to protect the most vulnerable in these unprecedented times.”

Press release

[Children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo at risk from killer measles, cholera epidemics](#)

COVID-19 latest challenge facing battered health services

31/03/2020

Press release

[UNICEF supplies arrive in Italy to support COVID-19 response](#)

30/03/2020

Press release

[Greater support needed for working families as COVID-19 takes hold – UNICEF and ILO](#)

Newly released recommendations for businesses aim to help employers strengthen support for families during the pandemic

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Announcements

[Sony provides the first major corporate contribution to UNHCR's COVID-19 appeal](#)

[3 Apr 2020](#)

[Libya: humanitarian crisis worsening amid deepening conflict and COVID-19 threat](#)

[3 Apr 2020](#)

[Insecurity in Burkina Faso forces thousands of Malian refugees to leave camp](#)

[3 Apr 2020](#)

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Announcements

[COVID-19 Pandemic Poses Grave Risk to Communities in Displacement Camps](#)

2020-04-03 15:39

Geneva – For millions of people seeking refuge from violence or disasters in camps around the world, the potential impact of COVID-19 could be catastrophic. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has been rapidly adapting its global operations in anticipation of an...

[IOM Recognizes Efforts in Europe, Middle East to Protect All Migrants' Access to Public Health](#)

2020-04-03 12:45

Geneva —The International Organization for Migration (IOM) recognizes the decision of governments across Europe and elsewhere to aid migrants impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

[COVID-19 Forces Huge Numbers of Ukrainians Home to Face Fraught Future](#)

2020-04-03 12:30

Kyiv – The largest country completely within Europe, Ukraine is facing a myriad of complex challenges in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The virus has caused at least a dozen deaths, and the number of confirmed cases is approaching 1,000.

[IOM Raises Concern Over Increasing COVID-19 Cases Recorded in Greece Mainland Refugee and Migrant Camp](#)

2020-04-02 17:39

Athens - The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is concerned that twenty-three migrants have tested positive for COVID-19 in the Ritsona open accommodation site in Central Greece.

[IOM Steps Up Response for Migrants Stranded in Niger Amidst COVID-19 Lockdown](#)

2020-04-01 14:52

Niamey – IOM in Niger is currently assisting 2,371 stranded migrants across the country in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and is concerned about the significant number of migrants still arriving in Niger despite a nationwide lockdown.

Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela During COVID-19 Crisis: As Needs Soar More Inclusive Measures and Aid Are Essential

2020-04-01 10:07

Joint UNHCR-IOM Press Release

The Rights and Health of Refugees, Migrants and Stateless Must be Protected in COVID-19 Response

2020-03-31 18:52

OHCHR, IOM, UNHCR and WHO - Joint Press Release

[See Week in Review above for detail]

UNAIDS [to 28 Mar 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements

2 April 2020

People living with HIV in the Republic of Moldova to receive free home delivery of antiretroviral therapy

1 April 2020

A tribute to Gita Ramjee

Unitaid [to 28 Mar 2020]

<https://unitaid.org/#en>

Unitaid is a global development agency, hosted by the World Health Organization and its major donors are France, the United Kingdom, Brazil, Norway, Chile, the Republic of Korea, Spain and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

03 April 2020 | *Statements*

Medicines Patent Pool and Unitaid respond to access efforts for COVID-19 treatments and technologies

The Board of the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) has decided to temporarily expand its mandate to include any health technology that could contribute to the global response to COVID-19 and where licensing could facilitate innovation and access. With the support of Unitaid, this will allow MPP to offer its intellectual property and licensing expertise to the World Health Organization (WHO) to assist the global effort in any way it can.

Both MPP and Unitaid underline their commitment to jointly ensure equitable and timely access to medicines and diagnostics by the most vulnerable populations, as stressed in the G20 Leaders' 26 March 2020 Statement.

Marie-Paule Kieny, Chair of the MPP Governance Board, said, "In these difficult times, the MPP Board recognises the important role that MPP can play to increase access to life-saving products for those who need them most. And importantly, with time of the essence, to ensure that we make use of the expertise and mechanisms that already exist."...

WHO & Regional Offices [to 28 Mar 2020]

3 April 2020 *News release*

WHO and UNICEF to partner on pandemic response through COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund

2 April 2020 *News release*

IPA, WHO and UNICEF launch Read the World on International Children's Book Day to support children and young people in isolation

31 March 2020 *News release*

Medical Product Alert N°3/2020

[See Milestones above for detail]

30 March 2020 *News release*

WHO releases guidelines to help countries maintain essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is straining health systems worldwide. The rapidly increasing demand on health facilities and health care workers threatens to leave some health systems overstretched and unable to operate effectively.

Previous outbreaks have demonstrated that when health systems are overwhelmed, mortality from vaccine-preventable and other treatable conditions can also increase dramatically. During the 2014-2015 Ebola outbreak, the increased number of deaths caused by measles, malaria, HIV/AIDS, and tuberculosis attributable to health system failures exceeded deaths from Ebola [1,2].

"The best defense against any outbreak is a strong health system," stressed WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. "COVID-19 is revealing how fragile many of the world's health systems and services are, forcing countries to make difficult choices on how to best meet the needs of their people."

To help countries navigate through these challenges, the World Health Organization (WHO) has updated operational planning guidelines in balancing the demands of responding directly to COVID-19 while maintaining essential health service delivery, and mitigating the risk of system collapse. This includes a set of targeted immediate actions that countries should consider at national, regional, and local level to reorganize and maintain access to high-quality essential health services for all...

30 March 2020 *Statement*

Joint Statement by QU Dongyu, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and Roberto Azevedo, Directors-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO)

29 March 2020 *Statement*

Information sharing on COVID-19 [Taiwan]

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WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

No new digest content identified.

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

:: PAHO Director calls for private sector cooperation in COVID-19 response in the Americas (04/03/2020)
:: PAHO launches searchable database on COVID-19 guidance and research (04/02/2020)
:: PAHO appeals for \$95 million to help Latin America and the Caribbean cope with the COVID-19 pandemic (04/02/2020)
:: Time is of the essence – Countries of the Americas must act now to slow the spread of COVID-19 (03/31/2020)

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: COVID19: WHO calls for stronger whole of society approach in South-East Asia Region
3 April 2020 *News release* Amidst rapid spread of COVID19 and continuing challenges, the World Health Organization today emphasized on a stronger whole of society and whole of government effort in South-East ...

WHO European Region EURO

:: "China shows COVID-19 responses must be tailored to the local context" 03-04-2020
:: WHO project on cultural contexts of health and well-being adopted in the United States 03-04-2020
:: Supporting older people during the COVID-19 pandemic is everyone's business 03-04-2020
:: WHO releases guidelines to help European countries maintain essential health services during the COVID 19 pandemic 02-04-2020
:: Health System Response Monitor: new tool to analyse COVID-19 response measures across European countries launched 02-04-2020

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: The fight to contain COVID-19 in Iraq 1 April 2020
:: Meeting the needs of the most vulnerable in Yemen 30 March 2020

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: Virtual press conference on COVID-19 in the Region 31 March 2020
Opening remarks of Dr Takeshi Kasai, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/2020/>
No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

1 April 2020

UNFPA study shows limits on women's reproductive decision-making worldwide - one quarter of women cannot refuse sex

NEW YORK, USA - Approximately a quarter of women cannot refuse sex or make their own decisions about accessing proper health care, a major international study has found. UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive...

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases/Announcements

[COVID-19: Looming crisis in developing countries threatens to devastate economies and ramp up inequality](#)

Income losses are expected to exceed \$220 billion in developing countries, and nearly half of all jobs in Africa could be lost.

Posted on March 30, 2020

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

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

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

No new digest content identified.

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

UNDRR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Updates

3 April 2020

[COVID-19 makes domestic violence a disaster management issue](#)

GENEVA - COVID-19 has led to an explosion of domestic violence, a UNDRR-hosted webinar for 1,300 participants heard today. Domestic violence against women and children is now a major concern as lockdowns and isolation measures restrict freedom of movement

3 April 2020

[COVID-19: Battling stigma and discrimination against older persons](#)

GENEVA - There is concern in the world's most disaster-affected region, Asia-Pacific, about the risk of discrimination and stigma against older persons and any dilution of their needs in response plans as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to accelerate.

"We are already seeing a lot of discrimination and stigma building up against older people with certain myths, doubts, biases," said HelpAge expert, Dr. Prakash Tyagi who pointed out that they are also the group most affected by the pandemic.

He emphasized the importance of empathy and empowering older persons in the pandemic response to avoid unnecessary suffering from lack of food, health care and poverty.

There are 650 million older persons living in the Asia-Pacific region where many low and middle-income countries are struggling to meet both the health and economic needs of vulnerable groups including older persons, persons living with disabilities, women and children.

Traditional ways of working at community level are not possible any more and this is impacting severely on care for older persons especially those living alone dependent on home care and those living in nursing homes.

These concerns were also raised today by Eduardo Klien, Regional Director for Asia Pacific, HelpAge International, when he spoke to a webinar attended by 1,300 participants, hosted by UNDRR's Bangkok office in collaboration with HelpAge and UNWomen.

The hour-long session, "Leave No One Behind in COVID-19 Prevention, Response and Recovery" was moderated by Loretta Hieber Girardet, Chief, UNDRR's Asia and Pacific Regional Office, who said it was the first in a series and was focused on the early lessons from the pandemic and good practices emerging in the region.

Mr. Klien said that older people should not have to compete with younger people for medical assistance and should not be portrayed as passive recipients of assistance that could lead to disempowering this large segment of the population and lead to harmful decisions and discriminatory practices...

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

[COVID-19 should not herald rollback in rights for people with autism](#)

3 April 2020, New York

UNESCO [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

[Turning the threat of COVID-19 into an opportunity for greater support to documentary heritage](#)

05/04/2020

The COVID-19 pandemic has already been declared as modern history's gravest health emergency by many countries. The way the world is responding to this unprecedented global crisis will be part of history books. Memory institutions, including national archives, libraries, museums, as well as educational and research bodies, are already recording the decisions and actions being made which will help future generations to understand the extent of the pandemic and its impact on societies. Against this background and amidst this global health crisis, documentary heritage is an important resource to provide a historical perspective on how governments, their citizens and the international community have addressed pandemics in the past.

Several countries have already issued orders for meticulous preservation of official records related to the pandemic. This not only underlines the gravity of the current situation, but also highlights the

importance of memory institutions in providing the records or information management resources necessary for understanding, contextualizing and overcoming such crises in the future. At the same time, records of humanity's artistic and creative expressions, which form a vital part of our documentary heritage, are a source of social connectivity and resilience for communities worldwide. UNESCO, through the Memory of the World (MoW) Programme, stands ready to support all Member States who wish to preserve official records related to COVID-19 within the framework of the UNESCO 2015 Recommendation concerning the preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage including in digital form...

Museums facing COVID-19 challenges remain engaged with communities

04/04/2020

UNESCO Launches the first Call for the Global Media Defence Fund

01/04/2020

[See Week in Review above for detail]

UNESCO mobilizes 122 countries to promote open science and reinforced cooperation in the face of COVID-19

30/03/2020

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.icomos.org/en/>

Announcements

No new digest content identified.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

01/04/2020

United Nations Secretary-General launches plan to address the potentially devastating socio-economic impacts of COVID-19

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://unhabitat.org/>

News and Stories

UN secretary general: recovery from the coronavirus crisis must lead to a better world

Sunday 5 April, 2020

Japan provides additional funding for Reconstruction and Peacebuilding Programme in Iraq

Friday 3 April, 2020

Taming COVID-19: Where is Africa in the fight against the pandemic?

Friday 3 April, 2020

Ensuring everyone can #StayAtHome through the provision of public services

Thursday 2 April, 2020

[Public hand-washing stations to combat Covid-19 in Sittwe, Myanmar gaining popularity](#)

Thursday 2 April, 2020

[The Rights and Health of Refugees, Migrants and Stateless Must be Protected in COVID-19 Response](#)

Wednesday 1 April, 2020

[Facilities set up by Kenyan youth group to protect against COVID-19 top 8000 handwashes](#)

Wednesday 1 April, 2020

[\\$2.5 trillion COVID-19 rescue package needed for world's emerging economies](#)

Tuesday 31 March, 2020

[OPINION: Local governments are in the frontline of coronavirus response](#)

Tuesday 31 March, 2020

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

COVID-19: Stimulating the economy and labour demand

[Are there enough health workers?](#)

03 April 2020

Countries' capacities to recruit and retain health workers vary significantly across regions. This unequal distribution exacerbates inequities in access to health services.

COVID-19: Protecting workers in the workplace

[Five ways to protect health workers during the COVID-19 crisis](#)

01 April 2020

Health workers and systems are playing a crucial role in the global fight against COVID-19 and special measures are needed to support and protect them.

COVID-19: Protecting workers in the workplace

[Treat seafarers with "dignity and respect" during COVID-19 crisis](#)

31 March 2020

Seafarers, ship owners and governments are urging ILO member States to ensure the flow of essential goods, energy, food and medicines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID-19: Protecting workers in the workplace

[New guidelines to help employers support families during COVID-19](#)

30 March 2020

New guidelines issued by ILO and UNICEF call on enterprises to do more to support working families during the pandemic.

COVID-19: Protecting workers in the workplace

[COVID-19 cruelly highlights inequalities and threatens to deepen them](#)

30 March 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating already existing inequalities – from catching the virus, to staying alive, to coping with its dramatic economic consequences. Policy responses must ensure that support reaches the workers and enterprises who need it most.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News and Highlights

[ICAO launches COVID-19 contingency coordination tool and new measures to ensure safe operations](#)

3/4/20

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest Press Briefings

[IMO urges keyworker exemptions for crew changes and repatriations](#)

01/04/2020

IMO echoes shipping industry calls for governments to keep shipping and supply chains open and grant special travel exemptions to seafarers in COVID-19 pandemic.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

1 April 2020

[WMO is concerned about impact of COVID-19 on observing system](#)

Press Release

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is concerned about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the quantity and quality of weather observations and forecasts, as well as atmospheric and climate monitoring.

UPU Universal Postal Union [to 4 Apr 2020]

http://news.upu.int/no_cache/news/

News

[UPU and IATA cooperate to keep cargo moving](#)

03.04.2020

The UPU has joined a campaign launched by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to help keep cargo planes moving as governments suspend passenger flights due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

UN launches COVID-19 plan that could 'defeat the virus and build a better world'

NEW YORK, 31 March 2020 - The UN Secretary-General António Guterres has launched a new plan to counter the potentially devastating socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, calling on everyone to "act together to lessen the blow to people".

[See Week in Review above for detail]

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

All Regions COVID-19

UNWTO Launches a Call for Action for Tourism's COVID-19 Mitigation and Recovery

01 Apr 2020

Europe COVID-19

Message from Madrid: Tourism and COVID-19

01 Apr 2020

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.cbd.int/>

Announcements

04.02.2020 // SBSTTA-23 **Recommendation 23/7 - New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity**

.....

USAID [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Announcements

No new digest content identified.

DFID [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

ECHO [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

.....

African Union [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

[We generally limit coverage to regional and global level initiatives, recognizing that a number of Social Press releases

Communiqué of AU Bureau of Heads of State and Government Teleconference Meeting

April 03, 2020

President Cyril Ramaphosa of the Republic of South Africa, and Chairperson of the African Union (AU) convened a second

Educate and Sensitize the Continent on COVID-19

March 30, 2020

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://asean.org/category/news/asean-secretariat-news/>

Secretariat News

ASEAN, China enhance cooperation on COVID-19 pandemic response

JAKARTA, 31 MARCH 2020 - Health experts and officials from ASEAN Member States (AMS) and China reconvened through a special video conference to further discuss areas of cooperation in enhanced response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ASEAN Health Sector, through the current ASEAN Senior Health Official Chair – Indonesia, presented the progress of its [...]

European Commission [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest

News 4 April 2020

How our Europe will regain its strength: op-ed by Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission

The EU is now delivering and is working flat out every day to save every life we can, to protect livelihoods and kickstart our economies.

Press release 3 April 2020

Coronavirus: Commission waives customs duties and VAT on the import of medical equipment from non-EU countries

The Commission has today decided to approve requests from Member States and the UK to temporarily waive customs duties and VAT on the import of medical devices, and protective equipment, from third countries in order to help in the fight against coronavirus.

Press release 3 April 2020

State aid: Commission extends Temporary Framework to enable Member States to accelerate research, testing and production of coronavirus relevant products, to protect jobs and to further support the economy in the coronavirus outbreak *

Questions and answers 2 April 2020

European Union Emergency Support Instrument for the healthcare sector - questions and answers

Press release 2 April 2020

Coronavirus: the Commission mobilises all of its resources to protect lives and livelihoods

Saving lives and supporting livelihoods in these times of acute crisis is paramount. The Commission is further increasing its response by proposing to set up a €100 billion solidarity instrument to help workers keep their incomes and help businesses stay afloat, called SURE.

OECD [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

Statement from the OAS General Secretariat on the Situation of Indigenous Peoples during the COVID-19 Crisis

April 2, 2020

[See Week in Review above for detail]

Haiti Assumes the Chair of the OAS Permanent Council

April 2, 2020

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.oic-oci.org/>

Selected Press Releases

OIC to Hold Emergency Virtual Meeting of Steering Ministerial Committee on Health to Provide Information on COVID-19 and Plans to Address it

The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) in Coordination with the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Chair of the Seventh Islamic Health Ministers Conference,, will organize an emergency video conference meeting of the OIC steering ministerial committee on health, on 9 April 2020....

05/04/2020

OIC-ISF Launches an Urgent Initiative to Assist Member States to Confront Coronavirus Pandemic, Lauds Supporting States and Appeals to Other States to Donate

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) has been following closely and with deep concern the repercussions of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) on all world countries, especially OIC Member States. ...

02/04/2020

Group of 77 [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest Statements and Speeches

No new digest content identified.

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UNCTAD [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

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

Press Releases

30 Mar 2020 –

UN calls for \$2.5 trillion support package for developing countries to deal with coronavirus shock

World Customs Organization – WCO [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

WTO News and Events

WTO issues new report on worldwide trade in COVID-19 medical products

3 April 2020

The WTO Secretariat has released a new report on trade in medical products critical for the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The report traces trade flows for products such as personal protective products, hospital and laboratory supplies, medicines and medical technology while providing information on their respective tariffs.

[See Week in Review above for detail]

Agency chiefs issue joint call to keep food trade flowing in response to COVID-19

31 March 2020

The heads of the World Trade Organization (WTO), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) issued a joint statement on 31 March calling on governments to minimise the impact of COVID-19 related border restrictions on trade in food. "Now is the time to show solidarity, act responsibly and adhere to our common goal of enhancing food security,

food safety and nutrition and improving the general welfare of people around the world,” the agency heads said. The Joint Statement is below.

.....

IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press releases

No new digest content identified.

International Court of Justice [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 4 Apr 2020]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

News

No new digest content identified.

.....

World Bank [to 4 Apr 2020]

<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]

[Colombia receives disbursement from the World Bank to support COVID-19 response](#)

WASHINGTON, April 4, 2020 - As part of its response to the COVID-19 emergency, on March 31, the Colombian government received a disbursement of US\$250 million from a development policy loan, better known...

Date: April 04, 2020 Type: Press Release

[World Bank Fast-Tracks \\$100 Million COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Support for Bangladesh](#)

WASHINGTON DC, April 3, 2020 — The World Bank today approved a fast-track \$100 million financing to help Bangladesh prevent, detect, and respond to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic and strengthen its...

Date: April 03, 2020 Type: Press Release

[Project Signing: World Bank & Government of India Sign Agreement for Immediate Deployment of \\$1 Billion Emergency Funds to Tackle COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Outbreak](#)

NEW DELHI, April 3, 2020 — The Government of India and the World Bank today signed a fast-track \$1 billion India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project to help India prevent...

Date: April 03, 2020 Type: Press Release

The World Bank Group Moves Quickly to Help Countries Respond to COVID-19

Many of the world's low- and middle-income countries are still in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, but the impact is already being felt. Health systems are strained in Ethiopia and Yemen; more...

Date: April 02, 2020 Type: Feature Story

IMF [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

April 3, 2020

IMF Executive Board Approves a US\$ 165.99 Million Disbursement to the Republic of Madagascar to Address the Covid-19 Pandemic

April 2, 2020

IMF Executive Board Approves a US\$109.4 Million Disbursement to Rwanda to address the COVID-19 Pandemic

April 1, 2020

IMF Staff completes Discussions for a US\$221 Million Disbursement to Senegal in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

April 1, 2020

Economic Policies for the COVID-19 War – IMF Blog

March 31, 2020

IMF disburses US\$143 million to Honduras to fight Covid-19 Pandemic

African Development Bank Group [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.afdb.org/en>

[We generally limit coverage to regional or Africa-wide initiatives, recognizing that a number of No new digest content identified.]

African Development Bank celebrates milestone with first social bond listing on London Stock Exchange

03-Apr-2020 - The African Development Bank's "Fight Covid-19" social bond, the largest social bond to date to be issued in the capital markets, listed on London Stock Exchange on Friday 3 April 2020, and is now available through its Sustainable Bond Market. The listing marks an important milestone as the Bank launches its first bond on London Stock Exchange. The over-subscribed transaction, which attracted \$4.6 billion of interest in the book and raised an exceptional \$3 billion, was launched to alleviate the impact of Covid-19 on Africa's economies and...

African Development Bank approves \$1.5 million emergency grant to curb desert locusts ravaging East and Horn of Africa

02-Apr-2020 - The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank on Wednesday approved a \$1.5 million emergency relief grant to assist nine countries in the East and Horn of Africa on the control of swarms of desert locusts that are threatening livelihoods and food security. The proposed assistance will be channeled to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), which has been mandated to mobilize resources on behalf of the African Union.

African Development Bank approves \$2 million emergency assistance for WHO-led measures to curb COVID-19 in Africa

01-Apr-2020 - The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank on Tuesday approved \$2 million in emergency assistance for the World Health Organization (WHO) to reinforce its capacity to help African countries contain the COVID-19 pandemic and mitigate its impacts. The grant, which is in response to an international appeal by the WHO, will be used by the world body to equip Regional Member Countries to prevent, rapidly detect, investigate, contain and manage detected cases of COVID-19.

Asian Development Bank [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

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

3 Apr 2020

India's Growth to Slow to 4% in FY2020, Recover to 6.2% in FY2021

ADB projects India's GDP will slow to 4.0% in FY2020 ending on 31 March 2021 due to a weak global environment and continued efforts to contain the COVID-19 outbreak in the country. The forecast assumes...

3 Apr 2020

PRC Growth to Fall Sharply in 2020 Due to COVID-19; Recover in 2021

GDP growth in the People's Republic of China is forecast to fall sharply this year as the economy grapples with the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak, before recovering in 2021, according to a new report by ADB.

3 Apr 2020

Innovation Can Unlock Faster Growth and Development in Asia and Pacific — ADB Report

Fostering greater innovation would bring faster and more inclusive economic growth in Asia and the Pacific, according to the theme chapter of the Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2020 released by ADB today.

3 Apr 2020

Developing Asia Growth to Fall in 2020 on COVID-19 Impact

Regional economic growth in developing Asia will decline sharply in 2020 due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, before recovering in 2021, according to the ADO 2020, ADB's annual flagship economic publication.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 4 Apr 2020]

<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]

News

Beijing, China, April 03, 2020

AIIB Looks to Launch USD5 Billion COVID-19 Crisis Recovery Facility

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is proposing to its Board of Directors to create a crisis recovery facility in response to urgent economic, financial and public health pressures and to support a quick recovery after the current crisis.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

02 APR 20

Making sure rural communities won't be left behind in the response to COVID-19

Islamic Development Bank [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

The Islamic Development Bank Group Strategic Preparedness and Response Programme for the COVID-19 Pandemic Allocates US\$2.3 Billion to Member Countries

4 April 2020

Islamic Development Bank to support pioneering ideas in the fight against COVID-19 via \$500m Transform Fund

1 April 2020

President of the Islamic Development Bank Group: Covid-19 and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Saving the Global Economy from the Pandemic

31 March 2020

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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. WE will not reference fundraising 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 4 Apr 2020]

<http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org>

Communiqués de presse

Covid-19

Action contre la Faim et UNICEF-France déploie des opérations en Ile-de-France

3 avril 2020

Action contre la Faim et UNICEF-France déploie des actions d'accès à l'eau et à l'hygiène auprès des personnes isolées, des enfants et des familles les plus vulnérables en Ile-de-France.

Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA) [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.alima-ngo.org/en/press-room>

No new digest content identified.

Amref Health Africa [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://newsroom.amref.org/category/press-releases/>

Selected Press Releases

Press Releases Strategic Partnerships

KBL Partners with Kenya Red Cross Society and Amref Health Africa to Distribute Sanitizers to Communities in Nairobi and Kisumu

March 30, 2020

Aravind Eye Care System [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://aravind.org/>

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest

Health

Masks and handwashing Vs. physical distancing: Do we really have evidence-based answers for policymakers in resource-limited settings?

April 4, 2020

by [Asif Saleh](#) and [Richard A. Cash](#)

[See Week in Review above for detail]

CARE International [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

New COVID-19 Global Rapid Gender Analysis Addresses Concerns of Women and Girls in Pandemic

1st Apr 2020

Today, CARE and the International Rescue Committee published a Rapid Gender Assessment of the COVID-19 pandemic based on secondary data analysis undertaken between 12-20 March, 2020. The analysis was undertaken to explore the current and potential gendered dimensions of COVID-19 and highlights the ways in which women, girls and other ...

Vulnerable countries face 3 times the risk of COVID-19 exposure, yet have 6 times lower access to healthcare services

30th Mar 2020

CARE's analysis of INFORM Global Risk Index data has found that the world's 'highest risk' countries have three times higher exposure to epidemics, such as COVID-19, but also have a six times higher risk in terms of their access to healthcare compared to the world's lowest risk countries.

Clubhouse International [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

NEWS

[Open Letter: Renew Efforts to Relocate Unaccompanied Children](#)

03.04.20

Open letter to European governments: Immediately honour commitments to relocate unaccompanied children from the Greek islands.

[New naval mission in the Central Mediterranean to be launched on 1 April 2020](#)

01.04.2020

A final agreement on a new naval mission in the Central Mediterranean was reached on 26 March 2020 between EU Member States. The new mission has gone to great lengths to avoid becoming a "pull factor". The EU and Member States ...

ECPAT [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News & Updates

[ECPAT International reaches over 100 countries](#)

April 2nd, 2020

In 1990, a group of people and organisations were concerned about the increase in travelling child sex offenders coming to Thailand to exploit children. As a response, they started [ECPAT International](#) to campaign against it. Over 30 years, the campaign evolved into the biggest global civil society network solely dedicated to ending all forms of child sexual exploitation. Since then, we have made remarkable progress while gradually growing and now, ECPAT is present in over 100 countries worldwide.

[New guidelines for tech companies to combat online child sexual abuse and exploitation](#)

31/03/2020

The US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand have released guidelines for tech companies who want to step up their efforts in fighting the child sexual abuse and exploitation online. The guidelines, or voluntary principles, were developed in consultation with leading companies such as Google, Microsoft, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat and Roblox.

Fountain House [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Humanity & Inclusion [nee Handicap International] [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://hi.org/en/index>

All news

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

If Coronavirus spreads in Cox's Bazar it will 'spiral out of control' and be 'catastrophic'

As of 1 April, there are 54 cases in the whole of Bangladesh (population of 170 million) and there have been six deaths. There is one confirmed case in the Cox's Bazar, where roughly 855,000 refugees are living in 34 congested camps. But due to the severe overcrowding, poverty...

Posted: 01 April 2020

ICRC [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

Somalia: Critical juncture to curb spread of COVID-19 and save lives

Somalia is at a critical juncture where immediate action can still curb the spread of COVID-19 and save lives.

04-04-2020 | News release

Humanity after life: respect for and protection of the dead

When people die during armed conflicts, situations of violence falling below the threshold of armed conflict, disasters, or while migrating, their bodies must be handled respectfully and with dignity; and the remains of unknown individuals must be identified.

03-04-2020 | Legal factsheet

Syria: Amid concerns over COVID-19, the risk of weapon contamination should not be forgotten.

In Syria, the full scope of the contamination is not yet known, but according to the United Nations, over 2,500 communities accounting for more than 11.5 million people are affected by the presence of landmines and explosive remnants of war.

02-04-2020 | Statement

Kenya: Red Cross races to prevent spread of COVID-19 to country's prisons

The Kenya Red Cross and the ICRC are working with the Kenya Prison Services to fortify prison facilities across the country from the threat of coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

31-03-2020 | News release

In Africa, racing to slow the spread of COVID-19

So far, Africa has been the continent least affected by the pandemic, but if measures to contain the coronavirus are not taken immediately, it could be devastating for Africa's people and health-care systems.

31-03-2020 | Statement

IFRC [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

No new digest content identified.

International Medical Corps (IMC) [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://internationalmedicalcorps.org/stories-and-news/>

No new digest content identified.

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Media highlights

Press Release

Deportations to Central America compounding vulnerabilities for people and countries in crisis across the region, says IRC

April 2, 2020

Press Release

New COVID-19 Global Rapid Gender Analysis Addresses Concerns of Women and Girls in Pandemic

April 1, 2020

Press Release

New IRC analysis reveals risk that coronavirus transmission rates in Moria, Al Hol and Cox's Bazar refugee camps could outpace those seen on the Diamond Princess cruise ship

April 1, 2020

Press Release

IRC staff member working in the Democratic Republic of Congo positive for COVID-19

March 31, 2020

IRCT [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://irct.org/>

News 01 Apr 2020

IRCT to provide grants of up to 1000 Euro to Member Centres affected by Covid-19 Pandemic

News 31 Mar 2020

[Women of the IRCT: Lisa Henry](#)

Islamic Relief Worldwide [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

[Islamic Relief pledges \\$10 million to global fight against coronavirus](#)

Published: 3 April, 2020

[How communities in Niger are reducing poverty by adapting to climate change](#)

Published: 3 April, 2020

[Millions are at risk in overcrowded camps says Syrian doctor, as coronavirus looms](#)

Published: 2 April, 2020

[Islamic Relief scales up international response as coronavirus spreads](#)

Published: 31 March, 2020

Landsea [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Mercy Corps [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

April 02, 2020

[News Alert: COVID-19's toll on Africa "could be like nothing we have seen before"](#)

Although the COVID-19 crisis is yet to reach Africa at the levels being seen in Europe, we already know that due to the...

April 02, 2020

[From Interim CEO Beth deHamel: Time is Running Out to Protect World's Most Vulnerable](#)

As confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus surpass more than a million today, time is running out to protect tens of...

April 01, 2020

[News Alert: COVID-19 Economic Ramifications Threaten Already Fragile Humanitarian Situation in Colombia](#)

Colombia is in the midst of a 19-day quarantine to curb the spread of COVID-19. The quarantine is already having severe...

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 28 Mar 2020]

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

Latest [Selected Announcements]

France

[Ensuring medical care for vulnerable people in and around Paris as ...](#)

Project Update 3 Apr 2020

Nigeria

[Borno state: In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, other dise...](#)

Project Update 3 Apr 2020

Belgium

[COVID-19: MSF launches its largest ever response in Belg...](#)

Project Update 3 Apr 2020

Syria

[Northwest Syria: "COVID-19 adds another layer of com...](#)

Project Update 2 Apr 2020

Italy

[COVID-19 pandemic brings new challenges to well-developed hea...](#)

Interview 31 Mar 2020

Coronavirus disease COVID-19

[MSF steps up COVID-19 response in Europe](#)

Press Release 30 Mar 2020

Operation Smile [to 4 Apr 2020]

<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 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.oxfam.org/en/>

Selected News/Announcements

[Oxfam reaction to Coronavirus pandemic reaching 1 million cases](#)

2 April 2020

In reaction to the coronavirus pandemic reaching 1 million confirmed cases, Oxfam interim Executive Director Chema Vera, said today: "This is a grim milestone that must spur the international community to take immediate action. We must tackle this pandemic with single-minded determination, and as one."

[UN Climate Summit postponed as a result of Coronavirus](#)

1 April 2020

Reaction to the announcement that the UN Climate Summit, due to take place in the UK in November 2020, has been postponed as a result of the Coronavirus.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest news from NRC

Venezuela | 02. Apr 2020

[Release frozen Venezuelan funds for Covid-19 response](#)

Venezuelan government and opposition leaders, and their respective backers, should agree to use frozen state assets located in banks around the world to protect the Venezuelan people against the spread of the coronavirus.

Central African Republic | 31. Mar 2020

[Just three ventilators to cope with Covid-19 in Central African Republic](#)

Just three ventilators are available to help save the lives of people who contract coronavirus in Central African Republic, a country of almost five million people. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is calling on the international community to support countries, which are gravely unprepared to cope with the spread of the virus.

Pact [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

Apr 03, 2020

[PIH Partners with Mass. Governor's Office on COVID-19 Response](#)

Led by the Massachusetts's governor's office, PIH is among four groups partnering to respond to the statewide COVID-19 epidemic and will guide efforts to trace contacts of sick individuals.

Apr 02, 2020

[COVID-19: Fact Vs. Fiction](#)

PIH's infectious disease experts divide fact from fiction in this COVID-19 mythbuster, which also relies on trusted global health resources.

Apr 01, 2020

[UGHE Kitchen Manager Merges Culinary Arts with Sustainable Agriculture](#)

Three hours from Kigali, atop a remote hill hugging the Ugandan border, a small kitchen is having a big impact on agriculture and sustainability in the surrounding community.

PATH [to 28 Mar 2020]

<https://www.path.org/media-center/>

Selected Announcements

PATH-led study finds commercially available reference diagnostic detects malaria with whole blood sample

April 1, 2020 by PATH

Commercially available diagnostic can effectively detect all malaria parasites, including cases with suspected gene mutations, with a whole blood sample.

Plan International/BORNEfonden [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

3 April 2020 - *Global*

COVID-19: Millions out of school, jeopardising the future of children in West and Central Africa

1 April 2020 - *Sudan*

Sudan: Life-saving messages reach North Darfur and South Kordofan in effort to halt the spread of COVID-19

31 March 2020 - *occupied Palestinian territory, Syria, Yemen*

More than 15 million children and their families in Yemen, Syria and Gaza set to face COVID-19 with fewer than 1,700 ventilators and beds

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/news>

COVID-19

How does COVID-19 affect children? A child psychologist weighs in.

March 30 2020 - Elisabeth Kaspar, a clinical psychologist, works with children and adolescents at a hospital in Vienna, Austria. She shares some insight into how parents and children can manage the stress and anxiety of the COVID-19 crisis.

Tostan [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://www.tostan.org>

News

Grassroots Systems Change Wisdom to Prevent COVID-19

Mar 31, 2020

Sub-Saharan Africa is in the early days of the regional spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus, with currently just over 3,900 confirmed cases. The World Economic Forum, and others have warned that COVID-19 could intensify in regions that lack the infrastructure to plan...

...Tostan will seize this challenging moment to examine and celebrate the role that local community leadership has to play in resilience against emergent crises. What we learn in the next three months

will advance our own model for bridging the gap between rural communities and their local government authorities; Strengthening Democracy and Civic Engagement..

Women for Women International [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

March 31, 2020

As COVID-19 Situation Evolves, Health and Safety of Women and Staff Take Priority

With the declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic and the rising number of cases globally, Women for Women International is continuing to take actions that secure the health and safety of the women we serve and the local staff who support them...

World Vision [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://wvi.org/>

Newsroom

Friday, April 3, 2020

World Vision mobilizes for COVID-19 mitigation and response in Ethiopia

World Vision has designated over US\$ 1.7 million (more than 57 million Ethiopian Birr) from long-term child sponsorship funding for potential use at Kebele (smallest administrative unit in Ethiopia), community and even household levels, based on local needs and requests for prevention and mitigation of the impact of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), particularly on children. In alignment with the Ethiopian Government's preventive measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, World Vision is also revising its project plans in close communication with its generous and responsive donors including the U.S. government, European Union, and the UN.

.....

Electronic Frontiers Foundation

https://www EFF.org/updates?type=press_release

Press Release | March 30, 2020

EFF Joins Locast Defense Team to Fight for TV Viewers' Right to Use Free, Legal Streaming Service

San Francisco—The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) today joined the legal team defending Sports Fans Coalition NY, Inc. (SFCNY), the nonprofit organization that runs Locast, a free, local TV streaming service facing bogus copyright infringement claims by broadcast giants ABC, CBS, NBC, and Fox. Locast enables TV viewers to receive local over-the-air...

Freedom House [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://freedomhouse.org/>

Latest Updates

Keeping Democracy Healthy during a Pandemic opens in new tab

Newsletter

March 30, 2020

The Coronavirus Takes Aim at Electoral Democracy

Perspectives

March 30, 2020

Human Rights Watch [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Featured Commentary, Announcements, Statements

April 3, 2020

[How Authoritarians Are Exploiting the COVID-19 Crisis to Grab Power](#)

The health crisis will inevitably subside, but autocratic governments' dangerous expansion of power may be one of the pandemic's most enduring legacies.

Europe/Central Asia

April 3, 2020 *Interview*

[The Coronavirus in Europe: From Lockdowns to Power Grabs](#)

Africa

April 3, 2020 *Interview*

[Waiting for the Storm: The Coronavirus in Africa](#)

Asia

April 3, 2020 *Dispatches*

[Sri Lanka Uses Pandemic to Curtail Free Expression](#)

Meenakshi Ganguly

South Asia Director

Transparency International [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

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ChildFund Alliance [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>

News/ Statements

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://concordeurope.org/>

Latest News and Events

No new digest content identified.

The Elders [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

News

Covid-19 shines a light on our common humanity and shared vulnerabilities

02 Apr 2020

Only by asserting the common bonds of our humanity can we overcome this pandemic

News

Skoll Foundation presents 2020 Global Treasure Award to The Elders

30 Mar 2020

Today, The Skoll Foundation honoured The Elders with its Global Treasure Award.

Evidence Aid [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest Content

22 March 2020:

COVID-19 and Sustainable Healthcare Systems

... The scale of responses to COVID-19 and their consequences, both for health systems and economies, mean that proactive action by the research community will be critical to alleviate future pressures on health systems and ensure services remain high-quality, accessible, and sustainable. These pressures will centre on the demand and supply of healthcare services.

:: Demands on healthcare services, beyond COVID-19 itself, will increase in at least two ways – forgone care and burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

:: Supply of healthcare services will decrease in at least two ways – lost capacity and insufficient investments

:: Researchers can help support the short to medium term sustainability of healthcare services in at least two ways – identify how to mitigate expected increases in demand on healthcare systems and identify how to minimise the impact of expected decreases in the supply of financial and non-financial resources available to healthcare systems....

Gavi [to 28 Mar 2020]

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

Top Stories

COVID-19: massive impact on lower-income countries threatens more disease outbreaks

:: At least 13.5 million people to miss out on vaccinations due to postponement of campaigns and interruptions in routine vaccinations, with millions more likely to follow

:: Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance is urgently providing support for countries' COVID-19 response and in addition is ready to support mass vaccination campaigns once lockdowns finish

:: Dr Seth Berkley: "The legacy of COVID-19 must not include the global resurgence of other killers like measles and polio."

Geneva, 3 April 2020

Modelling suggests suppression strategy will save more lives from COVID-19 in poor countries

Imperial model of the spread of COVID-19 implies a suppression strategy could be most effective.

1 April 2020

Getty Conservation Institute [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.getty.edu/research/>

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 28 Mar 2020]

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

News & Stories

Funding Model

COVID-19 Response: Adaptations, Guidelines and Flexibilities for Countries

03 April 2020

Funding Model

COVID-19 Response: Continued Principal Recipient Reporting

02 April 2020

Funding Model

Funding Request Submission Dates Updated

31 March 2020

Sourcing & Management of Health Products

COVID-19 Impact on Supply Chain Logistics: Assessment and Recommendations

30 March 2020

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

Latest resources, events, content

COVID-19 Resources

This page has a collection of guidelines, tools, statements, papers and useful links which are relevant to the current COVID-19 pandemic.

InterAction [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest Updates

No new digest content identified.

.....

3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://www.3ieimpact.org/>

Publications

Rebuilding the social compact: urban service delivery and property taxes in Pakistan

3ie Impact Evaluation Report 117, 2020

Asim Ijaz Khwaja, Osman Haq, Adnan Qadir Khan, Benjamin Olken and Mahvish Shaukat

Authors of this impact evaluation examine if strengthening the link between local tax collection and urban services by considering citizen preferences for services, earmarking revenue for services, and enabling local politicians can increase citizens' willingness to pay for services, improve service delivery, and enhance local politics.

CHS Alliance [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://chsalliance.org/>

No new digest content identified.

Development Initiatives [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

2 April 2020

New IATI Humanitarian Data Portal launched

Grand Bargain transparency workstream co-convenors, the World Bank Group and the Government of the Netherlands have today launched a new online portal to support greater transparency of humanitarian assistance. The World Bank Group and the Netherlands today launched the IATI Humanitarian ...

.....

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

CERAH – Geneva Centre for Education and Research in Humanitarian Action [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://cerahgeneve.ch/events/news/>

CERAH News

Webinar series: COVID-19 & Humanitarian Settings

31.3.2020

The Geneva Centre for Education & Research in Humanitarian Action, the READY Initiative, The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and the Center for Humanitarian Health at Johns Hopkins University have created a weekly webinar series on COVID-19 and humanitarian settings.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

LATEST PRESS RELEASES

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC/HIF [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Tools & Research

[Research to support COVID-19 response in humanitarian settings](#)

[undated]

Elrha is launching an urgent funding call for research proposals to support the COVID-19 response in humanitarian settings.

The call aims to fund public health research that will produce robust findings that will contribute to the effectiveness of the current humanitarian response and increase the evidence base for future responses to similar infectious disease outbreaks

Apply:

<https://www.commongrantapplication.com/register.php?refOrgId=24735&refProgId=775&refProgType=all>

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Resources for humanitarians](#)

26.03.2020

Groupe URD [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.urd.org/en/>

News

No new digest content identified.

International Humanitarian Studies Association [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://ihsa.info/>

No new digest content identified.

INEE – an international network for education in emergencies [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

[The LEGO Group and the LEGO Foundation support children and families impacted by COVID-19](#)

The LEGO Foundation

30 March 2020

With many families staying at home and millions more facing job, food, and medical insecurity, the LEGO Foundation and the LEGO Group have joined forces to address the critical needs of children in these unprecedented times.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://phap.org/>

Association news

[CCCM Cluster and PHAP webinar on camp standards and the COVID-19 response](#)

3/27/2020

The risks that the novel coronavirus disease or COVID-19 presents to populations living in refugee [...]

Sphere [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://spherestandards.org/news/>

News

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://startnetwork.org/news-and-blogs>

News and Blog

[Start Network launches COVID-19 fund](#)

RAPID RESPONSE COVID-19 FUND AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY FOR AID AGENCIES TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES

by Helen James 02 Apr 20

Start Network has launched a new COVID-19 aid fund to anticipate and respond to critical virus-related humanitarian needs in low-income countries. The fund is being kickstarted with a donation from IKEA Foundation for €1.5M, other donors are being sought.

[Start Fund: Shaping the future of humanitarian financing](#)

Blog Post 01 Apr 20

By Christina Bennett, CEO and Lucile Brethes, Head of Start Funds

Six years ago today, Christian Aid made the first alert to a new aid financing mechanism. The Start Fund's first alert to food insecurity in South Sudan went on to disburse just over £300,000 to Action Against Hunger, Christian Aid, Plan International and Tearfund within three days of the alert. Originally conceived as an antidote to the limitations of the large pooled funds and traditional emergency appeals, in 2020 the Start Fund has come of age, a recognised pillar within humanitarian financial architecture and a force for transformation in its own right...

.....

Brookings

<http://www.brookings.edu/>

Accessed 4 Apr 2020

Latest Research

Report

[What drives successful economic diversification in resource-rich countries?](#)

[Addisu Lashitew](#), [Michael Ross](#), and [Eric Werker](#)

Friday, April 3, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Economics

[How local leaders can stave off a small business collapse from COVID-19](#)

[Joseph Parilla](#), [Sifan Liu](#), and [Brad Whitehead](#)

Friday, April 3, 2020

Report

Who are the workers already impacted by the COVID-19 recession?

Alan Berube and Nicole Bateman

Friday, April 3, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Economics

Explaining the new Fed-Treasury emergency fund

Peter Conti-Brown

Friday, April 3, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Economics

'A Band-Aid on a gunshot wound': How the restaurant industry is responding to COVID-19 relief

Annelies Goger and Tracy Hadden Loh

Thursday, April 2, 2020

Center for Global Development [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Publications, News and Events

April 3, 2020

Confronting the Macroeconomic Challenges of Climate Change: The Road Ahead for the IMF

Adapted from a seminar with the IMF and climate experts that CGD co-sponsored with the European Climate Foundation, this note looks at the role that the IMF can take to help tackle climate change.

[Mark Plant](#)

April 2, 2020

Chinese and World Bank Lending Terms: A Systematic Comparison Across 157 Countries and 15 Years

China's lending volumes in developing countries far surpass those of other bilateral creditors and compare in scale only to World Bank lending practices. Where World Bank lending terms, volumes, and policies are publicly available, the state of knowledge on official Chinese financing terms remains limited due to a lack of official transparency.

[Scott Morris](#) , [Brad Parks](#) and [Alysha Gardner](#)

April 1, 2020

Pandemics and Violence Against Women and Children

Times of economic uncertainty, civil unrest and disaster are linked to a myriad of risk factors for increased violence against women and children (VAW/C). Pandemics are no exception.

[Amber Peterman](#) , [Alina Potts](#) , [Megan O'Donnell](#) , [Kelly Thompson](#) , [Niyati Shah](#) , [Sabine Oertelt-Prigione](#) and [Nicole van Gelder](#)

[See Week in Review above for detail]

March 31, 2020

Citizens and States: How Can Digital ID and Payments Improve State Capacity and Effectiveness?

This report considers the potential of ID, mobiles, and payments to improve the capacity of governments to deliver more effective, inclusive, and accountable programs.

[Alan Gelb](#) , [Anit Mukherjee](#) and [Kyle Navis](#)

March 31, 2020

[Financing and Scaling Innovation for the COVID Fight: A Closer Look at Demand-Side Incentives for a Vaccine](#)

As the COVID-19 pandemic accelerates, global leaders are quickly realizing that we need a bigger, better toolbox to effectively fight the novel coronavirus.

[Rachel Silverman](#) , [Carleigh Krubiner](#) , [Kalipso Chalkidou](#) and [Adrian Towse](#)

March 30, 2020

[SDG1: The Last Three Percent](#)

There is a little-noticed but important difference between the World Bank's original goal for poverty reduction and the subsequent UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). While both target the "\$1.90 a day" poverty rate, the Bank's goal was a 3% rate by 2030, while the SDG is to "eradicate" poverty by 2030.

[Martin Ravallion](#)

CSIS [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Reports

Report

[The DFC's New Equity Authority](#)

April 3, 2020 | [Daniel F. Runde](#), [Romina Bandura](#), [Janina Staguhn](#)

The DFC can now make equity investments as a minority investor in any entity or investment funds. However, the BUILD Act was silent on how these investments should be accounted for.

Report

[The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor at Five](#)

April 2, 2020 | [Jonathan E. Hillman](#), [Maesea McCalpin](#) The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has struggled to deliver its promises, according to a new CSIS dataset.

Report

[America's Arctic Moment: Great Power Competition in the Arctic to 2050](#)

March 30, 2020 | [Heather A. Conley](#), [Nikos Tsafos](#), [Ian Williams](#) As U.S. Arctic policy remains stagnant, Russia and China are expanding their economic and military presence in the Arctic. In a battleground for great power competition, the United States must restore its presence and leadership in this increasingly strategic region.

Report

[Ice Curtain: S-400 Deployments and Enhanced Defense of Russia's Western Arctic \(Rogachevo Air Base\)](#)

March 30, 2020 | [Heather A. Conley](#), [Joseph S. Bermudez Jr.](#) Russia's deployment of S-400s to Rogachevo Air Base in the Novaya Zemlya archipelago is a critical part of its efforts to secure its Northwest Arctic territory and expand its defensive capabilities.

Report

Space Threat Assessment 2020

March 30, 2020 | [Todd Harrison](#), [Kaitlyn Johnson](#), [Thomas G. Roberts](#), [Makena Young](#) The Space Threat Assessment 2020 is an unclassified assessment that aggregates and highlights open-source information on counterspace capabilities for policymakers and the general public.

ODI [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases & Reports

Integrating 'anticipatory action' in disaster risk management

Briefing papers | April 2020 | Emily Wilkinson, Tobias Pforr and Lena Weingartner

A briefing note on the integration of anticipatory action in disaster risk management.

How tax officials in lower-income countries can respond to the coronavirus pandemic

Briefing papers | April 2020 | Iain Steel and David Phillips

This papers aims to contribute to more effective tax policy-making in LMICs, focusing here on the global coronavirus pandemic.

Adaptive leadership in the coronavirus response: bridging science, policy and practice

Briefing papers | April 2020 | Ben Ramalingam, Leni Wild and Matt Ferrari

This briefing paper sets out key principles for adaptive leadership in national and global responses to the coronavirus outbreak.

RoRI [Research on Research Institute] [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://researchonresearch.org/>

We're an open and independent new initiative providing data, analysis and intelligence on how to make research systems more strategic, open, diverse and inclusive.

News and Events

No new digest content identified.

Urban Institute [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Publications

State Revenue Forecasts Before COVID-19 and Directions Forward

The global pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus outbreak will dramatically affect state tax revenues over the next months and possibly years. This brief summarizes how state revenue forecasters viewed their state economies before the COVID-19 pandemic, as documented in governors' proposed fiscal year 2021 budgets. Although forecasters are now radically revising those projections, knowing the prior trajectories of personal

[Lucy Dadayan](#)

April 2, 2020

Brief

Unemployment, Health Insurance, and the COVID-19 Recession

The sharp reduction in US economic activity associated with public health efforts to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus will likely result in millions of Americans losing their jobs, at least temporarily. Adding insult to injury, many Americans who lose their jobs could also lose their health insurance. In this paper, we examine the kinds of health insurance unemployed workers have and how coverage patterns have shifted under

[Anuj Gangopadhyaya](#), [Bowen Garrett](#)

April 1, 2020

Brief

Mental Health and Well-Being Among Home Visitors

Home visitors experience stress and anxiety on the job. Recurring exposure to the challenges and trauma of others can contribute to burnout, poor physical and mental health, and even secondary trauma. These factors impact home visitor retention and, ultimately, the quality of services. Home visiting programs can alleviate workforce issues and promote home visitors' job satisfaction and retention by reducing job stressors and

[Heather Sandstrom](#), [Peter Willenborg](#), [Mariel Sparr](#), [Colleen Morrison](#)

March 30, 2020

Brief

The Wistar Institute [to 28 Mar 2020]

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

Press Releases

Apr. 1, 2020

The Wistar Institute Signs Lease at 3.0 University Place

Signed lease agreement of up to 10 years for 8,000 sf with options for additional space to support long-term needs. In addition to their own Wistar Discovery Center lab space, Wistar will launch programming and curate lab partnerships in the new facility and throughout the life sciences sector.

3.0 University Place will provide 250,000 sf of lab and office space, specifically targeting biomedical research and advanced life science companies, with estimated delivery of Q3 2021...

World Economic Forum [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Media

Five Ways to Lead: Workforce Principles for the COVID-19 Pandemic

News 02 Apr 2020

Less Than Half Pay for Media, News and Entertainment, But Willingness to Pay Is Rising, Study Finds

News 02 Apr 2020

World Economic Forum Steps Up Coordinating Efforts on Corporate COVID Response

News 01 Apr 2020

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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 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Release

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 4 Apr 2020]

<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.

Annie E. Casey Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Newsroom

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Release

No new digest content identified.

Co Impact [to 4 Apr 2020]

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.

Press Releases

[COVID-19 Update: Approach and Systems Response Fund](#)

Apr 01, 2020

Ford Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Equals Change Blog 1 April 2020

14 Women Challenging How Art is Defined

By Margaret Morton

In The Headlines 30 March 2020

Andrew Cuomo, Stop a Coronavirus Disaster: Release People From Prison

This is a public health crisis that threatens to become a humanitarian disaster.

J. Paul Getty Trust [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://news.getty.edu/>

Latest News

April 02, 2020

Getty Creates \$10M LA Arts COVID-19 Relief Fund for Museums and Visual Arts Organizations

Press Release

Fund to provide grants to hard-hit non-profits in Los Angeles County, invite other donors

April 01, 2020

Kavita Singh and Anne Sweeney join Getty Board of Trustees

Press Release

Art historian Kavita Singh and entertainment executive Anne Sweeney have joined the J. Paul Getty Trust Board of Trustees, the board announced today.

GHIT Fund [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

GHIT was set up in 2012 with the aim of developing new tools to tackle infectious diseases that March 31, 2020

GHIT Fund Announces New Investments: A Total of 3.29 Billion Yen in Drugs for Malaria, Tuberculosis, Chagas Disease, Lymphatic Filariasis, and Onchocerciasis, Vaccines for Malaria, and Diagnostics for Leishmaniasis and Mycetoma

March 31, 2020

Statement: The Global Health Innovative Technology Fund and Unitaid collaboration to accelerate access to innovative solutions

Grameen Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://grameenfoundation.org/stories/press-releases>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Latest Updates

Analyzing Open Educational Resources at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

By The Barthwell Group

April 1, 2020

An update on our COVID-19 response

By Larry Kramer

March 31, 202

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Our News

No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Stories

New COVID-19 fund launched to help vulnerable communities in low-income countries

Originally published by Start Network on 2 April 2020 | Rapid response COVID-19 Fund available immediately for aid agencies to support vulnerable people in low-income countries. LONDON — A global network...

April 2, 2020

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Research Mar 31 2020

Virus-Scanning Tool Could Detect Previous COVID-19 Infections and Inform Vaccine Development

Using a research assay called VirScan, scientists plan to study how antibodies from people who have had COVID-19 attack the virus that causes it.

Kaiser Family Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

April 2, 2020 *News Release*

Poll: 4 in 10 Americans Report Losing Their Jobs or Work-Related Income Due to the Coronavirus Crisis, Including More Than Half of Part-Time Workers

Americans, Regardless of Partisan Identity, Prioritize Slowing Coronavirus' Spread over Restarting the Economy With coronavirus cases rising and businesses shutting down, four in 10 (39%) U.S. residents say they already have lost a job or income due to the crisis, the latest KFF Health Tracking Poll finds. This includes most...

April 2, 2020 *News Release*

Kaiser Health News to Expand Coverage in the Mountain West

KFF's Kaiser Health News (KHN) will hire a full-time Montana-based correspondent and recruit a team of freelance reporters to expand its coverage of health care policy and politics in the region, including the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic. The expansion is made possible by a new long-term partnership among KFF, the Montana...

Kellogg Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]
<https://www.wkkf.org/news-and-media>
Selected Announcements
No new digest content identified.

Aga Khan Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]
<https://www.akdn.org/our-agencies/aga-khan-foundation>
Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

MacArthur Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]
<http://www.macfound.org/>
April 3, 2020 | *Grantee News / Criminal Justice*
[Rethinking Jails Is Critical Amid the Threat of COVID-19](#)

Reducing the use of jails is important to fighting the spread of COVID-19. A [joint statement](#) from Association of Prosecuting Attorneys, Center for American Progress, National Center for Victims for Crime, National Legal Aid & Defender Association, and R Street Institute calls for cities and counties to continue taking action to address this public health threat. They highlight the many jurisdictions in the Safety and Justice Challenge that are using proven justice reforms to reduce their jail populations and argue that safely doing so is critical as the world faces a public health crisis.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]
<https://mellon.org/>
Mellon News, Press Releases
No new digest content identified.

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]
<https://www.moore.org/>
News
[Perspective: COVID-19 and emerging infections in the 21st Century](#)
by: Harvey V. Fineberg, M.D., Ph.D.
March 31, 2020

...As must now be evident to everyone, the world is ill-prepared to cope with major pandemics. After we overcome COVID-19, and we will overcome it, we must not ignore what it will take to be better prepared for the future: political will, financial resources, capacity building, scientific knowledge and social trust.

Political will: We need the political will and commitment to collaborate effectively across nation-states and among the government, corporate and nonprofit entities required to respond in these types of

health crises. The U.S. has a long history of providing a measure of financial support and then largely ignoring the World Health Organization. Maybe it is time to start paying more attention. Global threats can best be met through a concerted effort involving every country willing and able to contribute.

Financial resources: Government, corporate and philanthropic entities should put forward, over the long term, the necessary resources for research, preparedness, containment and treatment efforts. The huge economic cost of the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrates why investment in preparedness is a relatively cheap insurance policy. Our public health and health care systems struggle financially in the best of times. When crisis strikes, they may be unable to cope. Here in the Silicon Valley, it is great to see philanthropy stepping in to help. Local community foundations are raising funds to expand local response efforts and the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative has enabled UCSF and Stanford to significantly expand their testing capabilities.

Capacity building: In this crisis we are witnessing health care and public health systems stressed beyond capacity. The frontline health-care providers, in this country and across the globe, deserve the protective gear, equipment, supplies and other resources they need to protect themselves and to care for those stricken in the pandemic. Private funders, including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Kaiser Permanente are funding the CDC Foundation to increase our local public health departments' ability to respond.

Scientific knowledge: Accurate information and evidence is critical if we intend to combat current and future threats. I applaud the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Wellcome Trust and MasterCard for committing \$125 million to speed the development of and access to COVID-19 treatments.

Social trust: Public safety depends on people's ability to access and trust reliable and accurate information about health risks. A recent press release from the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine underscored this point. "It is imperative that evidence-based information from expert sources be freely shared in order to counter the spread of rumors, misinformation, and uninformed speculation."..

Open Society Foundations [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/newsroom>

Press release

Statement on Hungarian COVID-19 Emergency Law

NEW YORK—The Open Society Foundations condemn the vote by the Hungarian parliament today awarding Prime Minister Viktor Orban emergency powers to rule by decree indefinitely. The bill will also cancel future elections, and impose harsh restrictions on media freedoms and citizen mobility.

The COVID-19 pandemic is an exceptional challenge for governments across the globe that will demand rigorous measures from every government in order to safeguard public health and safety. This bill, however, is a blatant power grab by a would-be dictator that will rob Hungarian citizens of their democratic rights. If we needed any further evidence that Viktor Orban has authoritarian tendencies, this is it.

The Open Society Foundations urge the international community to condemn this move, and we call on the European Union to take robust action against a Member State and its leaders, who clearly continue to violate international law and threaten European citizens.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Opinion

April 2, 2020

Federal Broadband Stimulus Should Be Guided by State Experience

National leaders can benefit from lessons learned at local level

By: Anne Stauffer

The \$2 trillion stimulus package signed into law by President Donald Trump on March 27 included millions of dollars to expand broadband services for rural and unserved areas. Millions of Americans still lack access to reliable, high-speed internet connectivity—a problem made much more acute by social distancing, closed businesses and schools, and a need for accurate and timely health care information. In order for companies to implement remote work policies, students to complete schoolwork at home, and health care providers to connect virtually with patients, people need broadband.

Federal funding and expertise are necessary to achieving universal connectivity, but every level of government has a role to play in bridging the digital divide—especially for completing the “last mile,” the part of the network that connects a local internet provider to residences and small businesses...

Rockefeller Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

The Latest

Five COVID-19 Reflections from a Food System Perspective—and How We Could Take Action

April 03, 2020

Roy Steiner Senior Vice President, The Rockefeller Foundation

Mehrdad Ehsani Managing Director, The Rockefeller Foundation

Peiman Milani Independent Consultant

Daniel Skaven Ruben Independent Consultant

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/>

Latest News and Highlights

RWJF's Comments on Proposed Changes to USDA's School Meal Nutrition Standards

April 2, 2020

Comments submitted by Richard Besser, MD, on proposed changes to USDA's school meal nutrition standards.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 4 Apr 2020]

<http://www.sciencephilanthropyalliance.org/what-we-do/news/>

"...a group of organizations working together to increase philanthropic support for basic scientific research on a global basis..."

No new digest content identified.

SDG Philanthropy Platform

<http://sdgfunders.org/>

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

Selected Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Alfred P. Sloan Foundation [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 4 Apr 2020]

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

News | 31 March 2020

Wellcome joins the UK government, industry and universities in a step-change to COVID-19 testing

Wellcome is supporting a step-change in COVID-19 testing by the UK government. This is a collaborative project, with partners including the NHS, Public Health England, diagnostics companies Thermo Fisher Scientific, QIAGEN and Randox, UK universities, Boots, Royal Mail and Amazon.

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Candid [formerly Foundation Center and GuideStar] [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://candid.org/about/press-room?fcref=pg>

No new digest content identified.

Council on Foundations [to 4 Apr 2020]

<https://www.cof.org/newsroom>

Newsroom

Council Resources for Responding to COVID-19

Council resources for foundations responding to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

[undated]

Engaging in Collaboration and Philanthropic Partnerships for COVID-19 Response

Upcoming Events on COVID-19

Apr 9 2020 2pm to 3pm

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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 2020 Volume 48, Issue 4, p355-470

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

Major Articles

Trend of influenza vaccine Facebook posts in last 4 years: a content analysis

Chintan K. Gandhi, Jayesh Patel, Xiang Zhan

p361–367

Published online: February 22, 2020

Compliance with immunization and a biological risk assessment of health care workers as part of an occupational health surveillance program: The experience of a university hospital in southern Italy

Francesco Paolo Bianchi, Luigi Vimercati, Francesca Mansi, Sara De Nitto, Pasquale Stefanizzi, Letizia Alessia Rizzo, Grazia Rita Fragnelli, Enza Sabrina Silvana Cannone, Luigi De Maria, Angela Maria Vittoria Larocca, Silvio Tafuri

p368–374

Published online: November 18, 2019

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

April 2020 Volume 58, Issue 4, p473-612

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

April 2020 110(4)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 102, Issue 4, April 2020

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/102/4>

Editorial

Estimating Malaria Incidence through Modeling Is a Good Academic Exercise, but How Practical Is It in High-Burden Settings?

Yazoume Ye and Andrew Andrada

Pages: 701–702

<https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.20-0120>

Meeting Report

Developing a Road Map to Spread Genomic Knowledge in Africa: 10th Conference of the African Society of Human Genetics, Cairo, Egypt

Ghada Y. El-Kamah, Amal M. Mohamed, Yehia Z. Gad, Sonia Abdelhak, Branwen J. Hennig, Raj S. Ramesar, Guida Landouré, Amadou Gaye, Melanie J. Newport, Scott M. Williams and Michèle Ramsay

Pages: 719–723

<https://doi.org/10.4269/ajtmh.19-0408>

The tenth conference of the African Society of Human Genetics was held in Egypt with the theme “Human Genetics and Genomics in Africa: Challenges for Both Rare and Common Genetic Disorders.” Current research was presented, and we discussed visions for the future of genomic research on the African continent. In this report, we summarize the presented scientific research within and relevant to Africa as presented by both African and non-African scientists. We also discuss the current situation concerning genomic medicine and genomic research within the continent, difficulties in implementing genetic services and genomic medicine in Africa, and a road map to overcome those difficulties and meet the needs of the African researchers and patients.

Annals of Internal Medicine

17 March 2020 Vol: 172, Issue 6

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Antiquity – A Review of World Archeology

Latest Issue: Issue 373 - February 2020

<https://antiquity.ac.uk/latest>

[Reviewed earlier]

Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal

Volume 282 May 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/282/suppl/C>

Research article Abstract only

Fair navigation planning: A resource for characterizing and designing fairness in mobile robots

Martim Brandão, Marina Jirotko, Helena Webb, Paul Luff

Article 103259

Abstract

In recent years, the development and deployment of autonomous systems such as mobile robots have been increasingly common. Investigating and implementing ethical considerations such as fairness in autonomous systems is an important problem that is receiving increased attention, both because of recent findings of their potential undesired impacts and a related surge in ethical principles and

guidelines. In this paper we take a new approach to considering fairness in the design of autonomous systems: we examine fairness by obtaining formal definitions, applying them to a system, and simulating system deployment in order to anticipate challenges. We undertake this analysis in the context of the particular technical problem of robot navigation. We start by showing that there is a fairness dimension to robot navigation, and we then collect and translate several formal definitions of distributive justice into the navigation planning domain. We use a walkthrough example of a rescue robot to bring out design choices and issues that arise during the development of a fair system. We discuss indirect discrimination, fairness-efficiency trade-offs, the existence of counter-productive fairness definitions, privacy and other issues. Finally, we elaborate on important aspects of a research agenda and reflect on the adequacy of our methodology in this paper as a general approach to responsible innovation in autonomous systems.

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health

April 2020 - Volume 5 - 4

<https://gh.bmj.com/content/5/4>

Original research

[Intended and unintended effects: community perspectives on a performance-based financing programme in Malawi](#) (1 April, 2020)

Chisomo Petross, Shannon McMahon, Julia Lohmann, Rachel P Chase, Adamson S. Muula, Manuela De Allegri

[How primary healthcare workers obtain information during consultations to aid safe prescribing in low-income and lower middle-income countries: a systematic review](#) (2 April, 2020)

Chris Smith, Michelle Helena van Velthoven, Nguyen Duc Truong, Nguyen Hai Nam, Vũ Phan Anh, Tareq Mohammed Ali AL-Ahdal, Osama Gamal Hassan, Basel Kouz, Nguyen Tien Huy, Malcolm Brewster, Neil Pakenham-Walsh

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[Effect of age at vaccination on the measles vaccine effectiveness and immunogenicity: systematic review and meta-analysis](#)

The objectives of this review were to evaluate the effect of age at administration of the first dose of a measles-containing vaccine (MCV1) on protection against measles and on antibody response after one-and...

Authors: Sara Carazo, Marie-Noëlle Billard, Amélie Boutin and Gaston De Serres

Citation: BMC Infectious Diseases 2020 20:251

Content type: Research article

Published on: 29 March 2020

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[The effect of cash transfers on mental health – new evidence from South Africa](#)

Mental health and poverty are strongly interlinked. There is a gap in the literature on the effects of poverty alleviation programmes on mental health. We aim to fill this gap by studying the effect of an exog...

Authors: Julius Ohrnberger, Eleonora Fichera, Matt Sutton and Laura Anselmi

Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20:436

Content type: Research article

Published on: 3 April 2020

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[The fiscal value of human lives lost from coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) in China](#)

Authors: Joses M. Kirigia and Rose Nabi Deborah Karimi Muthuri

Citation: BMC Research Notes 2020 13:198

Content type: Research note

Published on: 1 April 2020

Abstract

Objective

According to the WHO coronavirus disease (COVID-19) situation report 35, as of 24th February 2020, there was a total of 77,262 confirmed COVID-19 cases in China. That included 2595 deaths. The specific objective of this study was to estimate the fiscal value of human lives lost due to COVID-19 in China as of 24th February 2020.

Results

The deaths from COVID-19 had a discounted (at 3%) total fiscal value of Int\$ 924,346,795 in China. Out of which, 63.2% was borne by people aged 25–49 years, 27.8% by people aged 50–64 years, and 9.0% by people aged 65 years and above. The average fiscal value per death was Int\$ 356,203. Re-estimation of the economic model alternately with 5% and 10 discount rates led to a reduction in the expected total fiscal value by 21.3% and 50.4%, respectively. Furthermore, the re-estimation of the economic model using the world's highest average life expectancy of 87.1 years (which is that of Japanese females), instead of the national life expectancy of 76.4 years, increased the total fiscal value by Int\$ 229,456,430 (24.8%).

BMJ Open

April 2020 - Volume 10 - 4

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/4?current-issue=y>

New issue: No digest content identified]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 98, Number 4, April 2020, 229-296

<https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/98/4/en/>

EDITORIALS

[Balancing risks and benefits of artificial intelligence in the health sector](#)

— Kenneth Goodman, Diana Zandi, Andreas Reis & Effy Vayena

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.253823>

[Towards a global strategy on digital health](#)

— Bernardo Mariano

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.20.253955>

[How do we reimagine health in a digital age?](#)

— Flavia Bustreo & Marcel Tanner

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.235358>

POLICY & PRACTICE

[Defining ethical standards for the application of digital tools to population health research](#)

— Gabrielle Samuel & Gemma Derrick

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237370>

There is growing interest in population health research, which uses methods based on artificial intelligence. Such research draws on a range of clinical and non-clinical data to make predictions about health risks, such as identifying epidemics and monitoring disease spread. Much of this research uses data from social media in the public domain or anonymous secondary health data and is therefore exempt from ethics committee scrutiny. While the ethical use and regulation of digital-based research

has been discussed, little attention has been given to the ethics governance of such research in higher education institutions in the field of population health. Such governance is essential to how scholars make ethical decisions and provides assurance to the public that researchers are acting ethically. We propose a process of ethics governance for population health research in higher education institutions. The approach takes the form of review after the research has been completed, with particular focus on the role artificial intelligence algorithms play in augmenting decision-making. The first layer of review could be national, open-science repositories for open-source algorithms and affiliated data or information which are developed during research. The second layer would be a sector-specific validation of the research processes and algorithms by a committee of academics and stakeholders with a wide range of expertise across disciplines. The committee could be created as an off-shoot of an already functioning national oversight body or health technology assessment organization. We use case studies of good practice to explore how this process might operate.

Artificial intelligence and the ongoing need for empathy, compassion and trust in healthcare

— Angeliki Kerasidou

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237198>

Empathy, compassion and trust are fundamental values of a patient-centred, relational model of health care. In recent years, the quest for greater efficiency in health care, including economic efficiency, has often resulted in the side-lining of these values, making it difficult for health-care professionals to incorporate them in practice. Artificial intelligence is increasingly being used in health care. This technology promises greater efficiency and more free time for health-care professionals to focus on the human side of care, including fostering trust relationships and engaging with patients with empathy and compassion. This article considers the vision of efficient, empathetic and trustworthy health care put forward by the proponents of artificial intelligence. The paper suggests that artificial intelligence has the potential to fundamentally alter the way in which empathy, compassion and trust are currently regarded and practised in health care. Moving forward, it is important to re-evaluate whether and how these values could be incorporated and practised within a health-care system where artificial intelligence is increasingly used. Most importantly, society needs to re-examine what kind of health care it ought to promote.

Artificial intelligence in health care: accountability and safety

— Ibrahim Habli, Tom Lawton & Zoe Porter

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237487>

The prospect of patient harm caused by the decisions made by an artificial intelligence-based clinical tool is something to which current practices of accountability and safety worldwide have not yet adjusted. We focus on two aspects of clinical artificial intelligence used for decision-making: moral accountability for harm to patients; and safety assurance to protect patients against such harm. Artificial intelligence-based tools are challenging the standard clinical practices of assigning blame and assuring safety. Human clinicians and safety engineers have weaker control over the decisions reached by artificial intelligence systems and less knowledge and understanding of precisely how the artificial intelligence systems reach their decisions. We illustrate this analysis by applying it to an example of an artificial intelligence-based system developed for use in the treatment of sepsis. The paper ends with practical suggestions for ways forward to mitigate these concerns. We argue for a need to include artificial intelligence developers and systems safety engineers in our assessments of moral accountability for patient harm. Meanwhile, none of the actors in the model robustly fulfil the traditional conditions of moral accountability for the decisions of an artificial intelligence system. We should therefore update our conceptions of moral accountability in this context. We also need to move

from a static to a dynamic model of assurance, accepting that considerations of safety are not fully resolvable during the design of the artificial intelligence system before the system has been deployed.

[How to achieve trustworthy artificial intelligence for health](#)

— Kristine Bærøe, Ainar Miyata-Sturm & Edmund Henden

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237289>

Artificial intelligence holds great promise in terms of beneficial, accurate and effective preventive and curative interventions. At the same time, there is also awareness of potential risks and harm that may be caused by unregulated developments of artificial intelligence. Guiding principles are being developed around the world to foster trustworthy development and application of artificial intelligence systems. These guidelines can support developers and governing authorities when making decisions about the use of artificial intelligence. The High-Level Expert Group on Artificial Intelligence set up by the European Commission launched the report Ethical guidelines for trustworthy artificial intelligence in 2019. The report aims to contribute to reflections and the discussion on the ethics of artificial intelligence technologies also beyond the countries of the European Union (EU). In this paper, we use the global health sector as a case and argue that the EU's guidance leaves too much room for local, contextualized discretion for it to foster trustworthy artificial intelligence globally. We point to the urgency of shared globalized efforts to safeguard against the potential harms of artificial intelligence technologies in health care.

[Ensuring trustworthy use of artificial intelligence and big data analytics in health insurance](#)

— Calvin W L Ho, Joseph Ali & Karel Caals

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.234732>

Technological advances in big data (large amounts of highly varied data from many different sources that may be processed rapidly), data sciences and artificial intelligence can improve health-system functions and promote personalized care and public good. However, these technologies will not replace the fundamental components of the health system, such as ethical leadership and governance, or avoid the need for a robust ethical and regulatory environment. In this paper, we discuss what a robust ethical and regulatory environment might look like for big data analytics in health insurance, and describe examples of safeguards and participatory mechanisms that should be established. First, a clear and effective data governance framework is critical. Legal standards need to be enacted and insurers should be encouraged and given incentives to adopt a human-centred approach in the design and use of big data analytics and artificial intelligence. Second, a clear and accountable process is necessary to explain what information can be used and how it can be used. Third, people whose data may be used should be empowered through their active involvement in determining how their personal data may be managed and governed. Fourth, insurers and governance bodies, including regulators and policy-makers, need to work together to ensure that the big data analytics based on artificial intelligence that are developed are transparent and accurate. Unless an enabling ethical environment is in place, the use of such analytics will likely contribute to the proliferation of unconnected data systems, worsen existing inequalities, and erode trustworthiness and trust.

[Ethical dilemmas posed by mobile health and machine learning in psychiatry research](#)

— Nicholas C Jacobson, Kate H Bentley, Ashley Walton, Shirley B Wang, Rebecca G Fortgang, Alexander J Millner, Garth Coombs, Alexandra M Rodman & Daniel D L Coppersmith

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237107>

The application of digital technology to psychiatry research is rapidly leading to new discoveries and capabilities in the field of mobile health. However, the increase in opportunities to passively collect vast

amounts of detailed information on study participants coupled with advances in statistical techniques that enable machine learning models to process such information has raised novel ethical dilemmas regarding researchers' duties to: (i) monitor adverse events and intervene accordingly; (ii) obtain fully informed, voluntary consent; (iii) protect the privacy of participants; and (iv) increase the transparency of powerful, machine learning models to ensure they can be applied ethically and fairly in psychiatric care. This review highlights emerging ethical challenges and unresolved ethical questions in mobile health research and provides recommendations on how mobile health researchers can address these issues in practice. Ultimately, the hope is that this review will facilitate continued discussion on how to achieve best practice in mobile health research within psychiatry.

PERSPECTIVES

Safeguards for the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning in global health

— Amy K Paul & Merrick Schaefer

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237099>

Ethical implications of conversational agents in global public health

— David D Luxton

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237636>

Artificial intelligence, diagnostic imaging and neglected tropical diseases: ethical implications

— Alon Vaisman, Nina Linder, Johan Lundin, Ani Orchanian-Cheff, Jean T Coulibaly, Richard KD Ephraim & Isaac I Bogoch

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237560>

Four equity considerations for the use of artificial intelligence in public health

— Maxwell J Smith, Renata Axler, Sally Bean, Frank Rudzicz & James Shaw

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237503>

Ethical barriers to artificial intelligence in the national health service, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

— Claire Louise Thompson & Heather May Morgan

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2471/BLT.19.237230>

Child Care, Health and Development

Volume 46, Issue 3 Pages: 249-396 May 2020

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal

Volume 102 April 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/child-abuse-and-neglect/vol/102/suppl/C>

Review article Abstract only

Preventing child sexual abuse: A systematic review of interventions and their efficacy in developing countries

D. Russell, D. Higgins, A. Posso

Article 104395

Abstract

Background

Research on prevalence, risk factors, and prevention interventions for child sexual abuse has continued to focus on western and developed countries. Where country-level prevalence data or large-scale research exists, rates of child sexual abuse are consistently higher in developing and non-western countries than their western and developed counterparts.

Objective

We systematically reviewed research on the nature of child sexual abuse interventions in developing countries, the settings and populations included to identify types of child sexual abuse prevention initiatives being implemented in developing countries and their effectiveness.

Methods

Following PRISMA guidelines, we conducted a systematic search of six databases and identified eight studies to include in our analysis.

Results

Most empirically evaluated interventions in developing countries have focused on preschool and primary school-aged children. Most have focused on interventions delivered in educational settings, with a lack of focus on population-level interventions to prevent child sexual abuse. Researchers have used outcomes measuring knowledge or skills for young people in self-protection and help-seeking, not deployment of those skills, actual reduction in prevalence of CSA, or improvements in conditions of safety in organizational contexts.

Conclusions

If the focus on school-based strategies to prevent child sexual abuse continues in developing countries, a significant gap in knowledge of the efficacy of population-level interventions outside of school contexts, and consistency across the application of interventions will remain. Evaluations are needed that address the efficacy of broader government-led or whole-of-community prevention interventions to reduce actual prevalence of child sexual abuse, or that can link increased knowledge and skill with reduced victimization.

Clinical Therapeutics

February 2020 Volume 42, Issue 2, p237-378, e1-e32

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Trials

Volume 17 Issue 1, February 2020

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/17/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 90 March 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/90/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

The CRISPR Journal

Volume 3, Issue 1 / February 2020

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/3/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Genetic Medicine Reports

Volume 8, Issue 1, March 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/8/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

April 2020 - Volume 33 - Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

Volume 20, Issue 1 Pages: 1-60 March 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14718847/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 30, Issue 1, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

Volume 38, Issue 3 Pages: 283-407 May 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677679/current>

ARTICLES

[The economics of China's engagement with Africa: What is the empirical evidence?](#)

[Antonio Martuscelli](#)

Pages: 285-302

First Published: 01 July 2019

[Innovation policy, scientific research and economic performance: The case of Iran](#)

[Rouhollah HamidiMotlagh](#), [Ali Babaee](#), [Ali Maleki](#), [Mohammad Taghi Isaai](#)

Pages: 387-407

First Published: 27 December 2018

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 15, Issue 3, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 14 - Issue 1 - February 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

Volume 44, Issue 2 Pages: 233-432 April 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677717/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

Volume 21 Issue 3 4 March 2020

<https://www.embopress.org/toc/14693178/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emergency Medicine Journal

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 26, Number 4—April 2020

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

Expedited Articles

[Identifying Locations with Possible Undetected Imported Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Cases by Using Importation Predictions](#)

P. De Salazar et al. July 2020

[Public Mental Health Crisis during COVID-19 Pandemic, China](#)

L. Dong and J. Bouey July 2020

[Policy Decisions and Use of Information Technology to Fight 2019 Novel Coronavirus Disease, Taiwan](#)

C. Lin et al. July 2020

Asymptomatic and Human-to-Human Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in a 2-Family Cluster, Xuzhou, China

C. Li et al. July 2020

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 RNA Detected in Blood Donations

L. Chang et al. July 2020

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Shedding by Travelers, Vietnam, 2020

T. Le et al. July 2020

COVID-19 Outbreak Associated with Air Conditioning in Restaurant, Guangzhou, China, 2020

J. Lu et al. July 2020

Epidemics

Volume 30 March 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/30/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemiology and Infection

Volume 148 - 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & Human Research

Volume 42, Issue 2 Pages: 1-33 March–April 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current>

Incidental Findings :: Data Sharing N-of-1 Trials :: Deception

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Winter 2019 (33.4) | December 2019

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2019/winter-2019-33-4/>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 30, Issue 1, February 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/30/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy Volume 75

Volume 91 February 2020
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/food-policy/vol/91/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 12, Issue 1, February 2020
<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/12/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Forced Migration Review (FMR)

FMR 63 February 2020
<https://www.fmreview.org/cities>

Cities and towns

Cities and towns are on the frontline of receiving and welcoming people who have been displaced. In this issue of FMR, policymakers, practitioners, researchers, representatives of cities and international city-focused alliances, and displaced people themselves debate the challenges facing both the urban authorities and their partners, and the people who come to live there. The issue also includes two 'general' articles on other topics.

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 47, 2020 - Issue 1
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/sfds20/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Gates Open Research

<https://gatesopenresearch.org/browse/articles>
[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Genome Medicine

<https://genomemedicine.biomedcentral.com/articles>
[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Geoheritage

Volume 12, Issue 1, March 2020
<https://link.springer.com/journal/12371/12/1>
[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health Action

Volume 12, 2019 Issue 1

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/zgha20/12/sup1?nav=tocList>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health: Science and Practice (GHSP)

Vol. 8, No. 1 March 30, 2020

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

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

[Designing and Evaluating Scalable Child Marriage Prevention Programs in Burkina Faso and Tanzania: A Quasi-Experiment and Costing Study](#)

Annabel Erulkar, Girmay Medhin, Eva Weissman, Gisele Kabore and Julien Ouedraogo

Global Health: Science and Practice March 2020, 8(1):68-81; <https://doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-19-00132>

Minimal, low-cost approaches can be effective in delaying child marriage and increasing school attendance. Program managers should consider the cost, quality, and coverage of interventions, especially because child marriage persists in the most hard-to-reach, rural areas of many countries.

[How Should Home-Based Maternal and Child Health Records Be Implemented? A Global Framework Analysis](#)

Sruthi Mahadevan and Elena T. Broaddus-Shea

Global Health: Science and Practice March 2020, 8(1):100-113; <https://doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-19-00340>

Our assessment of home-based record use in low- and middle-income countries indicated that the implementation process consists of 8 interdependent components involving policy makers, funders, and end users—health care workers, pregnant women, and the parents/caregivers of children. Successful implementation can result in improved maternal and child health outcomes and more efficient use of government and donor investments.

REVIEWS

[A Rapid Review of Available Evidence to Inform Indicators for Routine Monitoring and Evaluation of Respectful Maternity Care](#)

Patience A. Afulani, Laura Buback, Brienne McNally, Selemani Mbuyita, Mary Mwanyika-Sando and Emily Peca

Global Health: Science and Practice March 2020, 8(1):125-135; <https://doi.org/10.9745/GHSP-D-19-00323>

We present a set of indicators that could be used to measure the effects of programs on RMC. Integrating these indicators into programs to improve quality of care and other health system outcomes will facilitate routine monitoring and accountability around experience of care.

Global Public Health

Volume 15, 2020 Issue 4

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Health Affairs

Vol. 39, No. 3 March 2020
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/current>
The Affordable Care Act Turns 10
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 21, Issue 2, December 2019
<https://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-21-issue-2-december-2019/>
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 15 - Issue 2 - April 2020
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/health-economics-policy-and-law/latest-issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 35, Issue 2, March 2020
<https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/35/2>
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>
[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Human Gene Therapy

Volume 31, Issue 5-6 / March 2020
<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/31/5-6>
Focus on Gene Therapy in Women's Health
[Reviewed earlier]

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 42, Number 1, February 2020
<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/41782>
[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

Number 77, March 2020

<https://odihpn.org/magazine/the-crisis-in-yemen/>

Responding to Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo

by Humanitarian Practice Network

This edition of Humanitarian Exchange, co-edited with Anne Harmer, focuses on the response to the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Although at the time of publication the outbreak appeared to have ended, over its course it claimed 2,200 lives, with more than 3,300 infected, making this the world's second largest outbreak ever.

In the lead article, Natalie Roberts reflects on the extent to which humanitarian actors have applied learning from the outbreak in West Africa in 2014–2016. Richard Kojan and colleagues report on the NGO ALIMA's flexible, patient-centred approach to reducing mortality, Marcela Ascuntar reflects on lessons learned from community feedback and Bernard Balibuno, Emanuel Mbuna Badjonga and Howard Mollett highlight the crucial role faith-based organisations have played in the response. In their article, Theresa Jones, Noé Kasali and Olivia Tulloch outline the work of the Bethesda counselling centre in Beni, which provides support to grieving families. Reflecting on findings from a recent assessment by Translators without Borders, Ellie Kemp describes the challenges involved in providing clear and accessible information on Ebola and the response, and Sung Joon Park and colleagues explain how humane care and treatment can help increase trust and confidence in the response. Stephen Mugamba and his co-authors highlight the importance of community involvement in Ebola research, and Gillian McKay and her co-authors examine the impact of the Ebola outbreak and response on sexual and reproductive health services.

Stacey Mearns, Kiryn Lanning and Michelle Gayer present an Ebola Readiness Roadmap to support NGOs in preparing for an outbreak, while Edward Kumakech, Maurice Sadlier, Aidan Sinnott and Dan Irvine report on a Gap Analysis tool looking at the communication, community engagement and compliance tracking activities that need to be in place before an Ebola vaccine is deployed. Emanuele Bruni and colleagues describe the development of a new monitoring and evaluation framework for strategic response planning. The edition ends with an article by Adelia Fairbanks, who argues for an acceptance strategy in the DRC to improve security and access for responding agencies.

Infectious Agents and Cancer

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 12, Issue 2, March 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/12/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 8 (2019): Issue 2 (Nov 2019)

<https://brill.com/view/journals/hrlr/8/2/hrlr.8.issue-2.xml>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol 7, No 3 (2020) March 2020

<https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/60>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 43 February 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-journal-of-disaster-risk-reduction/vol/43/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 49, Issue 1, February 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/48/6>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 26, Issue 5 2020

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

Article

[Remembering genocide in the diaspora: Place and materiality in the commemoration of atrocities in Rwanda and Sri Lanka](#)

Camilla Orjuela

Pages: 439-453

Published online: 04 Aug 2019

Article

[Heritage destruction in Myanmar's Rakhine state: legal and illegal iconoclasm](#)

Ronan Lee & José Antonio González Zarandona

Pages: 519-538

Published online: 21 Sep 2019

ABSTRACT

In this article we map heritage destruction in Myanmar's Rakhine state. We outline the historic and contemporary political context in Myanmar explaining the background of the Rohingya Muslim ethnic group and addressing the contribution of religion and political change to anti-Rohingya discrimination and violence in Myanmar. We trace patterns of heritage destruction as legal and/ or illegal iconoclasm and specify the key elements of heritage destruction in Rakhine state. Our analysis focusses on the use

of heritage destruction in Rakhine state as a tool of genocide, and we suggest that heritage destruction in Myanmar's Rakhine state ought to be understood as part the authorities' policies of genocide against the Rohingya. We conclude the article with a call for UNESCO to act to extend its 'Unite4Heritage' campaign to include the destruction of heritage by state actors.

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Volume 12 Issue 5

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/12/iss/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

March 2020 Volume 92, p1-272

[https://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(20\)X0002-6](https://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(20)X0002-6)

[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Volume 54 Issue 1, March 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

July-December 2019 Volume 17 | Issue 2 Page Nos. 117-318

<http://www.interventionjournal.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>

Special issue on the mental health and psychosocial wellbeing of Rohingya refugees

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

March 24/31, 2020, Vol 323, No. 12, Pages 1111-1216

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Online First

April 1, 2020

Viewpoint

Potential Legal Liability for Withdrawing or Withholding Ventilators During COVID-19 Assessing the Risks and Identifying Needed Reforms

I. Glenn Cohen, JD; Andrew M. Crespo, JD; Douglas B. White, MD, MAS

free access has active quiz

JAMA. Published online April 1, 2020. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.5442

This Viewpoint discusses the legal risks to health care workers and hospital systems from withdrawing or withholding ventilation from COVID-19 patients and cites a Maryland statute that offers legal immunity to clinicians making good faith decisions under emergency conditions as an example for other states to follow.

Viewpoint

March 27, 2020

[A Framework for Rationing Ventilators and Critical Care Beds During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Douglas B. White, MD, MAS; Bernard Lo, MD

free access is active quiz has multimedia online first

JAMA. 2020; doi: 10.1001/jama.2020.5046

This Viewpoint describes a framework for rationing ventilators during the COVID-19 pandemic should intensive care units find themselves with more patients than they can care for, using a score-based system that incorporates patients' likelihood of surviving to hospital discharge and beyond and their role in the public health response to the outbreak.

JAMA Pediatrics

March 2020, Vol 174, No. 3, Pages 226-308

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBI Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

March 2020 - Volume 18 - Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health

April 2020 Volume 66, Issue 4, p379-514

[https://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X\(20\)X0003-6](https://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X(20)X0003-6)

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research

Vol. 67 (2020)

<https://www.jair.org/index.php/jair>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 45, Issue 2, April 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/45/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage

Volume 41 Pages 1-270 (January–February 2020)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-cultural-heritage/vol/41/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2020 Volume 10 Issue 1

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2044-1266/vol/9/iss/4>

Special Issue: Heritage and waste values

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 144 May 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/144/suppl/C>

Research article Abstract only

[Decentralized delivery of financial education: Experimental evidence from Rwanda](#)

Emmanuel Hakizimfura, Douglas Randall, Bilal Zia

Article 102439

Research article Abstract only

[Trade and agricultural technology adoption: Evidence from Africa](#)

Obie Porteous

Article 102440

Research article Abstract only

[Economic and psychological effects of health insurance and cash transfers: Evidence from a randomized experiment in Kenya](#)

Johannes Haushofer, Matthieu Chemin, Channing Jang, Justin Abraham

Article 102416

Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics

Volume 15 Issue 1-2, February-April 2020

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

Special Issue: Ethical Issues in Social Media Research

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

April 2020 - Volume 74 - 4

<https://jech.bmj.com/content/74/4>

Commentary

[Giving patients a voice: implementing patient and public involvement to strengthen research in sub-Saharan Africa](#) (31 January, 2020)

Carol Bedwell, Tina Lavender

...Active involvement in research and healthcare is very much expected and is well established within many high-income settings. However, in low-income settings, PPI is in its infancy, with few researchers understanding the concept.⁴ This may lead to a failure to match health need with appropriate research,⁵ particularly when the research agenda is set by others, leading to acknowledged power imbalances.⁶ In such settings, empowerment of individuals is low and patients are not included in

research design or conduct. In sub-Saharan Africa, gender inequalities mean that women have limited input into both healthcare-related decisions and research.⁷ Experience of working in these settings highlighted that this is the case even in research which is women-centred, such as maternity care...

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine

Volume 13, Issue 1 Pages: 1-88 February 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/17565391/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 16, Issue 1, 2020

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

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

Volume 31, Number 1, February 2020

<https://muse.jhu.edu/journal/278>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 6, Issue 2, 2020

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

Article

[Combatting Human Trafficking since Palermo: What Do We Know about What Works?](#)

Katharine Bryant & Todd Landman

Pages: 119-140

Published online: 01 Mar 2020

Article

[Simulating a Multi-agency Approach for the Protection of Trafficked Persons in Migration and Displacement Settings](#)

Sarah Elliott & Megan Denise Smith

Pages: 168-181

Published online: 29 Feb 2020

Article

[Transgender People and Human Trafficking: Intersectional Exclusion of Transgender Migrants and People of Color from Anti-trafficking Protection in the United States](#)

Anne E. Fehrenbacher, Jennifer Musto, Heidi Hoefinger, Nicola Mai, P.G. Macioti, Calogero Giametta & Calum Bennachie

Pages: 182-194

Published online: 29 Feb 2020

Article

Labor Exploitation of Migrant Farmworkers: Risks for Human Trafficking

Jeremy S. Norwood

Pages: 209-220

Published online: 01 Mar 2020

Essay

Thailand's Challenges in Implementing Anti-Trafficking Legislation: The Case of the Rohingya

Supang Chantavanich

Pages: 234-243

Published online: 29 Feb 2020

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 10 Issue 1 2020

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2042-6747/vol/10/iss/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 22, Issue 2, April 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/22/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 18, 2020_ Issue 2

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 221, Issue 5, 1 March 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue/221/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

Volume 32, Issue 2 Pages: 129-261 March 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

March 2020 - Volume 46 - 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Operations Management

Volume 66, Issue 1-2 Pages: 1-256 January/March 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/18731317/current>

Special Issue: Delivering Effective Healthcare at Lower Cost

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 7, Issue 1 (2020)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

March 2020 Volume 218, p1-268, e1-e5

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

March/April 2020 - Volume 26 - Issue 2

<https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 41, Issue 1, March 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/41/1>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Refugee & Global Health

Volume 2, Issue 2 (2019)

<https://ir.library.louisville.edu/rgh/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

April 2020 Volume 17 Issue 165

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsif/current>

New Issue; No digest content identified]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 27, Issue 2, March 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/27/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Apr 04, 2020 Volume 39 5Number 10230 p1089-1166, e62-e63

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

Editorial

Redefining vulnerability in the era of COVID-19

The Lancet

What does it mean to be vulnerable? Vulnerable groups of people are those that are disproportionately exposed to risk, but who is included in these groups can change dynamically. A person not considered vulnerable at the outset of a pandemic can become vulnerable depending on the policy response. The risks of sudden loss of income or access to social support have consequences that are difficult to estimate and constitute a challenge in identifying all those who might become vulnerable. Certainly, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, vulnerable groups are not only elderly people, those with ill health and comorbidities, or homeless or underhoused people, but also people from a gradient of socioeconomic groups that might struggle to cope financially, mentally, or physically with the crisis.

The strategies most recommended to control the spread of COVID-19—social distancing and frequent handwashing—are not easy for the millions of people who live in highly dense communities with precarious or insecure housing, and poor sanitation and access to clean water. Often people living in these settings also have malnutrition, non-communicable diseases, and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis. In South Africa, 15 million people live in townships where the incidence of HIV is around 25%. These immunocompromised populations are at greater risk to Covid-19. Another concern in African countries is that the response to COVID-19 will come at the expense of treating other diseases. For example, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the response to Ebola resulted in the resurgence of measles.

The effect of the policy response on children in the fight against COVID-19 is also a concern. On March 23, UNICEF reported that in Latin America and the Caribbean over 154 million children are temporarily out of school because of COVID-19. The impact of this policy is more far-reaching than just the loss of education—in this region, school food programmes benefit 85 million children, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization assessed that these programmes constitute one of the most reliable daily sources of food for around 10 million children.

Questioning whether appropriate evidence exists to support the reduction of transmission through school closures, Richard Armitage and Laura Nellums considered the long-term risks of deepening social, economic, and health inequities for children in a letter published in *The Lancet Global Health*. A 2015 UN report analysing the socioeconomic effects of Ebola in Africa also highlighted the increased risks of pregnancy in young girls, school dropout, and child abuse.

The most vulnerable children are part of families in which parents have informal jobs and are not able to work from home. This predicament is particularly concerning in countries like India, where over 80%

of its workforce is employed in the informal sector and a third of people work as casual labourers. In socioeconomically fragile settings, a lockdown policy can exacerbate health inequalities and the consequences need careful consideration to avoid reinforcing the vicious cycle between poverty and ill health. Human Rights Watch [has reported](#) that the lockdown in India has disproportionately affected marginalised communities because of the loss of livelihood and lack of food, shelter, health, and other basic necessities. Under this unprecedented challenge, governments must be mindful that strategies to address the pandemic should not further marginalise or stigmatise affected communities.

Vulnerable groups and health inequalities are also evident in developed countries. The USA is a stark reminder of the divide that exists in countries without a universal health-care system. For people who do not have private medical insurance, this pandemic might see them face the choice of devastating financial hardship or poor health outcomes, or both. During the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic in the USA, individuals with poorer health outcomes were those in the lowest socioeconomic groups. This same group of vulnerable people have now been caught in the middle of a major health emergency as a result of long-standing differences in affluence.

While responding to COVID-19, policy makers should consider the risk of deepening health inequalities. If vulnerable groups are not properly identified, the consequences of this pandemic will be even more devastating. Although WHO guidance should be followed, a one-size-fits-all model will not be appropriate. Each country must continually assess which members of society are vulnerable to fairly support those at the highest risk.

[COVID-19 will not leave behind refugees and migrants](#)

The Lancet

Never has the “leave no one behind” pledge felt more urgent. As nations around the world implement measures to control the spread of SARS-CoV-2, including lockdowns and restrictions on individuals’ movements, they must heed their global commitments. When member states adopted the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, they promised to ensure no one will be left behind. Chief among the world’s most vulnerable people are refugees and migrants. The COVID-19 crisis puts these groups at enormous risk. Yet global pandemic efforts have so far failed in their duty of care to refugees and migrants.

There are millions of refugees and migrants in camps and detention centres worldwide. Resettlement procedures have been suspended by the UN. [UNHCR reports](#) that 34 countries hosting substantial refugee populations have seen local transmission of SARS-CoV-2. The often appalling conditions of migrant camps are fertile for infectious disease outbreaks. With few latrines and water supplies, basic hygiene to prevent spread is difficult. With extreme overcrowding, physical distancing is impossible.

In Europe, tens of thousands of migrants live in densely packed camps along the Mediterranean, without adequate medical personnel and infrastructure to cope. With no emergency COVID-19 plan in place by governments, Médecins sans Frontières has demanded evacuation of 42 000 asylum seekers on the Greek islands to suitable accommodation. In a Lancet Comment, WHO leaders [appeal for more attention](#) for refugees and migrants, including in humanitarian settings, which are facing disruption of essential supplies of food, medicines, and aid workers.

The worst might be yet to come. 80% of refugees live in low-income and middle-income countries, the sites of the expected fourth wave of COVID-19 behind China, Europe, and the USA. Already, these settings have weak health-care systems, scarce protective equipment, and poor testing and treatment

capacity. They need enormous global support to prepare for an impending crisis. This virus disregards all borders. COVID-19 responses must not overlook refugees and migrants.

Comment

Preparedness is essential for malaria-endemic regions during the COVID-19 pandemic

Jigang Wang, et al.

Mass gathering events and reducing further global spread of COVID-19: a political and public health dilemma

Brian McCloskey, et al. on behalf of the WHO Novel Coronavirus-19 Mass Gatherings Expert Group

Articles

First known person-to-person transmission of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) in the USA

Isaac Ghinai, et al. for the Illinois COVID-19 Investigation Team

Viewpoint

The case for replacing live oral polio vaccine with inactivated vaccine in the Americas

Jorge A Alfaro-Murillo, et al

Abstract

Before the development of the inactivated poliovirus vaccine (IPV) and live oral poliovirus vaccine (OPV), sporadic outbreaks of poliomyelitis were reported to cause as many as 18 000 cases of paralysis and over 3000 deaths in the USA alone.¹ The straightforward oral administration, high effectiveness, and relatively low cost of OPV was fundamental to the substantial reduction in polio achieved by mass vaccination campaigns. Wild polioviruses were certified by WHO to be eliminated throughout the Americas in 1994 . However, an adverse effect of OPV is vaccine-associated paralytic polio. Among the countries exclusively using OPV in 2012, an estimated 400 cases of vaccine-associated paralytic polio occurred that year.² This burden is more than double the incidence of wild polio in 2019. ³ Vaccine-derived polioviruses (VDPV) can also spread from person to person, a process that led to more than 250 additional cases of paralysis during 2019. ⁴ The risk of paralytic polio associated with OPV spurred many countries to switch to the safer IPV. While IPV elicits a much weaker mucosal immune response than OPV, ⁵ and is thus less effective at averting transmission, it is very protective against disease. In the Americas, Canada transitioned to exclusive IPV use in 1995, the USA in 2000, Costa Rica in 2010, and Uruguay in 2012. However, the remaining 31 countries in the Americas (appendix) continue to administer at least one dose of OPV.

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health

Apr 2020 Volume 4 Number 4 p251-340, e7-e9

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Digital Health

Apr 2020 Volume 2 Number 4 e149-e208

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landig/issue/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Lancet Global Health

Apr 2020 Volume 8 Number 4 e451-e611

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

Comment

The burden of viral respiratory infections in young children in low-resource settings

Uduak Okomo, Olubukola T Idoko, Beate Kampmann

Comment

The burden of viral respiratory infections in young children in low-resource settings

Uduak Okomo, Olubukola T Idoko, Beate Kampmann

Maximising the potential of HPV vaccines

Jos Luttjeboer, et al

Articles

Feasibility of controlling COVID-19 outbreaks by isolation of cases and contacts

Joel Hellewell, et al Centre for the Mathematical Modelling of Infectious Diseases COVID-19 Working Group,

Global burden of respiratory infections associated with seasonal influenza in children under 5 years in 2018: a systematic review and modelling study

Xin Wang, et al. for the Respiratory Virus Global Epidemiology Network

Trends in premature avertable mortality from non-communicable diseases for 195 countries and territories, 1990–2017: a population-based study

Ramon Martinez, et al.

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Apr 2020 Volume 20 Number 4 p383-510, e50-e78

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

Articles

Efficacy, immunogenicity, and safety of an oral influenza vaccine: a placebo-controlled and active-controlled phase 2 human challenge study

David Liebowitz, et al.

Safety and immunogenicity of a highly attenuated rVSVN4CT1-EBOVGP1 Ebola virus vaccine: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled, phase 1 clinical trial

David K Clarke, et al

Ivermectin as a novel complementary malaria control tool to reduce incidence and prevalence: a modelling study

Hannah C Slater, Brian D Foy, Kevin Kobylinski, Carlos Chaccour, Oliver J Watson, Joel Hellewell, Ghaith Aljayyousi, Teun Bousema, Jeremy Burrows, Umberto D'Alessandro, Haoues Alout, Feiko O Ter Kuile, Patrick G T Walker, Azra C Ghani, Menno R Smit

Summary

Background

Ivermectin is a potential new vector control tool to reduce malaria transmission. Mosquitoes feeding on a bloodmeal containing ivermectin have a reduced lifespan, meaning they are less likely to live long enough to complete sporogony and become infectious. We aimed to estimate the effect of ivermectin on malaria transmission in various scenarios of use.

Methods

We validated an existing population-level mathematical model of the effect of ivermectin mass drug administration (MDA) on the mosquito population and malaria transmission against two datasets: clinical data from a cluster- randomised trial done in Burkina Faso in 2015 wherein ivermectin was given to individuals taller than 90 cm and entomological data from a study of mosquito outcomes after ivermectin MDA for onchocerciasis or lymphatic filariasis in Burkina Faso, Senegal, and Liberia between 2008 and 2013. We extended the existing model to include a range of complementary malaria interventions (seasonal malaria chemoprevention and MDA with dihydroartemisinin–piperaquine) and to incorporate new data on higher doses of ivermectin with a longer mosquitocidal effect. We consider two ivermectin regimens: a single dose of 400 µg/kg ($1 \times 400 \mu\text{g/kg}$) and three consecutive daily doses of 300 µg/kg per day ($3 \times 300 \mu\text{g/kg}$). We simulated the effect of these two doses in a range of usage scenarios in different transmission settings (highly seasonal, seasonal, and perennial). We report percentage reductions in clinical incidence and slide prevalence.

Findings

We estimate that MDA with ivermectin will reduce prevalence and incidence and is most effective in areas with highly seasonal transmission. In a highly seasonal moderate transmission setting, three rounds of ivermectin only MDA at $3 \times 300 \mu\text{g/kg}$ (rounds spaced 1 month apart) and 70% coverage is predicted to reduce clinical incidence by 71% and prevalence by 34%. We predict that adding ivermectin MDA to seasonal malaria chemoprevention in this setting would reduce clinical incidence by an additional 77% in children younger than 5 years compared with seasonal malaria chemoprevention alone; adding ivermectin MDA to MDA with dihydroartemisinin–piperaquine in this setting would reduce incidence by an additional 75% and prevalence by an additional 64% (all ages) compared with MDA with dihydroartemisinin–piperaquine alone.

Interpretation

Our modelling predictions suggest that ivermectin could be a valuable addition to the malaria control toolbox, both in areas with persistently high transmission where existing interventions are insufficient and in areas approaching elimination to prevent resurgence.

Funding

Imperial College Junior Research Fellowship.

Lancet Public Health

Apr 2020 Volume 5 Number 4 e177-e234

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/issue/current>

Editorial

[Transgender health, identity, and dignity](#)

The Lancet Public Health

Articles

[Gender-concordant identity documents and mental health among transgender adults in the USA: a cross-sectional study](#)

Ayden I Scheim, Amaya G Perez-Brumer, Greta R Bauer

[Impact of HPV vaccine hesitancy on cervical cancer in Japan: a modelling study](#)

Kate T Simms, Sharon J B Hanley, Megan A Smith, Adam Keane, Karen Canfell

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Apr 2020 Volume 8 Number 4 p321-422, e14-e26

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

Editorial

COVID-19: delay, mitigate, and communicate

The Lancet Respiratory Medicine

On March 11, 2020, WHO declared [COVID-19](#) a pandemic and has called for governments to take “urgent and aggressive action” to change the course of the outbreak. As of March 12, 2020, the USA has suspended all travel from 26 European countries, and Italy is the latest country to enforce widespread lockdown measures to curb the spread of the virus. Robust plans and policies to avoid the disease trajectories seen in the worst-hit countries are urgently needed. These responses must be proportionate to each country's situation and communicated in a clear and balanced way to avoid spreading fear and panic.

The UK [preparedness plan](#) for tackling COVID-19, informed by [WHO guidance](#) and launched on March 3, 2020, includes four phases: containment, delay, mitigation, and, alongside these, research to better understand the disease and [its effects](#), and to address the challenges of imperfect diagnostic approaches and absence of proven treatments or a vaccine. Containment measures, aimed at preventing the disease from taking hold, are broadly in line with those of other European countries at a similar stage in the outbreak, encompassing early detection, isolation, and care of people already infected, with careful tracing and screening of their contacts. These measures might have staved off a sharp rise in cases, as seen in Italy, for now but case numbers are inevitably climbing. Although the controversial containment measures used in China have bought some time for other regions of the world, such strategies are unlikely to be replicated in Europe. The example of Singapore could be informative for many countries: having learned lessons from the severe acute respiratory syndrome epidemic of 2002–03, Singapore has so far managed the outbreak well, with rapid testing of suspected cases, clear public health messages from the outset, and by individuals taking action to protect themselves and others.

With cases approaching 500, the UK has now moved to the delay phase, a decision that has been criticised for coming too late. The delay phase aims to slow the spread and push the peak impact away from the winter season to reduce pressure on an already overstretched NHS. Social distancing strategies, some of which are already in place in other European countries, such as the cancellation of conferences and other large gatherings, reducing non-essential use of public transport, and closure of schools, are under consideration but yet to be implemented in the UK. Rather, simple but important containment measures such as handwashing are being promoted, as is self-isolation for 7 days for those with symptoms, which is thought to be more effective than school closures and bans on mass gatherings. Although the list of countries imposing tight restrictions on people who have travelled from regions with high caseloads is growing, the UK is unlikely to follow suit, and WHO does not recommend large-scale international travel restrictions or closure of borders owing to the major implications for trade, international collaboration, and supply chains for food and resources, including medical equipment. Decisions about delay strategies must be scientifically based and clearly justified to the public—via all communication platforms, including social media—to counter misinformation and avoid fuelling panic.

Mitigation planning for widely established infection—as seen in China, Italy, Iran, and South Korea—is essential to enable optimum care for patients, maintenance of essential hospital services, and provision of ongoing support for infected people in the community to minimise disruption to society, public services, and the economy in the event of a prolonged pandemic. The higher rates of severe or fatal cases in Italy compared with other countries with major outbreaks (eg, South Korea) might reflect the older population in affected regions of Italy and highlight the need to tailor mitigation plans to local demographics. Many health systems will be stretched beyond capacity by the demands of increasing COVID-19 caseloads. In the UK, for example, intensive care unit (ICU) bed numbers per person are already worryingly low compared with those of other European countries, so thorough surge capacity planning is needed. Interim strategies with makeshift intensive care facilities outside ICU settings could be provided to care for less severely affected patients, but such an approach would not be sustainable in the long term. Support for health-care professionals on the frontline should also be prioritised.

All governments must now take decisive action to more aggressively combat the outbreak. COVID-19 represents a substantial risk to large sections of the population, and especially elderly people and those with pre-existing health conditions. As the outbreak progresses, balanced, coherent, and consistent public health communication, based on science, will be essential.

Case Report

Pathological findings of COVID-19 associated with acute respiratory distress syndrome

Zhe Xu, et al.

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 24, Issue 3, March 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/24/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 40 Issue 2, February 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

Volume 98, Issue 1 Pages: 1-222 March 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14680009/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nature

Volume 580 Issue 7801, 2 April 2020

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

Review Article | 01 April 2020

Rebuilding marine life

Analyses of the recovery of marine populations, habitats and ecosystems following past conservation interventions indicate that substantial recovery of the abundance, structure and function of marine life could be achieved by 2050 if major pressures, including climate change, are mitigated.

Carlos M. Duarte, Susana Agusti[...] & Boris Worm

Abstract

Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the United Nations aims to “conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development”. Achieving this goal will require rebuilding the marine life-support systems that deliver the many benefits that society receives from a healthy ocean. Here we document the recovery of marine populations, habitats and ecosystems following past conservation interventions. Recovery rates across studies suggest that substantial recovery of the abundance, structure and function of marine life could be achieved by 2050, if major pressures—including climate change—are mitigated. Rebuilding marine life represents a doable Grand Challenge for humanity, an ethical obligation and a smart economic objective to achieve a sustainable future.

Nature Biotechnology

Volume 38 Issue 3, March 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/38/issues/3>

Uniform nanoparticle vaccines

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Genetics

Volume 52 Issue 4, April 2020

<https://www.nature.com/ng/volumes/52/issues/4>

Editorial | 03 April 2020

[Calling it what it is](#)

In 2015, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued guidelines for the naming of new human infectious diseases. The current global outbreak of the SARS-CoV-2 virus underscores the need to be accurate with our language, particularly as it relates to pandemics.

Comment | 23 March 2020

[Enhancing African orphan crops with genomics](#)

The African Orphan Crops Consortium promotes the strategic, genome-enabled improvement of under-researched crops for biodiversity-based, nutritious food solutions in Africa. The African Plant Breeding Academy empowers the continent’s plant breeders to apply advanced genetic approaches and shared genetic solutions to the task of tailoring the immense diversity of underutilized crops to the needs of Africa’s producers, processors and consumers.

Ramni Jamnadass, Rita H. Mumm[...] & Allen Van Deynze

Nature Medicine

Volume 26 Issue 3, March 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/26/issues/3>

Editorial | 11 March 2020

[Patient trust must come at the top of researchers’ priority list](#)

Secondary use of patient health data can be a boon for medical research and development, but only if researchers can cultivate patient trust in the system.

Comment | 11 March 2020

Hospitals should act now to notify patients about research use of their data and biospecimens

Private industry is increasingly soliciting hospitals to sell or share health data and biospecimens, but current laws offer more disclosure and consent protections for research participants than for patients receiving clinical care. Hospitals can offer more protections than required by law, however, and should move toward greater transparency with their patients about the research use of clinical health data and biospecimens to respect patients and avoid distrust.

Kayte Spector-Bagdady

Comment | 28 January 2020

In emergencies, health research must go beyond public engagement toward a true partnership with those affected

An Ebola virus outbreak taking place in the complex political and social context of The Democratic Republic of the Congo has forced the research community to reflect on their approach to community engagement. Katharine Wright and Michael Parker, on behalf of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics Working Group on research in global health emergencies, say that those affected need to influence research choices from the very beginning and that the value of their knowledge must be recognized.

Katharine Wright, Michael Parker[...] & Paulina Tindana

Article / 09 March 2020

Early prediction of circulatory failure in the intensive care unit using machine learning

A machine-learning algorithm based on an array of demographic, physiological and clinical information is able to predict, hours in advance, circulatory failure of patients in the intensive-care unit.

Stephanie L. Hyland, Martin Faltys[...] & Tobias M. Merz

Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 21 Issue 4, April 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/21/issues/4>

Review Article | 07 February 2020

Pan-genomics in the human genome era

Although single reference genomes are valuable resources, they do not capture genetic diversity among individuals. Sherman and Salzberg discuss the concept of 'pan-genomes', which are reference genomes that encompass the genetic variation within a given species. Focusing particularly on large eukaryotic pan-genomes, they describe the latest progress, the varied methodological approaches and computational challenges, as well as applications in fields such as agriculture and human disease.

Rachel M. Sherman & Steven L. Salzberg

Nature Reviews Immunology

Volume 20 Issue 4, April 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nri/volumes/20/issues/4>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

New England Journal of Medicine

April 2, 2020 Vol. 382 No. 14

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

Perspective

Escaping Pandora's Box — Another Novel Coronavirus

David M. Morens, M.D., Peter Daszak, Ph.D., and Jeffery K. Taubenberger, M.D., Ph.D.

Interactive Perspective: Tuberculosis in 2020 — New Approaches to a Continuing Global Health Crisis

Ahmad Zaheen, M.D., and Barry R. Bloom, Ph.D.

Sounding Board

Creating a Framework for Conducting Randomized Clinical Trials during Disease Outbreaks

Natalie E. Dean, Ph.D., et al

Conducting trials of novel interventions during infectious disease emergencies, such as the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, is increasingly recognized as important for determining the efficacy of potential vaccines and therapies. Clinical trials to evaluate investigational interventions are being implemented as part of the broader efforts to control the spread of an infectious disease and to improve patient outcomes. In such circumstances, however, it can be challenging to acquire the necessary evidence about the effects of the interventions to inform future patient care and public health planning, in part because of the unpredictable size, geographic location, and duration of outbreaks.

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 49 Issue 2, April 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

Vol. 145, Issue 4 1 Apr 2020

<https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/>

Articles

Mental Health Outcomes Among Homeless, Runaway, and Stably Housed Youth

Janna R. Gewirtz O'Brien, Laurel D. Edinburgh, Andrew J. Barnes, Annie-Laurie McRee

Pediatrics, Apr 2020, 145 (4) e20192674

Pediatrics Perspectives

Perspectives on Informed Consent Practices for Minimal-Risk Research Involving Foster Youth

Mary V. Greiner, Sarah J. Beal, Armand H. Matheny Antommara

Pediatrics, Apr 2020, 145 (4) e20192845

Pharmaceutics

Volume 12, Issue 3 (March 2020)

<https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4923/12/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 38, Issue 3, March 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/38/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLoS Genetics

<https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/>

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

Migrant and refugee health: Complex health associations among diverse contexts call for tailored and rights-based solutions

Paul Spiegel, Kolitha Wickramage, Terry McGovern

Editorial | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003105>

Burden of eye disease and demand for care in the Bangladesh Rohingya displaced population and host community: A cohort study

Munir Ahmed, Noelle Whitestone, Jennifer L. Patnaik, Mohammad Awlad Hossain, Lutful Husain, Mohammed Alauddin, Mushfiqur Rahaman, David Hunter Cherwek, Nathan Congdon, Danny Haddad

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003096>

Pre-migration socioeconomic status and post-migration health satisfaction among Syrian refugees in Germany: A cross-sectional analysis

Jan Michael Bauer, Tilman Brand, Hajo Zeeb

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003093>

Painful gynecologic and obstetric complications of female genital mutilation/cutting: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Jacob Michael Lurie, Alessandra Weidman, Samantha Huynh, Diana Delgado, Imaani Easthausen, Gunisha Kaur

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003088>

Health and well-being of male international migrants and non-migrants in Bangladesh: A cross-sectional follow-up study

Randall Kuhn, Tania Barham, Abdur Razzaque, Patrick Turner

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003081>

Malnutrition trends in Rohingya children aged 6–59 months residing in informal settlements in Cox’s Bazar District, Bangladesh: An analysis of cross-sectional, population-representative surveys

Eva Leidman, Md. Lalan Miah, Alexa Humphreys, Leonie Toroitich-van Mil, Caroline Wilkinson, Mary Chelang'at Koech, Henry Sebuliba, Muhammad Abu Bakr Siddique, Oleg Bilukha

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003060>

Vaccination coverage survey and seroprevalence among forcibly displaced Rohingya children, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, 2018: A cross-sectional study

Leora R. Feldstein, Sarah D. Bennett, Concepcion F. Estivariz, Gretchen M. Cooley, Lauren Weil, Mallick Masum Billah, M. Salim Uzzaman, Rajendra Bohara, Maya Vandenberg, Jucy Merina Adhikari, Eva Leidman, Mainul Hasan, Saifuddin Akhtar, Andreas Hasman, Laura Conklin, Daniel Ehlman, A. Alamgir, Meerjady Sabrina Flora

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003071>

Assessment of immunity to polio among Rohingya children in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh, 2018: A cross-sectional survey

Concepcion F. Estivariz, Sarah D. Bennett, Jacquelyn S. Lickness, Leora R. Feldstein, William C. Weldon, Eva Leidman, Daniel C. Ehlman, Muhammad F. H. Khan, Jucy M. Adhikari, Mainul Hasan, Mallick M. Billah, M. Steven Oberste, A. S. M. Alamgir, Meerjady D. Flora

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003070>

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 4 Apr 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS One

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

Forecasting the novel coronavirus COVID-19

Fotios Petropoulos, Spyros Makridakis

Research Article | published 31 Mar 2020 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0231236>

Qualitative insights into reasons for missed opportunities for vaccination in Kenyan health facilities

Anyie J. Li, Collins Tabu, Stephanie Shendale, Peter O. Okoth, Kibet Sergon, Ephantus Maree, Isaac K. Mugoya, Zorodzai Machekanyanga, Iheoma U. Onuekwusi, Ikechukwu Udo Ogbuanu

Research Article | published 30 Mar 2020 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0230783>

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

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

Research Article

Measuring the predictability of life outcomes with a scientific mass collaboration

Matthew J. Salganik, et al.

Significance

Hundreds of researchers attempted to predict six life outcomes, such as a child's grade point average and whether a family would be evicted from their home. These researchers used machine-learning methods optimized for prediction, and they drew on a vast dataset that was painstakingly collected by social scientists over 15 y. However, no one made very accurate predictions. For policymakers considering using predictive models in settings such as criminal justice and child-protective services, these results raise a number of concerns. Additionally, researchers must reconcile the idea that they understand life trajectories with the fact that none of the predictions were very accurate.

Abstract

How predictable are life trajectories? We investigated this question with a scientific mass collaboration using the common task method; 160 teams built predictive models for six life outcomes using data from the Fragile Families and Child Wellbeing Study, a high-quality birth cohort study. Despite using a rich dataset and applying machine-learning methods optimized for prediction, the best predictions were not very accurate and were only slightly better than those from a simple benchmark model. Within each outcome, prediction error was strongly associated with the family being predicted and weakly associated with the technique used to generate the prediction. Overall, these results suggest practical limits to the predictability of life outcomes in some settings and illustrate the value of mass collaborations in the social sciences.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 35 - Issue 2 - April 2020

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 133 April 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/133/suppl/C>

Review article Open access

Current recommendations on the selection of measures for well-being

Tyler J. VanderWeele, Claudia Trudel-Fitzgerald, Paul Allin, Colin Farrelly, ... Laura D. Kubzansky

Article 106004

Highlights

:: Measures of well-being have proliferated, but there is little guidance on what to use.

:: What well-being measures are most appropriate depends on context and space.

:: Short well-being inventories are available for government surveys and cohort studies.

:: Longer comprehensive inventories are available for studies of subjective well-being.

:: Even single well-being items can be helpful and recommendations are given accordingly.

Abstract

Measures of well-being have proliferated over the past decades. Very little guidance has been available as to which measures to use in what contexts. This paper provides a series of recommendations, based on the present state of knowledge and the existing measures available, of what measures might be preferred in which contexts. The recommendations came out of an interdisciplinary workshop on the measurement of well-being. The recommendations are shaped around the number of items that can be included in a survey, and also based on the differing potential contexts and purposes of data collection such as, for example, government surveys, or multi-use cohort studies, or studies specifically about psychological well-being. The recommendations are not intended to be definitive, but to stimulate discussion and refinement, and to provide guidance to those relatively new to the study of well-being.

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

08 April 2020 Volume 287 Issue 1924

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Public Health

Volume 180 Pages 1-196 (March 2020)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/180/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 12, Issue 3, November 2019

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 135 Issue 2, March/April 2020

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/135/2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 30 Issue 5, April 2020

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 39, Issue 1, March 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Research Ethics

Volume 15 Issue 3-4, July-October 2019

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

Editorial

Emerging infectious diseases and outbreaks: implications for women's reproductive health and rights in resource-poor settings

Authors: Vijay Kumar Chattu and Sanni Yaya

1 April 2020

Abstract

This century is witnessing dramatic changes in the health needs of the world's populations. The double burden of infectious and chronic diseases constitutes major causes of morbidity and mortality. Over the last two decades, there has been a rise in infectious diseases, including the severe acute respiratory syndrome virus (SARS), the H1N1 pandemic influenza, the Ebolavirus and the Covid-19 virus. These diseases have rapidly spread across the world and have reminded us of the unprecedented connectivity that defines our modern civilization. Though some countries have made substantial progress toward improving global surveillance for emerging infectious diseases (EIDs), the vast majority of Low-and Middle-income Countries (LMICs) with fragile health systems and various system-related bottlenecks remain vulnerable to outbreaks and, as such, experience dramatic social and economic consequences when they are reported. Lessons learned from past outbreaks suggest that gender inequalities are common across a range of health issues relating to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), with women being particularly disadvantaged, partially due to the burden placed on them. Though these countries are striving to improve their health systems and be more inclusive to this vulnerable group, the national/ global outbreaks have burdened the overall system and thus paralyzed normal services dedicated to the delivery of Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services. In this paper, we discuss the global commitments to SRH, the impact of the EIDs on the LMICs, the failure in the delivery of SRH services, and the strategies for successful implementation of recovery plans that must address the specific and differentiated needs of women and girls in resource-poor settings.

Revista Panamericana de Salud Pública/Pan American Journal of Public Health (RPSP/PAJPH)

<https://www.paho.org/journal/en>

Latest articles

[No new digest content identified]

Risk Analysis

Volume 40, Issue 3 Pages: 439-656 March 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15396924/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

<https://www.dovepress.com/risk-management-and-healthcare-policy-archive56>

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Science

03 April 2020 Vol 368, Issue 6486

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

Editorial

Emerging from AI utopia

Edward Santow, Australia's Human Rights Commissioner.

Summary

A future driven by artificial intelligence (AI) is often depicted as one paved with improvements across every aspect of life—from health, to jobs, to how we connect. But cracks in this utopia are starting to appear, particularly as we glimpse how AI can also be used to surveil, discriminate, and cause other harms. What existing legal frameworks can protect us from the dark side of this brave new world of technology?

Science Translational Medicine

01 April 2020 Vol 12, Issue 537

<https://stm.sciencemag.org/>

[New issue; no digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 249 March 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/249/suppl/C>

[New issue; no digest content identified]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Spring 2020 Volume 18, Number 2

https://ssir.org/issue/spring_2020#

Explore the power of collaboration between social innovation leaders and the public sector, development impact bonds, the transformation of the global humanitarian relief system, the smart use of evidence in decision-making, and other topics in the Spring 2020 issue of Stanford Social Innovation Review.

Systematic Reviews

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

[Accessed 4 Apr 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Torture Journal

2019 Volume 29 - No.3

<https://irct.org/publications/torture-journal/143>

This issue of the Torture Journal takes its focus on measuring torture rehabilitation processes and results. Scientific contributions on this subject include a measurement of rehabilitation outcomes with an instrument designed at the Marjorie Kovler Center in Chicago; a validation study examining diagnoses of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (CPTSD) in refugee and torture survivor populations; and a study of gender-based violence in Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala.

The issue also comprises an applied perspective on organizational development in torture rehabilitation programs and two letters to the editor addressing involvement of medical personnel in torture in Syria and a response to the concept of psychological torture.

Finally, Secretary-General of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, Lisa Henry, and Chief Executive Officer of STARTTS Centre in Australia, Jorge Aroche, provide an open letter to the Torture Journal readers and a celebratory text of STARTTS' 30th anniversary respectively.

Trauma, Violence, & Abuse

Volume 21 Issue 2, April 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

Volume 33 January–February 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/33/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Tropical Medicine & International Health

Volume 25, Issue 3 Pages: i-iv, 277-386 March 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

Vol. LV Nos. 3 & 4 2018 December 2018

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

New Technologies: Where To?

This issue focuses on new technologies and their potential benefits for humanity as well as their expanding use in advancing the 2030 Agenda. It explores the promise of our digital age, while posing important questions about where these technologies are leading us, and how their misuse could also lead to increased inequality and conflict.

[Reviewed earlier]

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 15, Issue 1, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

n°94 - January 2020

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/94/>

Current Issue

New World Heritage sites 2019

The 1972 World Heritage Convention is truly unique. It is the only legal instrument conceived to protect both cultural and natural heritage, based on the principle of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) – the value of a site that is irreplaceable and must be protected for the future.

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