

ge²p² global foundation

governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 17 Oct 2020 :: Number 336

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

The Sentinel is published as a PDF, scheduled for release each weekend. The PDF is posted, and the elements of each edition are presented as a set of blog posts at <https://ge2p2-center.net/>. This blog allows full-text searching of over 6,000 entries.

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The Sentinel is a service of the [GE2P2 Global Foundation](#), which is solely responsible for its content. Comments and suggestions should be directed to:

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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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Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

We need a common vision to confront the sale and sexual exploitation of children

12 October 2020

This year has seen devastation by a pandemic affecting an entire generation, said Mama Fatima Singhateh, the Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children as she presented her first [report](#) to the General Assembly. **Not only has the pandemic exacerbated the existing plight of the most vulnerable children, it has severely jeopardised the many hard-won achievements**, said the expert, who took over the mandate in May 2020.

"It is against the backdrop of these challenging realities and as we mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the mandate, that I assume my responsibilities with a sombre reflection on how to fulfil my mandate - one that stands out as uniquely important in that it is one of the few that ensure the promotion and protection of children from the most pernicious human rights abuses," Singhateh told the General Assembly in New York.

"With the emergence of new forms and manifestation of sexual exploitation of children through communication technologies, the need to tackle online child sexual exploitation and abuse cannot be over-emphasized," said the expert.

"Access to justice, reparations and rehabilitation of child victims of sale, sexual abuse and sexual exploitation is an important aspect in addressing this scourge. I will work towards strengthening the role of my mandate by advocating for access to child-friendly justice systems, reparations and rehabilitation for child survivors, as well as addressing the underlying causes that prevent accountability and perpetuate impunity," she said.

"Above all, I will consult children on the realities of their lives as we confront the gravity of the continued practice of sale and sexual exploitation of children worldwide," added the expert.

"Today more than ever, we need to have a common vision to confront this heinous crime. We should accelerate our commitments under the 2030 Agenda towards a sustainable and resilient recovery ", Singhateh concluded.

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COVID-19 Impacts – Internet Freedom

Report: Global Internet Freedom Declines in Shadow of Pandemic

Press release Freedom House

October 14, 2020

Freedom on the Net 2020 assesses internet freedom in 65 countries, accounting for 87 percent of internet users worldwide. The report focuses on developments that occurred between June 2019 and May 2020. Detailed country reports, data on 21 internet freedom indicators, and policy recommendations can be found at freedomonthenet.org.

Governments around the world have used the COVID-19 pandemic as cover to expand online surveillance and data collection, censor critical speech, and build new technological systems of social control, according to [Freedom on the Net 2020](#), the latest edition of the annual country-by-country assessment of internet freedom, released today by Freedom House.

The rapid and unchecked rollout of artificial intelligence (AI) and biometric surveillance to address the public health crisis has created new risks for human rights. Smartphone apps for contact tracing or quarantine compliance have been introduced in 54 of the 65 countries assessed in this report. Few countries possess effective mechanisms for protecting personal data against abusive practices by the state or the private sector.

“The pandemic is accelerating society’s reliance on digital technologies at a time when the internet is becoming less and less free,” said Michael J. Abramowitz, president of Freedom House. “Without adequate safeguards for privacy and the rule of law, these technologies can be easily repurposed for political repression.”

Key Global Findings:

:: Internet freedom declined for the 10th consecutive year. Of the 65 countries covered by Freedom on the Net, 26 worsened and 22 registered gains. Myanmar, Kyrgyzstan, India, Ecuador, and Nigeria suffered the largest declines during the coverage period.

:: Internet freedom worsened in the United States for the fourth consecutive year. Amid historic protests against racial injustice and in support of the Black Lives Matter movement, growing surveillance by federal and local law enforcement has threatened constitutional freedoms, and several people faced spurious criminal charges for online activity related to the demonstrations. Executive orders on social media regulation, issued during and after the coverage period, imperiled the United States’ long-standing role as a global leader on internet freedom. Moreover, the country’s online sphere was flooded with politicized disinformation, inflammatory content, and dangerous misinformation, notably propagated by President Donald Trump himself.

:: Governments are using the pandemic as a pretext to crack down on free expression and access to information. Authorities censored independent reporting on the virus in 28 countries and arrested online critics in 45 countries. In at least 20 countries, the pandemic was cited as a justification to impose vague or overly broad restrictions on speech. Residents of at least 13 countries experienced internet shutdowns, with governments denying certain population groups access to life-saving information in a cruel form of collective punishment.

:: The public health crisis is laying a foundation for the future surveillance state. In at least 30 countries, governments are invoking the pandemic to engage in mass surveillance in direct partnership with telecommunications providers and other companies. Smartphone apps for contact tracing or quarantine compliance have been introduced in at least 54 countries, with few or no protections against abuse. Authorities are rolling out facial recognition technology and automated decision-making with minimal safeguards to protect privacy or prevent police abuse.

:: “Cyber sovereignty” is on the rise. Russian authorities passed legislation to isolate the country from the global internet during national emergencies, and Iran’s government severed international connections in order to hide a violent police response to mass protests. Legislators in Brazil, Pakistan, and Turkey passed or considered regulations requiring companies to keep user data from leaving the country, effectively granting law enforcement agencies easier access to sensitive information. More recently, the governments of the United States and India ordered bans on popular Chinese-owned apps; while these actions came in response to genuine security and human rights concerns, they were arbitrary and disproportionate, and served to legitimize calls by Chinese officials for each state to oversee its own “national internet.”

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Report

Promote and Build: A Strategic Approach to Digital Authoritarianism

CSIS October 15, 2020 | Erol Yayboke, Samuel Brannen

The Issue

Digital authoritarianism presents overlapping and expanding challenges within autocracies and democracies. **The ever evolving tools and techniques of digital authoritarianism transcend boundaries and have over the past decade advanced the interests of authoritarian states while subverting human rights, democratic principles, and more. A new strategic approach is needed to address this broad challenge set.** It should be grounded in fundamental principles and framed around promoting resilience while building affirmative alternatives, then executed across the U.S. government and multilateral system.

...To address the question of why digital authoritarianism continues to rise despite ongoing counterefforts and a shared, bipartisan, allied, and multilateral understanding of the problem, CSIS twice convened a bipartisan group of experts and leading voices from the public and private sectors in late spring and early summer 2020. The first discussion focused on current trends in digital authoritarianism and the second on emerging and future trends. The objective of those discussions, accompanying desk research, and analysis has been to provide a set of actionable, politically feasible, and readily achievable recommendations to stem the tide of digital authoritarianism; these are presented at the end of this policy brief.

... Today, digital authoritarianism presents four overlapping challenges:

[1] It is expanding within existing authoritarian-led states such as China, Russia, Iran, and Saudi Arabia. Artificial intelligence, facial recognition, and the Internet of things have increased the ability of authoritarian regimes to surveil and control individual citizens.

[2] Authoritarian regimes are expanding the reach of their digital tools abroad, overtly and covertly increasing surveillance of their own citizens and citizens of other countries. They are also actively using these tools to undermine perceived state and non-state adversaries.

[3] Digital authoritarians are exporting their tools to like-minded regimes both as a means to strengthen ties to these regimes and for commercial benefit. Likewise, tools of control are being commercially exported from democratic countries to partly free or authoritarian countries.

[4] The tools, techniques, and strategies of digital authoritarianism are being adopted within democratic countries by political parties, interest groups, and private companies at the expense of public trust, personal privacy, and other civil liberties.

The focus of this policy brief is on the deployment of these tools by leaders with authoritarian tendencies across the overlapping four areas of the geopolitical challenge set. However, it is important to note that violent extremist groups; sex, child, drug, and arms traffickers; and other non-state actors—including transnational criminal networks with ties to authoritarian regimes—all use similar tools to exploit the Internet for their gain at the expense of others. While each of these tools can be countered to some degree with a series of tactical responses, their continued expansion and evolution, along with the addition of new technologies, makes it an unwinnable offense–defense race. These authoritarian tools should be viewed as enabling an overall vision and strategy that must be countered with a coherent, affirmative, and strategic-level alternative vision...

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COVID-19 – Global Economic Impacts/Response

A New Bretton Woods Moment

By Kristalina Georgieva, IMF Managing Director
Washington, DC October 15, 2020

1. Introduction: 'A sisterhood and brotherhood of humanity'

I first want to thank Dr. Ernest Kwamina Addison for his excellent remarks and contributions as Chairman of the IMF's Board of Governors.

Reflecting on the dramatic change in the world over the last year, I paid a visit to the Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, where 44 men signed our Articles of Agreement in 1944. Our founders faced two massive tasks: to deal with the immediate devastation caused by the War; and to lay the foundation for a more peaceful and prosperous postwar world.

At the conclusion of the conference John Maynard Keynes captured the significance of international cooperation as hope for the world. "If we can continue...The brotherhood of man will have become more than a phrase", he said.

As we look forward to welcoming Andorra as our 190th member, the work of the IMF is testament to the values of cooperation and solidarity on which a sisterhood and brotherhood of humanity is built.

Today we face a new Bretton Woods “moment.” A pandemic that has already cost more than a million lives. An economic calamity that will make the world economy 4.4 % smaller this year and strip an estimated \$11 trillion of output by next year. And untold human desperation in the face of huge disruption and rising poverty for the first time in decades.

Once again, we face two massive tasks: to fight the crisis today— and build a better tomorrow.

We know what action must be taken right now. A durable economic recovery is only possible if we beat the pandemic. Health measures must remain a priority—I urge you to support production and distribution of effective therapies and vaccines to ensure that all countries have access.

I also urge you to continue support for workers and businesses until a durable exit from the health crisis.

We have seen global fiscal actions of \$12 trillion. Major central banks have expanded balance sheets by \$7.5 trillion. These synchronized measures have prevented the destructive macro-financial feedback we saw in previous crises.

But almost all countries are still hurting, especially emerging market and developing economies. And while the global banking system entered the crisis with high capital and liquidity buffers, there is a weak tail of banks in many in emerging markets. We must take measures to prevent the build-up of financial risks over the medium term.

We face what I have called a Long Ascent for the global economy: a climb that will be difficult, uneven, uncertain—and prone to setbacks.

But it is a climb up. And we will have a chance to address some persistent problems — low productivity, slow growth, high inequalities, a looming climate crisis. We can do better than build back the pre-pandemic world – we can build forward to a world that is more resilient, sustainable, and inclusive.

We must seize this new Bretton Woods moment.

2. Building Forward: Three Imperatives

How? I see three imperatives:

First, the right economic policies. What was true at Bretton Woods remains true today. Prudent macroeconomic policies and strong institutions are critical for growth, jobs, and improved living standards.

One size does not fit all—policies must be tailored to individual country needs. Support remains essential for some time—withdrawing it too early risks grave and unwarranted economic harm. The stage of the crisis will determine the appropriate shape of this support, generally broader early on and more targeted as countries begin to recover.

Strong medium-term frameworks for monetary, fiscal and financial policies, as well as reforms to boost trade, competitiveness and productivity can help create confidence for policy action now while building much-needed resilience for the future.

That includes keeping a careful watch on risks presented by elevated public debt. We expect 2021 debt levels to go up significantly – to around 125 percent of GDP in advanced economies, 65 percent of GDP in emerging markets; and 50 percent of GDP in low-income countries.

The Fund is providing debt relief to its poorest members and, with the World Bank, we support extension by the G20 of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative.

Beyond this, where debt is unsustainable, it should be restructured without delay. We should move towards greater debt transparency and enhanced creditor coordination. I am encouraged by G20 discussions on a Common framework for Sovereign Debt Resolution as well as on our call for improving the architecture for sovereign debt resolution, including private sector participation.

We are there for our member countries—supporting their policies.

And policies must be for people —my second imperative.

To reap the full benefits of sound economic policy, we must invest more in people. That means protecting the vulnerable. It also means boosting human and physical capital to underpin growth and resilience.

COVID19 has underscored the importance of strong health systems.

Rising inequality and rapid technological change demand strong education and training systems—to increase opportunity and reduce disparities.

Accelerating gender equality can be a global game-changer. For the most unequal countries, closing the gender gap could increase GDP by an average of 35 percent.

And investing in our young people is investing in our future. They need access to health and education, and also access to the internet—because that gives them access to the digital economy – so critical for growth and development in the future.

Expanding internet access in Sub Saharan Africa by 10 percent of the population could increase real per capita GDP growth by as much as 4 percentage points.

Digitalization also helps with financial inclusion as a powerful tool to help overcome poverty.

Just as the pandemic has shown that we can no longer ignore health precautions, we can no longer afford to ignore climate change—my third imperative.

We focus on climate change because it is macro-critical, posing profound threats to growth and prosperity. It is also people-critical and planet-critical.

In the last decade, direct damage from climate-related disasters adds up to around \$1.3 trillion. If we don't like this health crisis, we will not like the climate crisis one iota.

Our research shows that, with the right mix of green investment and higher carbon prices, we can steer toward zero emissions by 2050 and help create millions of new jobs.

We have an historic opportunity to build a greener world—also a more prosperous and job-rich one. With low interest rates, the right investments today can yield a quadruple dividend tomorrow: avert future losses, spur economic gains, save lives and deliver social and environmental benefits for everyone.

3. The IMF's Role

At the Fund, we are working tirelessly to support a durable recovery— and a resilient future as countries adapt to structural transformations brought on by climate change, digital acceleration and the rise of the knowledge economy.

Since the pandemic began, we have committed over \$100 billion—and we still have substantial resources from our \$1 trillion in lending capacity.

We will continue to pay special attention to the urgent needs of emerging markets and low-income countries—especially small and fragile states, helping them to pay doctors and nurses and protect the most vulnerable people and parts of their economies.

Our unprecedented action was only possible thanks to our members' generous support. The doubling of the New Arrangements to Borrow and a new round of bilateral borrowing arrangements preserves this financial firepower. Members have also stepped up with essential contributions to our Catastrophe Containment – and Relief and Poverty Reduction and Growth—Trusts.

This has allowed us to support our low-income members with debt relief and to triple our concessional lending. We are engaging with members to further boost our concessional lending capacity adapt our lending toolkit and increase support for capacity development.

IMF staff, working day and night, have been magnificent in this crisis. My sincere thanks to them and my Management team.

My deep appreciation also to our Executive Directors – they have been there every step of the way over the past six months.

4. Conclusion: Seize the Moment

The best memorial we can build to those who have lost their lives in this crisis is, in the words of Keynes, “that bigger thing”— building a more sustainable and equitable world.

Our founders did it. It is now our turn. This is our moment!

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COVID-19 Response – Intellectual Property/TRIPS

[New WTO report looks at the global intellectual property system and COVID-19](#)

World Trade Organization 15 October 2020

The WTO Secretariat has published a new information note about how the global intellectual property (IP) system relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and potential contributions it could make to efforts to

address it. The note provides an overview of IP-related measures taken by WTO members and other stakeholders since the start of the crisis.

The paper highlights that the [WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights \(TRIPS\)](#) represents the most comprehensive multilateral agreement on IP, and provides a framework in which much-needed innovation in relation to COVID-19 can be encouraged, shared and disseminated, while balancing rights and obligations.

Under this framework, the way in which the global IP system is designed and implemented can be a significant factor in facilitating access to existing technologies and in supporting the creation, manufacturing and dissemination of new technologies. This includes access to protective equipment, contact tracing software, diagnostics, as well as vaccines and treatments yet to be developed which will be fundamental to effectively respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

The IP system can also support collaboration and cooperation among health technology developers, governments and other stakeholders, and the implementation of a number of initiatives addressing the voluntary sharing and pooling of IP rights (IPRs), thus responding to the spirit of collaboration that is required for the global effort to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic...

Key points

:: A full response to the COVID-19 crisis requires wide access to an extensive array of medical products and other technologies, ranging from protective equipment to contact tracing software, medicines and diagnostics, as well as vaccines and treatments that are yet to be developed. The way in which the intellectual property (IP) system is designed — and how effectively it is put to work — can be a significant factor in facilitating access to existing technologies and in supporting the creation, manufacturing and dissemination of new technologies. This is framed by the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (the TRIPS Agreement) which represents the most comprehensive multilateral agreement on IP.

:: Collaboration and cooperation among health technology developers, governments and other stakeholders can be positively supported by the IP system as well as by guidance on lawful cooperation among competitors under a country's domestic competition policy regime.

:: From the beginning of the crisis, governments and stakeholders have considered how innovation is promoted, regulated and managed, including through the IP system, and the contribution that this could make to address the pandemic. A number of initiatives have addressed the voluntary sharing and pooling of IP rights (IPRs), thus responding to the spirit of collaboration that is required for any global effort to tackle the COVID-19 pandemic. Equally, a range of policy options confirmed under the TRIPS Agreement, as implemented in domestic law, remain available to WTO members as tools to deal with public health issues where needed.

:: For example, the TRIPS Agreement allows compulsory licensing and government use of a patent without the authorization of its owner under a number of conditions aimed at protecting the legitimate interests of the patent holder. All WTO members may grant such licences and government use orders for health technologies, such as medicines, vaccines and diagnostics, as well as any other product or technology needed to address COVID-19. One member has already issued a government use licence for a potential treatment. In some other members, the Parliament has requested the government to issue compulsory licences to ensure access to medicines,

vaccines or diagnostics for COVID-19, and others have updated or clarified their laws in the light of the pandemic.

:: The need for an urgent response to the COVID-19 pandemic has led national and regional IP offices to take initiatives to expedite or simplify their administration of the IP system, especially concerning patents and trademarks, and to provide practical support for firms seeking to develop products of potential benefit in combating the pandemic.

:: Transparency and the availability of up-to-date information is an immediate and critical need that embraces both trade and health-related legal and policy areas. Ensuring maximum transparency of legal and policy measures taken by WTO members in the field of IP to address the pandemic is in the mutual interest of all stakeholders. It supports governments and economic operators to keep up to date in a rapidly evolving trade landscape, provides much-needed clarity and enables mutual learning. Updated lists of IP measures undertaken by governments in the context of COVID-19 is available on the WTO's COVID 19 webpage and the WIPO COVID-19 IP Policy Tracker

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COVID-19 Impacts

Impact of COVID-19 on people's livelihoods, their health and our food systems

Joint statement by ILO, FAO, IFAD and WHO

13 October 2020 *[Editor's text bolding]*

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to a dramatic loss of human life worldwide and presents an unprecedented challenge to public health, food systems and the world of work. **The economic and social disruption caused by the pandemic is devastating: tens of millions of people are at risk of falling into extreme poverty, while the number of undernourished people, currently estimated at nearly 690 million, could increase by up to 132 million by the end of the year.**

Millions of enterprises face an existential threat. Nearly half of the world's 3.3 billion global workforce are at risk of losing their livelihoods. Informal economy workers are particularly vulnerable because the majority lack social protection and access to quality health care and have lost access to productive assets. Without the means to earn an income during lockdowns, many are unable to feed themselves and their families. For most, no income means no food, or, at best, less food and less nutritious food.

The pandemic has been affecting the entire food system and has laid bare its fragility.

Border closures, trade restrictions and confinement measures have been preventing farmers from accessing markets, including for buying inputs and selling their produce, and agricultural workers from harvesting crops, thus disrupting domestic and international food supply chains and reducing access to healthy, safe and diverse diets. The pandemic has decimated jobs and placed millions of livelihoods at risk. As breadwinners lose jobs, fall ill and die, the food security and nutrition of millions of women and men are under threat, with those in low-income countries, particularly the most marginalized populations, which include small-scale farmers and indigenous peoples, being hardest hit.

Millions of agricultural workers – waged and self-employed – while feeding the world, regularly face high levels of working poverty, malnutrition and poor health, and suffer from a lack of safety and labour protection as well as other types of abuse. With low and irregular incomes and a lack of social support, many of them are spurred to continue working, often in unsafe conditions, thus exposing themselves and their families to additional risks. Further, when experiencing income losses, they may resort to negative coping strategies, such as distress sale of assets, predatory loans or child labour. Migrant agricultural workers are particularly vulnerable, because they face risks in their transport, working and living conditions and struggle to access support measures put in place by governments. Guaranteeing the safety and health of all agri-food workers – from primary producers to those involved in food processing, transport and retail, including street food vendors – as well as better incomes and protection, will be critical to saving lives and protecting public health, people's livelihoods and food security.

In the COVID-19 crisis food security, public health, and employment and labour issues, in particular workers' health and safety, converge. Adhering to workplace safety and health practices and ensuring access to decent work and the protection of labour rights in all industries will be crucial in addressing the human dimension of the crisis. Immediate and purposeful action to save lives and livelihoods should include extending social protection towards universal health coverage and income support for those most affected. These include workers in the informal economy and in poorly protected and low-paid jobs, including youth, older workers, and migrants. Particular attention must be paid to the situation of women, who are over-represented in low-paid jobs and care roles. Different forms of support are key, including cash transfers, child allowances and healthy school meals, shelter and food relief initiatives, support for employment retention and recovery, and financial relief for businesses, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. In designing and implementing such measures it is essential that governments work closely with employers and workers.

Countries dealing with existing humanitarian crises or emergencies are particularly exposed to the effects of COVID-19. Responding swiftly to the pandemic, while ensuring that humanitarian and recovery assistance reaches those most in need, is critical.

Now is the time for global solidarity and support, especially with the most vulnerable in our societies, particularly in the emerging and developing world. Only together can we overcome the intertwined health and social and economic impacts of the pandemic and prevent its escalation into a protracted humanitarian and food security catastrophe, with the potential loss of already achieved development gains.

We must recognize this opportunity to build back better, as noted in the Policy Brief issued by the United Nations Secretary-General. We are committed to pooling our expertise and experience to support countries in their crisis response measures and efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. We need to develop long-term sustainable strategies to address the challenges facing the health and agri-food sectors. Priority should be given to addressing underlying food security and malnutrition challenges, tackling rural poverty, in particular through more and better jobs in the rural economy, extending social protection to all, facilitating safe migration pathways and promoting the formalization of the informal economy.

We must rethink the future of our environment and tackle climate change and environmental degradation with ambition and urgency. Only then can we protect the health, livelihoods, food security and nutrition of all people, and ensure that our 'new normal' is a better one.

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Policy Brief: The Impact of COVID-19 on Food Security and Nutrition

United Nations

JUNE 2020 :: 23 pages

The COVID-19 pandemic is a health and human crisis threatening the food security and nutrition of millions of people around the world. Hundreds of millions of people were already suffering from hunger and malnutrition before the virus hit and, unless immediate action is taken, we could see a global food emergency. In the longer term, the combined effects of COVID-19 itself, as well as corresponding mitigation measures and the emerging global recession could, without large-scale coordinated action, disrupt the functioning of food systems.

Such disruption can result in consequences for health and nutrition of a severity and scale unseen for more than half a century.

CONCLUSION

The COVID-19 crisis threatens the food security and nutrition of millions of people, many of whom were already suffering. A large global food emergency is looming. In the longer term, we face possible disruptions to the functioning of food systems, with severe consequences for health and nutrition. With concerted action, we can not only avoid some of the worst impacts but do so in a way that supports a transition to more sustainable food systems that are in better balance with nature and that support healthy diets – and thus better health prospects - for all.

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EMERGENCIES

Coronavirus [COVID-19]

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Weekly Epidemiological and Operational updates

last update: 8 October 2020, 20:00 GMT-4

Confirmed cases :: 39 023 292 [week ago: 36 754 395 :: two weeks ago: 34 495 176]

Confirmed deaths :: 1 099 586 [week ago 1 064 838 :: two weeks ago: 1 025 729]

Countries, areas or territories with cases :: 235

Weekly Epidemiological Update

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

12 October 2020

Global epidemiological situation

Since the last *Weekly Epidemiological Update* issued on 5 October, over 2.2 million new cases and 39,000 deaths of COVID-19 have been reported across all six WHO regions. This is the highest number of reported cases so far in a single week.

From 30 December through 11 October, over 37 million COVID-19 cases and 1 million deaths have been reported globally. Nearly half of these cases (48%) and deaths (55%) continue to be reported in the Region of the Americas with the United States of America, Brazil and Argentina accounting for the greatest numbers of new cases and deaths in the region...

Key weekly updates

At WHO's Executive Board meeting, WHO Director-General Dr Tedros highlighted some of WHO's key actions over the course of the pandemic:

- :: Publishing the first Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan 4 days later;
- :: Producing and shipping the diagnostic tests within a month of declaring the outbreak, with millions of tests distributed to more than 150 countries since then;
- :: Publishing more than 400 guidance documents for individuals, communities, schools, businesses, industries, health workers, health facilities and governments;
- :: Building country capacity by providing free training in 133 COVID-19 courses on OpenWHO.org;
- :: Working closely with governments to write national plans and identify needs, and to match those needs with more than 600 partners and 74 donors through the COVID-19 Partners :: :: :: Sending expert missions to more than 130 countries to provide operational and technical support;
- :: Sourcing, validating, purchasing and delivering masks, gloves, respirators, gowns, goggles, swabs, tests, reagents, thermometers, oxygen concentrators, ventilators and more, to 177 countries and territories;
- :: Enrolling more than 12,000 patients in the WHO Solidarity Therapeutics Trial, in nearly 500 hospitals in 29 countries; and
- :: Launching the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator, which is working on diagnostics, treatment, vaccines and health system strengthening. It includes COVAX which is supporting the development of 9 vaccines, with more in the pipeline and aims to fairly distribute 2 billion vaccine doses by the end of 2021...

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Emergencies

[WHO appoints co-chairs of Independent Commission on sexual misconduct during the Ebola response in North Kivu and Ituri, the Democratic Republic of the Congo](#)

15 October 2020

The World Health Organization has appointed two distinguished leaders to co-chair an Independent Commission on sexual abuse and exploitation during the response to the tenth Ebola Virus Disease epidemic in the provinces of North Kivu and Ituri, the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The commission will be co-chaired by Her Excellency Aïchatou Mindaoudou, former minister of foreign affairs and of social development of Niger, who has held senior United Nations posts in Côte d'Ivoire and in Darfur.

She will be joined by co-chair Julienne Lusenge of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, an internationally recognized human rights activist and advocate for survivors of sexual violence in conflict.

The role of the Independent Commission will be to swiftly establish the facts, identify and support survivors, ensure that any ongoing abuse has stopped, and hold perpetrators to account.

It will comprise up to seven members, including the co-chairs, with expertise in sexual exploitation and abuse, emergency response, and investigations.

The co-chairs will choose the other members of the Commission, which will be supported by a Secretariat based at WHO.

To support the Independent Commission's work, the Director-General has decided to use an open process to hire an independent and external organization with experience in conducting similar inquiries.

The tenth epidemic of Ebola Virus Disease in the provinces of North Kivu and Ituri – the world's second largest Ebola outbreak on record – was declared over on 25 June 2020, after persisting for nearly two years in an active conflict zone, and causing 2,300 deaths.

WHO has a zero tolerance policy with regard to sexual exploitation and abuse. We reiterate our strong commitment to preventing and protecting against sexual exploitation and abuse in all our operations around the world.

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 14 October 2020

:: Dear polio eradication supporter, last month I was delighted to join a very long-awaited celebration at the WHO African Regional Committee of a global public health milestone... Read more of [Polio Oversight Board Chair's quarterly letter](#).

:: Take a look at the newly published [nOPV2 technical brief](#) that provides a quick summary of the key operational considerations for the use of nOPV2 in outbreak response as a quick reference for EPI managers, immunization focal points, and field staff.

Summary of new WPV and cVDPV viruses this week (AFP cases and environmental samples):

:: **Afghanistan:** one WPV1 case, one WPV1 positive environmental sample and 11 cVDPV2 positive environmental samples

:: **Pakistan:** three WPV1 cases, three WPV1 positive environmental samples and 10 cVDPV2 positive environmental samples

:: **Burkina Faso:** one cVDPV2 AFP case

:: **Côte d'Ivoire:** four cVDPV2 cases

:: **Guinea:** eleven cVDPV2 cases

:: **Mali:** four cVDPV2 cases

:: **Niger:** three cVDPV2 AFP cases

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 17 Oct 2020]

Democratic Republic of the Congo

:: WHO appoints co-chairs of Independent Commission on sexual misconduct during the Ebola response in North Kivu and Ituri, the Democratic Republic of the Congo 15 October 2020

Mozambique floods - *No new digest announcements identified*

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 17 Oct 2020]

Iraq

:: Hevi Paediatric Teaching Hospital: A story of lifesaving services 14 Oct 2020

...One of the projects nurtured by this approach was the renovation of Hevi Paediatric Teaching Hospital, with a focus on the expansion of the paediatric intensive care unit and the harmonization and maintenance of the paediatric wards in the hospital, built 16 years ago...

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*

Iran floods 2019 - *No new digest announcements identified*

Libya - *No new digest announcements identified*

Malawi Floods - *No new digest announcements identified*

Measles in Europe - *No new digest announcements identified*

MERS-CoV - *No new digest announcements identified*

Mozambique - *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*

HIV in Pakistan - *No new digest announcements identified*

Sao Tome and Principe Necrotizing Cellulitis (2017) - *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 17 Oct 2020]

Chad - *No new digest announcements identified*

Djibouti - *Page not responding at inquiry*

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: North East Syria: Al Hol camp As of 11 October 2020

:: OCHA Syria Flash Update #01 Humanitarian Impact of Wildfires in Coastal Areas As of 11 October 2020

Yemen

:: 14 October 2020 Yemen: COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Monthly Report (September 2020)

.....

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.

COVID-19

:: Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report 48: occupied Palestinian territory, issued 15 October 2020, information for period: 5 March - 15 October 2020

East Africa Locust Infestation

:: Desert Locust situation update - 14 October 2020

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:: Agency/Government/IGO Watch

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

United Nations – Secretary General, Security Council, General Assembly

[to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Meetings/Press Releases/Announcements

16 October 2020

GA/AB/4358

Concerned that United Nations Cash Flow Problems Are Hampering Programme Delivery, Delegates in Fifth Committee Criticize Non-Payment of Dues by One Member State

The representative of the United States today rejected as “patently false and downright insulting” suggestions that her country is responsible for the United Nations liquidity crisis, while other speakers urged those Member States with the capacity to do so to pay their assessments in full and on time, as the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) took up the question of improving the Organization’s financial situation.

15 October 2020

DSG/SM/1486

Deputy Secretary-General Highlights Success of Female-Led National Anti-Pandemic Responses, in Remarks to Women Leaders in Global Health Conference

15 October 2020

SG/SM/20342

Condemning Exploitation of COVID-19 Resources, Secretary-General Urges Governments to Clamp Down on Illicit Activities, Use Tools from Convention against Corruption

Corruption is criminal, immoral and the ultimate betrayal of public trust. It is even more damaging in times of crisis — as the world is experiencing now with the COVID-19 pandemic. The response to the virus is creating new opportunities to exploit weak oversight and inadequate transparency, diverting funds away from people in their hour of greatest need.

Governments may act in haste without verifying suppliers or determine fair prices. Unscrupulous merchants peddle faulty products, such as defective ventilators, poorly manufactured tests or counterfeit medicines. And collusion among those who control supply chains has led to outrageous costs of much-needed goods, skewing the market and denying many people life-saving treatment.

We must work together to stop such thievery and exploitation by clamping down on illicit financial flows and tax havens; tackling the vested interests that benefit from secrecy and corruption; and exercising utmost vigilance over how resources are spent nationally. Together, we must create more robust systems for accountability, transparency and integrity without delay...

14 October 2020

GA/SHC/4294

Pandemic Dealt ‘Profound Blows’ to Human Rights Worldwide, High Commissioner Warns Third Committee, amid Calls for People-Centred Policies, Unbiased Response

13 October 2020

SG/SM/20339

Current, Reliable, Trusted Data Core to Evidence-Based Policymaking, Driving Needed Transformations, Says Secretary-General, Marking World Statistics Day

I wish everyone around the world a data-rich World Statistics Day! Statistics are fundamental for evidence-based policymaking. Current, reliable, timely and trusted data help us to understand the changing world in which we live and to drive the transformations that are needed, leaving no one behind. The coronavirus pandemic has further elevated the importance of data to save lives and recover better.

Our recently launched “Data Strategy for Action by Everyone, Everywhere” is an agenda for data-driven efforts to provide greater insight, impact and integrity as we strive to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

This Day is an opportunity to recognize the statisticians worldwide who work to provide reliable data, adhere to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and build more resilient and insightful data ecosystems.

On World Statistics Day, let us commit to invest in and support the vital role of data in meeting the challenges of our time. Thank you.

12 October 2020

GA/AB/4357

Secretary-General Unveils \$2.99 Billion Budget Proposal to Fifth Committee for 2021, Stressing United Nations Functioning Effectively amid COVID-19 Pandemic

Delegates in the Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) today reacted to the Secretary-General's proposed programme budget of \$2.99 billion for 2021, a net reduction of 2.8 per cent over 2020.

12 October 2020

GA/SHC/4292

Indigenous Peoples Increasingly Succumb to Extreme Poverty as Land Evictions Spike amid COVID-19, Special Rapporteur Tells Third Committee

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Top News

Bachelet urges action to ensure peaceful elections in Bolivia

Rape is a monstrous crime, perpetrators must be held accountable – but death penalty and torture are not the answers - Bachelet

United Nations Human Rights Council [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Council News

No new digest content identified.

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

Spain's age assessment procedures violate migrant children's rights, UN committee finds

13 October 2020

Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

We need a common vision to confront the sale and sexual exploitation of children

12 October 2020

[See Week in Review above for detail]

SRSB/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

SRSB/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

12 October, 2020

[The Progress and Potential of Women's Leadership: Survivors of Sexual Violence Step Up and Speak Out for Transitional Justice ~ On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 ~](#)

Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights [to 17 Oct 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 17 Oct 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 17 Oct 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 17 Oct 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

[Mexico: UN experts say proposed budget cuts could hurt vital services for women](#)

16 October 2020

COVID-19: Indigenous peoples' voices must be heard, says UN expert

13 October 2020

UN OCHA [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases

15 October 2020

Deputy Special Representative for Iraq visits Ninewa, advocates for increased efforts to facilitate IDP return [EN/AR]

15 October 2020

Humanitarian Coordinator in South Sudan welcomes allocation of \$10 million from the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund to assist flood-affected people

14 October 2020

Somalia Humanitarian Fund allocates US\$9.26 million for floods response [EN/SO]

Centre for Humanitarian Data/HDX [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNICEF [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press release

10/16/2020

Geneva Palais Briefing Note on the Central Sahel (ahead of the Ministerial Conference on 20 October 2020)

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

Statement

10/15/2020

Remarks by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore at the High-Level Special Event on Strengthening Global Governance of Food Security and Nutrition

As prepared for delivery

Statement

10/15/2020

Remarks by Henrietta H. Fore, UNICEF Executive Director, at the Global Handwashing Day: Accelerating Toward Hand Hygiene for All Event

As prepared for delivery

Press release

10/14/2020

FACT SHEET: Lack of handwashing with soap puts millions at increased risk to COVID-19 and other infectious diseases

Statement

10/14/2020

CTFMR expresses grave concern over circumstances of two children killed in fighting between the Tatmadaw and Arakan Army in Buthidaung, Rakhine State

Statement from the Co-Chairs of the UN Country Taskforce on Monitoring and Reporting on Grave Violations against Children in Myanmar

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Announcements

UNHCR's life-saving flights from Libya resume after seven-month suspension

16 Oct 2020

Peruvian football club Alianza Lima partners with UNHCR to support refugees

16 Oct 2020

UNHCR warns of mounting needs in Sahel as forced displacement intensifies

16 Oct 2020

UNHCR cash grants provide a lifeline to thousands of refugees in Iran

13 Oct 2020

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Announcements

Well-Being and Security of Migrant Workers in Lebanon Deteriorate Since Beirut Blast

2020-10-16 14:05

Beirut – The twin explosions in the Port of Beirut have left over the past two months thousands of the country's migrant workers destitute and in dire need of assistance, according to recent data collected by the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) of the International...

COVID-19 Unaccompanied Child Migrants Reunited with Their Families in Ethiopia, by IOM

2020-10-16 14:00

Addis Ababa – The issue of unaccompanied migrant children in Ethiopia has been a challenge for the authorities, and the COVID-19 pandemic has shone a spotlight on just how serious a problem it is. Over 8,300 unaccompanied migrant children have returned to Ethiopia mainly from...

IOM and the African Union Commission Launch the first Africa Migration Report

2020-10-15 14:36

Addis Ababa –African migration in the 21st Century takes place mainly by land, not by sea. African migrants' destinations are overwhelmingly not to Europe or North America, but to each other's countries.

PAHO and IOM Sign Agreement to Improve the Health of 70 Million Migrants in the Americas

2020-10-09 15:54

Washington – More than 70 million migrants living across international borders in the Region of the Americas are set to benefit from a joint agreement signed today by Carissa F. Etienne, Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and António Vitorino, Director...

UNAIDS [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements

16 October 2020

COVID-19's impact on HIV treatment less severe than feared

15 October 2020

Chatbot answers young people's questions about HIV, health and relationships

14 October 2020

UNAIDS saddened by the death of Guillermo Soberon

13 October 2020

Chinese young people take centre stage on HIV prevention

13 October 2020

COVID-19 impacting HIV testing in most countries

12 October 2020

New HIV infections: men outnumber women

WHO & Regional Offices [to 17 Oct 2020]

15 October 2020 *Departmental news*

WHO Bulletin Call for Papers: Behavioural and Social Sciences for Better Health

15 October 2020 *News release*

WHO appoints co-chairs of Independent Commission on sexual misconduct during the Ebola response in North Kivu and Ituri, the Democratic Republic of the Congo

15 October 2020 *Departmental news*

New electronic survey manual supports countries to combat micronutrient deficiencies

14 October 2020 *Departmental news*

Sixth Annual meeting of the "Friends of the Task Force" Working with Member States to deliver the NCD-related SDG targets during and beyond COVID-19

14 October 2020 *Departmental news*

WHO takes a position on genetically modified mosquitoes

Position statement

In recent years, there have been significant advances in GMM approaches aimed at suppressing mosquito populations and reducing their susceptibility to infection, as well as their ability to transmit disease-carrying pathogens. These advances have led to an often polarized debate on the benefits and risks of genetically modified mosquitoes.

According to the WHO statement, computer simulation modelling has shown that GMMs could be a valuable new tool in efforts to eliminate malaria and to control diseases carried by Aedes mosquitoes. WHO cautions, however, that the use of GMMs raises concerns and questions around ethics, safety, governance, affordability and cost-effectiveness that must be addressed.

The statement notes that GMM research should be conducted through a step-wise approach and supported by clear governance mechanisms to evaluate any health, environmental and ecological implications. It underscores that any effective approach to combating vector-borne diseases requires the robust and meaningful engagement of communities. This is especially important for area-wide control measures such as GMMs, as the risks and benefits may affect large segments of the population.

Countries and other stakeholders are encouraged to provide feedback on the new position statement by contacting WHO at: geneticallymodifiedmosquitoes@who.int

New guidance

Despite the growing threat of vector-borne diseases to individuals, families and societies, the ethical issues raised by vector-borne diseases have received only limited attention. Recognizing this gap, WHO has issued new guidance to support national VBD control programmes in their efforts to identify and respond to the core ethical issues at stake.

The new guidance, titled ***Ethics & vector-borne diseases***, was issued today alongside the position statement on genetically modified mosquitoes. Grounded in a multidisciplinary framework, the guidance emphasizes the critical role of community engagement in designing and implementing an appropriate, sustainable public health response.

14 October 2020 *News release*

[**WHO: Global TB progress at risk**](#)

14 October 2020 *Departmental news*

[**Investment in digital health needs careful planning: new WHO guide explains how to do it well**](#)

14 October 2020 *Departmental news*

[**Release of module and mapping of tools on stakeholder and community engagement in quality of care initiatives for maternal, newborn and child health**](#)

13 October 2020 *Statement*

[**Impact of COVID-19 on people's livelihoods, their health and our food systems**](#)

12 October 2020 *Departmental news*

[**WHO publishes guidance on climate resilient and environmentally sustainable health care facilities**](#)

12 October 2020 *Departmental news*

[**Neglected tropical diseases: tackling stigmatization, discrimination and mental health through a person-centred approach**](#)

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[Weekly Epidemiological Record, 9 October 2020, vol. 95, 41 \(pp. 489–496\)](#)

Progress towards poliomyelitis eradication – Afghanistan, January 2019–July 2020

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WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: Keeping displaced persons safe from COVID-19 in South Sudan 13 October 2020

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

No new digest content identified

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: Handwashing an effective tool to prevent COVID-19, other diseases 15 October 2020 News release

WHO European Region EURO

:: Providing an update on the COVID-19 situation 15-10-2020

:: Bringing sexual and reproductive health services to young people across the Republic of Moldova 15-10-2020

:: Governments across the WHO European Region contribute over US\$ 749 million to the COVID-19 global response 15-10-2020

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO

:: Statement of the WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean on the closing of the 67th session of the Regional Committee

13 October 2020 - I am pleased at the outset to welcome Her Excellency Dr. Hala Zayed, Minister of Health and Population of Egypt, and to congratulate Her Excellency on her election as Chair of the 67th session of the Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean. The 67th session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean has just concluded.

:: COVID-19 dominates discussion of the 67th WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean

Cairo 12 October 2020 – The annual meeting of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean began on Monday, 12 October 2020 with a strong focus on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Ministers and representatives from across the Region discussed the impact of the pandemic on health systems and society more generally, and the conference itself was impacted by the pandemic,...

:: Virtual 67th session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean

11 October 2020, Cairo – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 67th session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Eastern Mediterranean will be held virtually for the first time ever. Health ministers and high-level representatives of the 22 countries of WHO's Eastern Mediterranean Region, along with partner organizations and civil society, will connect online to discuss health issues during...

WHO Western Pacific Region

No new digest content identified

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://www.oie.int/en/for-the-media/press-releases/2020/>

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest from News Centre

[UN calls for comprehensive debt standstill in all developing countries](#)

Poor and middle-income countries need bold new mechanisms to dig out of crushing debt, sharply worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic, with a focus on “green,” sustainable recovery, a senior UN official...

Posted on October 15, 2020

[UNDP and Japan engage Sahelian voices to put the humanitarian, development and peace nexus to action](#)

High-ranking government representatives from Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, joined by Sahelian heads of industry, African philanthropic foundations, young innovators, and youth leaders, yesterday...

Posted on October 14, 2020

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Publications

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

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

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

Meetings and events

[2020 virtual UN World Data Forum](#)

Online event-- 19 - 21 October 2020

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases/Speeches

16 Oct 2020 *Press release*

[Celebrating African youth turning the tide on plastic pollution](#)

Nairobi, 16 October 2020 – More than 400 young Africans were today honoured for their leadership in addressing plastic pollution in their communities as part of the Tide Turners Plastic Challenge. At a high-level...

13 Oct 2020 *Press release*

[New UNEP report lights the way for financial institutions to shift to more sustainable circular economies](#)

New UNEP report highlights the critical role of financial institutions in advancing the growth of circularity by investing in businesses that take a more sustainable approach to production and consumption...

13 Oct 2020 *Press release*

[Thirty of the world's largest investors set unprecedented 5-year portfolio decarbonization targets](#)

Geneva, 13 October 2020 - Thirty of the world's largest investors with \$5 trillion assets under management have collectively agreed on concrete portfolio decarbonization targets that follow the Intergovernmental...

UNDRR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Updates

16 October 2020

[UNDRR convenes Asia-Pacific scientists and policy makers to prevent the next 'unexpected' disaster](#)

In the context of growing disaster risks in the region, which are becoming more complex, the 2020 Asia Pacific Science and Technology Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction took on increased importance as government officials and researchers tackled the key risks facing the region.

16 October 2020

[Empowering Asia-Pacific stakeholder groups to publish their Voluntary Commitments](#)

UNDRR Asia-Pacific introduced its major stakeholder groups to the Sendai Framework Voluntary Commitments platform. It is an online platform that can help them gain recognition for their work, learn what others in their field are doing, and potentially connect with new partners from around the world.

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

[UN Secretary-General and top business leaders agree on steps to scale up investment in sustainable development](#)

14 October 2020, New York

Meeting today with leaders of prominent financial institutions and businesses United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres called the private sector "more important than ever," as the world struggles to recover from the devastating economic fall-out from the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The timely achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals is at serious risk. To reverse our course, a fundamental change of financing and investment is needed to place sustainability at the core

of the global economic and financial system,” Guterres said. “Private sector leadership will be more important than ever.

The Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance was launched a year ago by the Secretary-General. Members, who control assets worth US\$16 trillion, are committed to deliver on key strategies that will scale-up sustainable investments globally. Today, they have agreed on a range of actions to better align business activities with the SDGs...

World Data Forum seeks to boost data capacity and partnerships to tackle COVID-19 and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

13 October 2020, New York

More than 5,000 data experts will meet online to strengthen data for a changing world

As demand for trusted, inclusive, open and reliable data is surging in the face of unprecedented challenges, the global community of data experts and users will come together from 19 to 21 October in a virtual space at the United Nations World Data Forum to satisfy the need for quality data.

Over 5,000 data experts from more than 100 countries are expected to participate in the threeday Forum where they will work to identify innovative solutions for better data, intensify cooperation on data for sustainable development and renew the urgent call for more and better funding for data.

Participants from Governments, the private sector, civil society, the geospatial community, international agencies, donor and philanthropic bodies, academia and professional bodies, and the media will discuss ways to improve the use of data for policy making and the development of COVID-19 response measures. They will also identify strategies to protect privacy and trust in data, and solutions to improve data availability and to fulfill the ambition of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals...

UNESCO [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Latest News

No new digest content identified.

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Announcements

No new digest content identified.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

UNODC Executive Director Calls for Stronger International Cooperation, on 10th Session of the Conference of the Parties

12/10/2020

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 17 Oct 2020]

<http://unhabitat.org/>

News and Stories

No new digest content identified.

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Food Programme [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News releases

16 October 2020

[New WFP report shows access to food grossly unequal as coronavirus adds to challenges](#)

ROME – A basic meal is far beyond the reach of millions of people in 2020 as the COVID-19 pandemic joins conflict, climate change and economic troubles in pushing up levels of hunger around the world, according to a new study released today by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP).

ILO International Labour Organization [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Annual meetings of the IMF and World Bank

[ILO: The world economy needs a new engine of economic recovery](#)

16 October 2020

In written statements to the annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank, ILO Director-General Guy Ryder warned against higher levels of poverty and inequality resulting from the COVID-19 crisis. Highlighting the urgent need for social protection for all, he called for profound structural changes to build back better and faster.

International Day of Rural Women

[Rural women: Key actors in poverty reduction and food security](#)

15 October 2020

Despite playing a major role as farmers, wage earners and entrepreneurs, rural women face gender-based discrimination leading to unpaid work, as well as unequal access to education, healthcare, property, and financial services.

Press release

[Critical gaps in social protection hampering Asia-Pacific region's resilience to COVID-19](#)

15 October 2020

Despite their rapid socioeconomic ascent, most countries in the Asia-Pacific region have weak social protection systems riddled with gaps, says a new report.

COVID-19 pandemic

[Vulnerable workers hardest hit by COVID-19 fallout in fragile Arab states](#)

13 October 2020

Assessments show spike in job and income losses and limited financial capacities to deal with the crisis, making it even harder for vulnerable workers to earn a living.

Blog

A better future of work means building it green

12 October 2020

Nature can provide some of the best opportunities for creating jobs and stimulating economies, while protecting the planet.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News and Highlights

No new digest content identified.

IMO [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest Press Briefings

No new digest content identified.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

State of Climate Services 2020 Report: Move from Early Warnings to Early Action

Publish Date: 13 October 2020

Over the past 50 years, more than 11,000 disasters have been attributed to weather, climate and water-related hazards, involving 2 million deaths and US\$ 3.6 trillion in economic losses. While the average number of deaths recorded for each disaster has fallen by a third during this period, the number of recorded disasters has increased five times and the economic losses have increased by a factor of seven, according to a new multi-agency report.

UPU Universal Postal Union [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://www.upu.int/en/News-Media/Press/Press-Releases>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

UNIDO United Nations Industrial Development Organization [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

By Clare Naden on 13 October 2020

Keeping it simple

Celebrating a new standard in development on International Plain Language Day.

To support this, ISO is currently developing a new standard, [ISO 24495](#), Plain language – Part 1: Governing principles and guidelines, which will provide authors in most languages with an approach that helps them communicate effectively with their audiences. It will feature high-level principles, guidelines and techniques to help writers everywhere produce communications that work.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

[Holy Smokes, Batman: Caped Crusader is the Go-To Franchise Character for Movies and Gaming Over the Decades](#)

Batman, Dracula and Spiderman are the top three most-used franchise characters from movies and video games in the world's biggest media market over the past four decades, according to the first installment of a new series of "Creative Economy Notes" unveiled by WIPO Director General Daren Tang at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

Oct 14, 2020 [PR/2020/868](#)

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Announcements

[16.10.2020 Statement by Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity, on the occasion of World Food Day](#)

[16.10.2020 Keynote address: Conservation, Awareness, and Knowledge: Zoos and Aquariums in Support of the Biodiversity Agenda, by Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Executiv...](#)

[16.10.2020 // 2020-080 Global Landscapes Forum - Biodiversity Digital Conference, 28-29 October 2020](#)

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USAID [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases, Statements, Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office [nee DFID] [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/foreign-commonwealth-development-office>

Selected Press Releases. Announcements

Quint statement on Israeli settlements

Statement from the UK, France, Germany, Italy and Spain on Israel's decision to advance over 4,900 settlement units in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Updated: 16 October 2020

International donor conference to call for urgent humanitarian support for Rohingya refugees

The US, UK, EU and UN Refugee Agency will co-host a donor conference on 22 October to promote support for Rohingya refugees and host countries.

Updated: 15 October 2020

ECHO [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

Statement on the International Food Day

16/10/2020

Commissioner for Crisis Management, Janez Lenarčič, and Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, issue the following statement: "On the occasion of the International World Food Day, the EU reiterates its commitment to fight...

International donor conference for urgent humanitarian support for Rohingya refugees

15/10/2020

The United States, the United Kingdom, the European Union and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will bring the international community together this month to address the Rohingya crisis. At a virtual conference, they will urge...

.....

African Union [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

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

The end of the African Women's Decade; tracking progress on commitments

October 15, 2020

Business-boosting African Trade Observatory (ATO) to start virtual demonstration

October 15, 2020

AU launches first edition of Africa Migration Report in collaboration with IOM

October 15, 2020

Congo signed Treaty for the establishment of the African Medicines Agency (AMA)

October 15, 2020

COVID-19, security and development take centre stage in Ministerial meeting

October 13, 2020

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Secretariat News

No new digest content identified.

European Commission [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest

Press release 15 October 2020

[Coronavirus: Commission lists key steps for effective vaccination strategies and vaccines deployment](#)

As Europe learns to live with the pandemic, the development and swift global deployment of safe and effective vaccines against COVID-19 remains an essential element in the eventual solution to the public health crisis.

[::Preparedness for COVID-19 vaccination strategies and vaccine deployment](#)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL
Brussels, 15.10.2020 COM(2020) 680 final :: 16 pages

Statement 13 October 2020

[European Commission Statement on the coordination of measures restricting free movement in the European Union related to the coronavirus pandemic](#)

Following the proposal of the Commission on 4 September 2020, today EU ministers have reached an agreement that will provide more clarity and predictability on measures that restrict free movement due to the coronavirus pandemic

Press release 12 October 2020

[Coronavirus Dashboard: EU Cohesion Policy response to the coronavirus crisis](#)

Today, the Commission announces the first provisional results of the implementation of the Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative (CRII) and Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative Plus (CRII+).

OECD [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

[International community renews commitment to address tax challenges from digitalisation of the economy](#)

12-October-2020

The international community has made substantial progress towards reaching a consensus-based long-term solution to the tax challenges arising from the digitalisation of the economy, and agreed to keep working towards an agreement by mid-2021, according to a Statement released today.

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

OAS Secretary General Designates Jared Genser as Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect

October 10, 2020

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases

Statement of the OAS Secretary General on the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

October 17, 2020

OAS to Hold its 50th General Assembly on October 20 and 21

October 10, 2020

OAS Secretary General Designates Jared Genser as Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect

October 10, 2020

Group of 77 [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest Statements and Speeches

No new digest content identified.

.....

UNCTAD [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://unctad.org/media-centre>

No new digest content identified.

World Customs Organization – WCO [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News – Selected Items

16 October 2020

The Global RILO Network comes together for its 2nd Informal Virtual Meeting since the outbreak of the global pandemic

14 October 2020

WCO celebrates the 50th session of the Technical Committee on Customs Valuation

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

WTO News and Events

New WTO report looks at the global intellectual property system and COVID-19

15 October 2020

The WTO Secretariat has published a new information note about how the global intellectual property (IP) system relates to the COVID-19 pandemic and potential contributions it could make to efforts to address it. The note provides an overview of IP-related measures taken by WTO members and other stakeholders since the start of the crisis.

[See Week in Review above for detail]

New WTO publication addresses common questions about trade and the environment

16 October 2020

The WTO launched a new publication to answer commonly raised questions about trade and the environment at a virtual event on 16 October. "Short Answers to Big Questions on the WTO and the Environment" explores trade's impact on the planet, the policies that governments enact to protect it and the role of the WTO regarding environmental issues.

Trade has a role to play in making the COVID-19 response more effective, says DDG Agah

12 October 2020

On behalf of the four Deputy Directors-General, DDG Agah addressed heads of WTO member delegations on 12 October and emphasised "the importance of open and predictable markets to foster a strong and inclusive recovery for all countries". In his remarks he highlighted the work done by the DDGs to ensure stability and continuity during the transition period until a new Director-General takes office, and reminded members that the policy choices adopted at the WTO and domestically will matter for stimulating job creation and growth.

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press releases

No new digest content identified.

International Court of Justice [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 17 Oct 2020]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

News

No new digest content identified.

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World Bank [to 17 Oct 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]

Accelerate Learning, Earnings and Agency of Adolescent Girls and Young Women in and around the Sahel

Challenge Countries' capacity to build human capital – improve learning and productivity – and accelerate the demographic transition depends on their ability to reach and change the potential of their...

Date: October 17, 2020 Type: Result Brief

Beyond COVID-19: The Road to Recovery in Africa

Date: October 16, 2020 Type: Brief

2020 Human Capital Index Infographic

Date: October 15, 2020 Type: Infographic

WBG VACCINE ANNOUNCEMENT– KEY FACTS

An effective and safe COVID-19 vaccine is the most promising path forward for the world to reopen safely. The global economy will not recover fully until people feel they can live, socialize, work, and...

Date: October 15, 2020 Type: Factsheet

[See Week in Review above for detail]

World Bank's Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Africa

As Sub-Saharan African countries have managed to keep the virus under control with relatively low number of cases, the pandemic continues to take a toll on African lives and economies, pushing the region...

Date: October 15, 2020 Type: Factsheet

World Bank's Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Africa

As Sub-Saharan African countries have managed to keep the virus under control with relatively low number of cases, the pandemic continues to take a toll on African lives and economies, pushing the region...

Date: October 15, 2020 Type: Factsheet

World Bank Approves \$12 Billion for COVID-19 Vaccines

WASHINGTON, October 13, 2020 – The World Bank's Board of Executive Directors today approved an envelope of \$12 billion for developing countries to finance the purchase and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines...

Date: October 13, 2020 Type: Press Release

IMF [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News, Announcements

A New Bretton Woods Moment

By Kristalina Georgieva, IMF Managing Director

Washington, DC October 15, 2020

[See Week in Review above for full text]

October 13, 2020

Intergovernmental Group of Twenty-Four on International Monetary Affairs and Development

... At this critical juncture, we are encouraged by the efforts of the G20, World Health Organization, World Trade Organization, and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) to deepen global cooperation to support all countries – in solidarity – confronting the inter-related health, social and economic crises brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. We take note of the G20's collective support for the development, manufacture and equitable distribution of affordable vaccines and treatments, which are critical global public goods, to contain the pandemic. All countries, without exception, should have timely and affordable access to these public goods on the basis of need, and also for humanitarian reasons. We also welcome the WBG's proposed \$12 billion initiative that would help developing countries procure COVID-19 vaccines to treat up to 1 billion people as soon as effective drugs become available. We also welcome the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Initiative and urge major economies to provide the necessary financial support to ensure timely and affordable access for all countries, without exception...

African Development Bank Group [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

African Development Bank's second virtual business opportunities seminar of 2020, draws 250 global partners and suppliers

16-Oct-2020 - The African Development Bank hosted its second virtual business opportunities seminar in 2020 (BOS) on 13 and 14 October. The BOS offers a one-stop shop for individuals and consulting firms, civil contractors, manufacturers, suppliers, and diplomatic commercial attachés from the Bank Group's regional and non-regional members seeking to provide goods and services to projects or to the Bank, or otherwise partner with it.

Asian Development Bank [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

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

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 17 Oct 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

No new digest content identified.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

15 OCT

Governments need to halt the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on rural women, says IFAD President on International Day of Rural Women

14 OCT

Consultation on IFAD's Social, Environmental and Climate Assessment Procedures

12 OCT

Dutch poverty fighter joins UN agency IFAD as global poverty rates rise

Islamic Development Bank [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

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:: INGO/Consortia/Joint Initiatives Watch

We will monitor media releases and other announcements around key initiatives, new research and major organizational change from a growing number of global NGOs, collaborations, and initiatives across the human rights, humanitarian response and development spheres of action. 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 17 Oct 2020]

<http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org>

Communiqués de presse

#Localisthenewnormal

Et si ce qu'on mettait dans nos paniers ici pouvait combattre la faim là-bas ?

Posté le 13 octobre 2020

Dans les pays du Sud, des centaines de milliers de personnes n'ont toujours pas les ressources nécessaires pour se nourrir correctement car les systèmes alimentaires mondiaux sont défaillants. Action contre la Faim combat ces dysfonctionnements au quotidien mais le pouvoir de faire changer les choses est aussi entre vos mains. Ce que nous mangeons ici peut aussi faire reculer la faim là-bas : consommer local, éthique et responsable, c'est un acte de solidarité qui contribue à transformer les systèmes alimentaires à travers le monde.

Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA) [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

PRESS RELEASES

No new digest content identified.

Amref Health Africa [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Aravind Eye Care System [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://aravind.org/>

Aravind News

No new digest content identified.

Blue Shield International [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://theblueshield.org/category/bsi-news/>

BSI News

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest

[Building resilience amidst growing food insecurity crisis](#)

October 18, 2020

by [Jake Konig](#)

As the economic impact of COVID-19 threatens food security globally, evidence-based interventions that are proven to build resilience in the face of extreme shocks are needed more than ever. Nomita's story shows how the Graduation approach provides the tools and resources that are crucial in these difficult times.

[Study explores COVID-19 impact on the lives of garment workers](#)

October 18, 2020

by [Sadril Shajahan](#) and [Md Abdullah Al Kaium](#) and [Faria Ahmad](#)

According to a recent study, 82% of garment workers said their income fell since the pandemic hit. Nearly 52% said they are saving less than what they were saving before the pandemic, while 77% said it was difficult to feed everyone in their households.

Clubhouse International [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News/Events

[Clubhouse Webinar Series — We Are Not Alone: Next Webinar on Oct. 21!](#)

We are excited to continue our live Clubhouse Webinar Series: WE ARE NOT ALONE: GROWING STRONGER TOGETHER. Join us for our next webinar on October 21!

Danish Refugee Council [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://drc.ngo/>

Press Releases

Global

[New report: A restriction of responsibility-sharing: Exploring the impact of COVID-19 on the Global Compact on Refugees](#)

6. October 2020

DRC has conducted a study exploring the impact of COVID-19 on Global Compact on Refugees. A companion report on the Global Compact for Migration was commissioned by MMC and conducted in parallel. Both were presented and discussed at a well-visited and lively webinar on 14 October.

ECPAT [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News from ECPAT

[ECPAT Philippines partners with INHOPE and local cybercrime unit to faster detect and remove child sexual abuse material](#)

16/10/2020

Fountain House [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Humanity & Inclusion [nee Handicap International] [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

All news

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

[More than 1,000 former detainees from Yemen conflict transported home](#)

The two-day process October 15-16 involved 11 ICRC-operated flights into and out of five cities in two countries – Yemen and Saudi Arabia. The number of detainees released and provided with transportation was 1,056.

16-10-2020 | News release

[Nigeria: Sharp increase in food prices caused by COVID-19 raises fear of hunger](#)

Abuja (ICRC) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has seen an increase in malnutrition rates among children in nutrition centres it supports in Nigeria.
16-10-2020 | News release

World Food Day: Rising food prices, job losses, and unabated conflict spark fears of rising hunger in communities across Africa

A recent survey by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) among 2,400 people in 10 African countries found that since the start of the pandemic, 94 percent of survey respondents reported that prices of food and other essentials in their
15-10-2020 | News release

IFRC [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

Sudan

Sudan floods: “The conditions are simply appalling” says IFRC Secretary General, as emergency appeal remains woefully underfunded

Geneva, 15 October – The Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) has returned from Sudan, where unprecedented flooding has killed more than 100 people and left over 875,000 people in need of humanitarian a ...

15 October 2020

Europe, France, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom

Red Cross raises the alarm across Europe: “Your best defence against this virus is you”

Budapest/Geneva, 14 October 2020 – The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is urging European governments and its citizens to simultaneously exercise leadership and remain vigilant as COVID-19 ravages the region. Mor ...

14 October 2020

Asia Pacific, Vietnam

One million swamped by deadly floods as Viet Nam faces another major storm

Hanoi, Viet Nam, October 14, 2020 – Close to a million people have been severely affected by prolonged flooding in central Viet Nam as the country faces another major tropical storm and further dangerous floods. Red Cross holds grave fears that deadly ...

14 October 2020

International Medical Corps (IMC) [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Media highlights [Selected]

Statement

Humanitarian leaders call on global donors to fund nutrition crisis on World Food Day

October 16, 2020

Press Release

El Comité Internacional de Rescate y los compañeros de tecnología lanzaron un iniciativa digital para combatir la desinformación entregada a los refugiados venezolanos y las poblaciones desplazadas en Colombia

[The International Rescue Committee and technology partners launched a digital initiative to combat misinformation delivered to Venezuelan refugees and displaced populations in Colombia]

October 16, 2020

Press Release

New Report Finds 73% of Refugee and Displaced Women Reported an Increase in Domestic Violence Due to COVID-19

October 15, 2020

Press Release

As US and UK struggle to contain COVID-19, conflict-affected states show encouraging signs in slowing virus transmission - IRC

October 14, 2020

IRCT [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://irct.org/>

Latest News

News 15 Oct 2020

IRCT elects new Executive Committee and President

News 12 Oct 2020

IRCT Launches World's First Global Standards on Torture Rehabilitation

The General Assembly of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) has adopted the world's first global standards on torture rehabilitation services to ensure that survivors of torture can access quality support anywhere in the world.

... The global standards include commitments to keep services independent and accountable, ensure non-discriminatory access and the safety of clients, and to support their families. Acknowledging the strong connection between rehabilitation, empowerment and justice, the standards also commit IRCT members to make torture survivors central agents in their rehabilitation work and to help them access justice and advocate for their rights.

Read the Global Standards on Rehabilitation of Torture Victims [here](#)

Islamic Relief Worldwide [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News, Blog

Plaudits for Islamic Relief project and staff at Start Network annual assembly

Published: 18 October, 2020

Naser Haghamed to step down as CEO for health reasons

Published: 16 October, 2020

Naser Haghamed, CEO of Islamic Relief Worldwide, has announced that he will be stepping down at the end of January 2021 for health reasons, after nearly five years in the role.

[Mothers unaware how sick their children are amid malnutrition fears in Niger](#)

Published: 16 October, 2020

[Two months after the devastating explosion in Beirut, we're still supporting affected families](#)

Published: 15 October, 2020

[Director steps down as Islamic Relief condemns breaches of code of conduct](#)

Published: 14 October, 2020

Landsea [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Mercy Corps [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News Releases & Alerts

No new digest content identified.

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest [Selected Announcements]

Venezuela

[MSF teams improve conditions for Venezuelan returnees in quarantine centres...](#)

Project Update 13 Oct 2020

Operation Smile [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

[Program Schedule](#)

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

OXFAM [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected News/Announcements

Oxfam reaction to G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting

14 October 2020

"The failure to cancel debt payments will only delay the tsunami of debt that will engulf many of the world's poorest countries, leaving them unable to afford the investment in healthcare and social safety nets so desperately needed", said Jaime Atienza, Oxfam International's Debt Policy Lead, in reaction to the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting.

The Hunger Virus: " Abysmally low" funding for 55m people facing extreme hunger in seven worst-affected countries

13 October 2020

The threat of "COVID famines" and widespread extreme hunger are setting off every alarm bell within the international community, but so far sluggish funding of the UN's appeal is hampering humanitarian agencies' efforts to deliver urgent assistance to people in need.

IMF paves way for new era of austerity post-COVID-19

12 October 2020

84 percent of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) COVID-19 loans encourage, and in some cases require, poor countries hard hit by the economic fallout from the pandemic to adopt more tough austerity measures in the aftermath of the health crisis, warned Oxfam today.

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest news

Middle East/Palestine | 14. Oct 2020

Israel to demolish European-funded school in central West Bank

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is deeply concerned by the Israeli military's planned demolition of a European-funded Palestinian primary school in Ras At-Tin herding community in the central West Bank.

Pact [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

Finding the Way Back Home, One Conversation at a Time

People struggling with mental health conditions who have stopped receiving treatment or taking medication—and as a result have seen their conditions worsen and may be homeless—are sometimes called "lost" patients. In Maryland County, Liberia, Helena Wesley has made it her mission to find them.
October 16, 2020

PATH [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Plan International/BORNEfonden [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

15 October 2020 - *Global*

[SAVE THE CHILDREN – Almost 600 million children completely missed out on financial support during COVID-19](#)

14 October 2020 - *Afghanistan*

[Save the Children – ‘Situation for children in Helmand deeply concerning’](#)

14 October 2020 - *Global*

[COVID-19 leads to 60 percent increase in children who need urgent humanitarian assistance across West Africa](#)

14 October 2020 - *Lebanon*

[Surge in deadly sea crossings from Lebanon to Cyprus as economic crisis pushes hundreds of thousands more children into poverty](#)

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

All News

Poverty – October 14 2020

[Hungry and forgotten – how the pandemic affects the most vulnerable](#)

Tostan [to 17 Oct 2020]

<http://www.tostan.org>

News/Events

[500 Communities in Rural Senegal to Benefit from New Partnership in the Wake of COVID-19](#)

Oct 15, 2020

Young women from a Tostan partner community attend a public declaration to end harmful practices in Matam, Senegal (2018). Kolda, Senegal — Tostan and the Mastercard Foundation partner to foster economic resilience in rural Senegal. Tostan and the Mastercard...

Women for Women International [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Blogs & Updates

October 15, 2020

Tackling an invisible killer with soap and water

Article

October 14, 2020

A Timeline of Women's Voting Rights

Article

October 11, 2020

For the Girls Who Follow in Our Footsteps

Article Nigeria

World Vision [to 17 Oct 2020]

<http://wvi.org/>

Newsroom

COVID-19 could force over 19 million people, half of them children, into famine across 12 countries.

Thursday, October 15, 2020

:: 50% increase in the numbers of people at risk of starvation compared to last year

:: Only 29% of funding needed to prevent this has been provided

:: Secondary impacts of COVID-19 combined with conflict & natural disasters creating a life-threatening hunger emergency

.....

Electronic Frontiers Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Freedom House [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://freedomhouse.org/>

Latest Updates

Freedom House, CSIS and McCain Institute Launch Democracy Task Force

Press release

October 15, 2020

Freedom House, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), and the McCain Institute are proud to announce the launch of a new bipartisan Task Force on US Strategy to Support Democracy and Counter Authoritarianism.

The Task Force was formed to address the significant global decline in democratic freedom and the rise in authoritarianism that endanger U.S. national security and the post-World War II political order. The rapid pace of change, marked by globalization, digitalization, migration, rising economic inequality, and the shift in global power balances, has created uncertainty and disruption, challenging democracies and creating a space for authoritarians, populists, nationalists, and kleptocrats to flourish...

Report: Global Internet Freedom Declines in Shadow of Pandemic

Press release

October 14, 2020

[See Week in Review above for detail]

Deep Concern as Cuba is Reelected to UN Human Rights Council

Joint statement

October 13, 2020

Human Rights Watch [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Featured Commentary, Announcements, Statements

October 17, 2020

News Release

Thailand: Water Cannon Used Against Peaceful Activists

October 15, 2020

News Release

Syria/Russia: Strategy Targeted Civilian Infrastructure

October 14, 2020

News Release

India: Women at Risk of Sexual Abuse at Work

Transparency International [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press

EU leaders asked to toughen anti-corruption measures in the next round of financing to protect public contracts

Transparency International's EU chapters and local partners call for an open and vibrant public contracting system for the EU

The next seven-year European Union (EU) budget – the 'MFF' – and COVID-19 recovery funds are at risk of abuse unless open, data-driven and participatory oversight mechanisms to protect public...

14 October 2020

Cyprus axes corruption-plagued golden passports scheme

Need for legislative solution to golden visa programmes in the EU remains

The government of Cyprus has announced that it will abolish its controversial citizenship-by-investment scheme as of 1 November 2020. The decision follows multiple scandals and controversies, the...

13 October 2020

Open letter to the G20 Finance Ministers

From Amnesty International, CIVICUS and Transparency International

Dear G20 Finance Ministers, As you meet this week, we are writing to you to encourage you to take concrete actions in order to build a better future through a just recovery by investing in people...

13 October 2020

World's largest exporters fail to punish bribery in foreign markets

Report finds enforcement against foreign bribery shockingly low among half of G20 countries

Fewer of the world's biggest exporters are actively investigating and punishing companies paying bribes abroad, according to a new report released today by Transparency International. Read the...

13 October 2020

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ChildFund Alliance [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>

News/ Statements

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 17 Oct 2020]

<http://concordeurope.org/>

Latest News and Events

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

The Elders [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Evidence Aid [to 17 Oct 2020]

Evidence Aid aims to save lives and livelihoods in disasters by providing decision-makers with the best available evidence and by championing its use.

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

New Resources

Take home naloxone programmes for opioid users Added October 14, 2020

Epidemiology of COVID-19 in Europe up to May 2020 Added October 14, 2020

Interventions to reduce use of unplanned health care in rural areas Added October 14, 2020

Travel-related control measures to contain COVID-19 pandemic (search done on 26 June 2020) Added October 12, 2020

Antimicrobial mouthwashes and nasal sprays use by healthcare workers: no available evidence by 1 June 2020 Added October 12, 2020

Antimicrobial mouthwashes and nasal sprays use by patients: no available evidence by 1 June 2020 Added October 12, 2020

Prophylactic anticoagulants for hospitalized COVID-19 patients: effects are uncertain (search on 20 June 2020) Added October 12, 2020

Gavi [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News releases

16 October 2020

Gavi receives 2020 Princess of Asturias Award for International Cooperation

The Princess of Asturias Foundation recognises Gavi "...for their work in facilitating universal access to vaccines to reduce the impact of infectious diseases and for contributing to the protection of half of the global child population through vaccination routines."

The presentation of the awards, presided over by TM the King and Queen and with the presence of TRH The Princess of Asturias and the Infanta Sofia, took place as a virtual event in Asturias, Spain on 16 October. Gavi CEO Dr Seth Berkley accepted the award on behalf of Gavi.

15 October 2020

Why handwashing with soap is the most effective way to stop viruses

We may not yet have vaccines or treatments against [COVID-19](#), but there is one powerful combo that can help stop the spread of the virus, which many of us already have access to: soap and water.

There's a reason why governments and public health experts worldwide have been telling us to wash our hands – it really works. Good hand hygiene could reduce cases of respiratory diseases by 20%, and diarrhoea by 30%. That means it has potential to have a huge impact on the spread of the coronavirus.

13 October 2020

Strong systems for strong vaccine coverage

With support from the Vaccine Alliance, countries provided more than 400 million campaign and routine vaccinations in 2019. At the same time, Gavi disbursed a record US\$ 331 million in health system support. This is nearly double the level of US\$ 172 million in 2015, at the end of the previous five-year strategic period, and a significant increase from US\$ 284 million in 2018. In June 2018, the Gavi Board agreed to make available additional HSS funding to countries with unmet needs to strengthen coverage and equity; 30 countries were approved in 2019 for a total of US\$ 238 million, with a strong focus on extending immunisation to reach under-served communities..

Getty Conservation Institute [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News/Updates

Results Report 2020 Executive Summary and Translations

15 October 2020

An executive summary and translations of the Global Fund Results Report 2020 are now available for download:

Full Report - download in [English](#) | [Français](#)

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

Latest resources, events, content

Upcoming events

[High Commissioner's Dialogue on Protection Challenges 2020](#)

October 21, 2020 - 10:00am to December 9, 2020 - 6:00pm

Virtual and Geneva

InterAction [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict

[Getting Practical with Prevention](#)

InterAction | Oct 15, 2020

Crises & Countries in Conflict

[InterAction's Response to COVID-19](#)

InterAction | Oct 15, 2020

Crises & Countries in Conflict

[Our Actions Are Our Future](#)

[Sara Nitz Nolan](#)

| Oct 13, 2020

Global & Public Policy Positions

[Making the Invisible Visible](#)

Justin Millar | Oct 13, 2020

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3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Publications/Events/Blogs

No new digest content identified.

CHS Alliance [to 17 Oct 2020]

<http://chsalliance.org/>

Our Impact
No new digest content identified.

Development Initiatives [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

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Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News/Blog/Events

Event

[Rising to the challenge: How can humanitarian evaluation better support system-wide learning?](#)

Date: 26 Oct 2020

Time: 14:00 - 15:30, GMT

Join ALNAP for a lively discussion on the current value and role of evaluation in supporting system-wide learning. We will discuss how evaluation practice can better inform decisions on building back better during COVID-19 and what needs to be done to overcome current obstacles to system-wide learning. Is the lack of system-wide learning due to how evaluations are conducted, or to how evaluations are commissioned and utilised after completion? How can the sector as a whole become more strategic in identifying evidence gaps and areas where evaluative evidence is abundant, but not fully utilised?

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

LATEST PRESS RELEASES

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC/HIF [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies [nee CERAH] – [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://humanitarianstudies.ch/>

News/Events

[You spoke, we listened: Student survey key findings](#)

13/10/20

At the Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies we are committed to offer the best learning experience to our key interlocutors: our students. The most effective way to know if we are meeting their expectations, what we are already doing well and what we can improve, is to ask them. This is

why over the summer we asked our current, past and prospective students to take a survey to get feedback about our courses and overall activities. We strongly believe that an ongoing, open and transparent dialogue with our community is vital to keep improving and to make sure we are on top of our students' needs.

120 Essential Health Interventions to protect during the COVID-19 Pandemic

13/10/20

COVID-19 creates unprecedented disruptions in delivery of routine health services, particularly in low- and middle-income countries and in humanitarian settings. In the paper, Protecting essential health services in low-income and middle-income countries and humanitarian settings while responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, a team of international experts, led by the Centre's director Prof. Karl Blanchet, presents a list of 120 essential health services that should be universally publicly financed during the pandemic.

Groupe URD [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Publications, Events

News

No new digest content identified.

International Humanitarian Studies Association [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://ihsa.info/>

Resources – Weekly Blog Posts Selections

Can the World Food Programme's Nobel Peace Prize build peace?

Selection#28 (4th-11th October)

This week we feature the Nobel committee awarding the Peace Prize to the World Food Programme. This is good because it draws attention to war as a cause of hunger and to the importance of multilateralism. It also raises concerns because food aid is highly political and even if WFP and technical interventions can alleviate hunger, they cannot build peace.

We also highlight the plight of refugees in Europe, the need for a migrant justice movement, and for protection back home. Solidarity between private citizens and refugees can be a key factor in response, as in the Rohingya response in Bangladesh.

We also have a couple of posts on Covid; on the positive role that traditional beliefs and practices can play, but also how Covid responses can be manipulated to gain power. Finally, a commentary from Sri Lanka that America's crisis is already there.

INEE – an international network for education in emergencies [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

Teachers Shoulder the Burden: Improving Support in Crisis Contexts

Published by Inter Press Service

Published 12 October 2020

Teachers are at the heart of children and young peoples' educational experiences. Teachers play multiple roles in their students' lives by supporting their learning, providing them with inclusive and

safe environments to grow and develop, and helping them become more confident as they make their way in the world

Global financiers tackle refugees' education

Published by Reliefweb

Published 12 October 2020

Leading organisations invested in children's education met on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly last week to share programmatic and financial learnings developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the need to strengthen digital learning.

UK and Kenya to host major education summit in 2021

Published by Global Partnership for Education

Published 12 October 2020

The United Kingdom and Kenya will co-host a high-level summit next year to lead global action to educate every child, the Prime Minister Boris Johnson and President Uhuru Kenyatta announce today (Monday 12 October).

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://phap.org/>

Association news, events

No new digest content identified.

Sphere [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

Putting people at the center of Disaster Risk Reduction: Sphere releases new short guide

15 October 2020 | Sphere

Sphere released a new resource that supports humanitarian practitioners implementing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) activities while keeping a standard-based approach in mind. This publication is the second of Sphere's 'thematic...

Start Network [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News and Blog

Marking a decade of positive disruption

by Christina Bennett

14 Oct 20

I am delighted to present to you [A Decade of Positive Disruption](#), a celebration of ten years of Start Network's achievements and impacts on its 10-year anniversary. It is a testament to the network's diversity and reach, as told through the insights and stories from more than 60 contributors from around the world, who have engaged with Start Network in some way.

As you will see, the story of Start Network is that of a decade of challenging the conventional practices, behaviours and habits of a century-old sector in order to bring bold thinking, brave solutions, and positive alternatives to humanitarian aid.

We challenged the status quo by discarding outdated labels, concepts and practices that have set up unhelpful divides between aid organisations, in favour of enabling a collective and equitable space and embracing a diversity of voices, perspectives, and expertise.

We challenged the status quo, by upending the humanitarian financing model to deliver faster emergency aid and more flexible financing options, importantly to those smaller, forgotten crises and communities that elude global attention and resources. We enabled early action by demonstrating with evidence and achievement that an earlier, more proactive response is more effective and more sustainable. And we've learned by doing that improving community preparedness means less loss and less suffering.

We challenged the status quo by eschewing destructive, competitive relationships among aid organisations and incentivising collaboration around a common purpose and collective action to solve systemic problems.

We challenged the status quo by recognising as peripheral our own role as a London-based headquarters, shifting resources and decision-making to those closest to the ground and enabling direct connections between those who have materials, skills, time and proximity to those who need their help.

We challenged the status quo by putting local humanitarian action at the centre of this discussion and catalysed change across the system a realignment of power, resources, and share of voice around those best placed to help.

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Brookings

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

Accessed 17 Oct 2020

Latest Research

Retirement, Pensions, & Social Security

[**A retirement dashboard for the United States**](#)

David C. John, Grace Enda, [William G. Gale](#), and [J. Mark Iwry](#)

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Retirement, Pensions, & Social Security

[**Retirement tontines: A classical finance mechanism**](#)

J. Mark Iwry, Claire Haldeman, [William G. Gale](#), and [David C. John](#)

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Housing Markets & Finance

[**Fixing Greater Boston's housing crisis starts with legalizing apartments near transit**](#)

Sarah Crump, [Trevor Mattos](#), [Jenny Schuetz](#), and [Luc Schuster](#)

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Economics

[**An individualized network for connecting talent with jobs in Central Indiana**](#)

October 15, 2020

Higher Education

Credit standards in the PLUS student loan program

Stephanie Riegg Cellini, Rajeev Darolia, and Dubravka Ritter

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Center for Global Development [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Publications, News and Events

October 15, 2020

Developing Country Trade Access after Brexit: The UK's Plans for the Generalized System of Preferences

This paper looks at what the UK's approach to tariffs will mean for developing countries' access to the UK market, and whether the government will achieve its pledge to improve access post-Brexit.

L. Alan Winters , Mattia Di Ubaldo , Max Mendez-Parra , Lee Robinson and Ian Mitchell

October 15, 2020

COVID-19 in Pakistan: A Phone Survey to Assess Education, Economic, and Health-Related Outcomes

Using a phone survey of 1,211 households in Pakistan, we examine the effects of COVID-19 on three key domains: education, economic, and health-related.

Maryam Akmal , Lee Crawford , Susannah Hares and Ana Luiza Minardi

October 15, 2020

Empathy and Client Relationships in Development Finance

Development finance is multifaceted, but empathy is a rarely discussed characteristic of the relationship between providers and clients. Sir Suma Chakrabarti and Hannah Brown argue this should be more of a consideration for DFIs.

Sir Suma Chakrabarti and Hannah Brown

October 14, 2020

Digital Cash Transfers for Stranded Migrants: Lessons from Bihar's COVID-19 Assistance Program

COVID-19 creates additional challenges that policymakers need to consider while designing and implementing new social assistance programs. This note describes how Bihar addressed the policy challenges to implement the program and the lessons it holds for India and globally.

Anit Mukherjee

October 14, 2020

A Fiscal Policy Dashboard for Low-Income Economies

We construct a fiscal policy dashboard to provide a snapshot of the fiscal system of a country, focusing on macro-sustainability, revenue mobilization, spending composition, and redistributive effects.

Jean-Luc Schneider

October 13, 2020

From Overall Fiscal Space to Budgetary Space for Health: Connecting Public Financial Management to Resource Mobilization in the Era of COVID-19

This paper advances the concept of budgetary space for health, which explores resources available for health that are generated through higher public expenditure, better budget allocations, and through improved public financial management (PFM).

[Hélène Barroy](#) and [Sanjeev Gupta](#)

October 13, 2020

Inclusive Coordination: Building an Area-Based Humanitarian Coordination Model

Area-based approaches treat needs holistically within a defined community or geography; provide aid that is explicitly multisector and multidisciplinary; and design and implement assistance through participatory engagement with affected communities and leaders. Integrating these elements of area-based logic into the humanitarian coordination architecture would better align humanitarian action around the expressed needs and aspirations of crisis-affected people.

[Jeremy Konyndyk](#) , [Patrick Saez](#) and [Rose Worden](#)

October 12, 2020

Is the World Bank's COVID Crisis Lending Big Enough, Fast Enough? New Evidence on Loan Disbursements

We compile a new data set, combining official sources with transaction-level records scraped from the World Bank website, spanning all commitments, disbursements, and payments on all World Bank loans from before the 2008-09 Global Financial Crisis through August 2020, allowing us to compare the Bank's COVID response to the last comparable global crisis. We find that lending has indeed accelerated in 2020, but the Bank appears to be on track to fulfill only half of its own target of \$160 billion in new lending by June 2021.

[Julian Duggan](#) , [Scott Morris](#) , [Justin Sandefur](#) and [George Yang](#)

CSIS [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Reports

Report

The Need to Expand the Focus of the Congressional Budget Office 2020 Long-Term Budget Outlook

October 16, 2020 | [Anthony H. Cordesman](#) U.S. discretionary and defense spending have a larger impact on U.S. politics and the economy that current trends may not indicate, writes CSIS's Burke Chair.

Report

Sharpening America's Innovative Edge

October 16, 2020 | [Matthew P. Goodman](#), [Dylan Gerstel](#), [William Alan Reinsch](#), [Scott Miller](#) This report recommends seven elements of a new approach to innovation policy in the United States. It is the third of four reports of the CSIS Trade Commission that call for action to revitalize and affirm American leadership in the world.

Report

Promote and Build: A Strategic Approach to Digital Authoritarianism

October 15, 2020 | [Erol Yayboke](#), [Samuel Brannen](#) Digital authoritarianism transcends boundaries while subverting human rights and democratic principles. This brief presents a strategic approach grounded in fundamental principles and framed around promoting resilience while building affirmative alternatives.

[See Week in Review above for detail]

Report

[Toward a New “Lost Decade”? Covid-19 and Defense Spending in Europe](#)

October 15, 2020 | [Pierre Morcos](#) Since the outbreak of Covid-19, European defense spending has entered uncharted waters, as public debt explodes and threat perceptions change. Lessons learned from the 2008 financial crisis should help Europeans take the necessary steps to avoid the worst-case scenario.

Report

[What Can the United States Do to Prevent Another Pandemic? Commit to Modernizing Influenza Vaccines](#)

October 14, 2020 Vaccines remain the most important weapon in our arsenal to counter both seasonal and pandemic influenza threats. Yet, the United States relies on antiquated influenza vaccine infrastructure and technology. Now is the time to invest in preparedness.

ODI [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases & Reports

[Non-digital interventions for adolescent mental health and psychosocial well-being: a review of the literature](#)

Working and discussion papers | October 2020 | Aparna Ananthakrishnan with Fiona Samuels, Rachel Marcus and Carmen Leon-Himmelstine

A review of non-digital interventions that are focused on preventing mental health challenges in adolescents and young people.

[Developing country trade access after Brexit: the UK’s plans for the Generalized System of Preferences](#)

Research reports and studies | October 2020 | L. Alan Winters, Mattia Di Ubaldo, Maximiliano Mendez-Parra, Lee Robinson and Ian Mitchell

This paper looks at what the UK’s approach to Brexit will mean for developing countries’ trade access.

[The impact of Covid-19 on climate change and disaster resilience funding: trends and signals](#)

Briefing papers | October 2020 | Adriana Quevedo, Katie Peters and Yue Cao

Harnessing co-benefits for pandemic recovery and climate and disaster resilience.

RoRI [Research on Research Institute] [to 17 Oct 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.

RoRI News

No new digest content identified.

Urban Institute [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Publications

Federal Tools to Create Places of Opportunity for All

The Opportunity for All series offers bold ideas for federal action to reverse the legacy of segregation and disinvestment in communities of color and ensure that every family can live in a neighborhood that supports their well-being and their children's ability to thrive. But progress on these and other promising ideas could inadvertently be undermined by other federal policy choices that fail to consider place

[Margery Austin Turner](#), [Xavier de Souza Briggs](#), [Ashleigh Gardere](#), [Solomon Greene](#)

October 15, 2020

Brief

The Potential Effects of a Supreme Court Decision to Overturn the Affordable Care Act: Updated Estimates

The Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in *California v. Texas* (called *Texas v. US* when heard by the lower courts) on November 10, 2020. In the case, a group of state attorneys general, led by the Texas attorney general, argue the entire Affordable Care Act (ACA) should be found unconstitutional and overturned, given that a 2017 tax law set the ACA's individual mandate penalties to \$0 but did not

[Linda J. Blumberg](#), [Michael Simpson](#), [Matthew Buettgens](#), [Jessica Banthin](#), [John Holahan](#)

October 15, 2020

Brief

An Updated Analysis of Former Vice President Biden's Tax Proposals

This brief updates estimates of the revenue and distributional effects of former vice president Joe Biden's 2020 campaign tax proposals. Biden's spending proposals would also have important distributional and economic effects, but we have not estimated their cost and distributional effects. Our modeling assumptions are based on information released by the Biden campaign and conversations with campaign staff; we

[Gordon B. Mermin](#), [Janet Holtzblatt](#), [Surachai Khitatrakun](#), [Chenxi Lu](#), [Thornton Matheson](#), [Jeffrey Rohaly](#)

October 15, 2020

Brief

Balancing Speed, Equity, and Impact during a Crisis

This report chronicles the genesis and evolution of the Greater Washington Community Foundation's efforts to raise and coordinate funding from a wide range of individual and institutional donors to address the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. With a particular focus on The Community Foundation's COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund, the largest of its kind in the region, this account highlights the

[Benjamin Soskis](#), [Laura Tomasko](#), [Shena Ashley](#), [Fay Walker](#)

October 14, 2020

Research Report

Performance-Based Contracting for Colorado Community Corrections

The state of Colorado is considering implementing performance-based contracting (PBC) for its community corrections programs, which provide residential supervision and treatment for people convicted of felony offenses. The Colorado Department of Public Safety (DPS) contracted the Urban Institute to develop a set of risk-adjusted outcome measures, a proposed PBC payment model, and an implementation plan for

[Rayanne Hawkins](#), [Ashlin Oglesby-Neal](#), [Libby Doyle](#), [Isabella Remor](#)

October 14, 2020

Research Report

The Use of TANF Funds for Emergency Rental Assistance and Eviction Prevention During COVID-19

As state and local governments face unprecedented budget deficits and households spend months unable to pay rent, funding for rental assistance has become increasingly important but difficult to come by. Policymakers, housing advocates, and practitioners should look beyond well-known and oversubscribed housing subsidies administered by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to other federal programs

[Eleanor Noble](#), [Jorge Morales-Burnett](#)

October 13, 2020

Brief

Electronic Health Record Reporting Program Voluntary User-Reported Criteria

The 21st Century Cures Act of 2016 created a new Electronic Health Record (EHR) Reporting Program to provide publicly available, comparative information on certified health IT products and improve the health IT marketplace. The program will reflect developers' and voluntary end users' reporting of comparative information on certified health IT. This report concludes work to develop the user criteria as an

[Christal Ramos](#), [Emily M. Johnston](#), [Fredric Blavin](#), [Gary Ozanich](#), [Kathy Frye](#)

October 13, 2020

Research Report

Five Democratic Approaches to Social Security Reform: Estimated Impact of Plans from the 2020 Presidential Campaign

Several candidates for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination developed detailed Social Security plans, which illustrate the spectrum of reform approaches being considered by the party. This report examines Social Security proposals from Joe Biden, Pete Buttigieg, Amy Klobuchar, Bernie Sanders, and Elizabeth Warren and compares their projected impact on beneficiaries, taxpayers, and system solvency. All

[Karen E. Smith](#), [Richard W. Johnson](#), [Melissa M. Favreault](#)

October 13, 2020

Research Report

Tax Fairness: President Donald Trump, a Case Study

Steven M Rosenthal, senior fellow, testified before the US House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means, Oversight Subcommittee at a hearing on "Tax Fairness." In his testimony, he examines President's Trump's reported taxes as a case study. Mr. Rosenthal assesses tax fairness through three perspectives: amount of taxes paid, business losses reported, and the ongoing IRS audit

[Steven M. Rosenthal](#)

October 13, 2020
Testimony

How Can Policymakers Close the Racial Gap in Retirement Security?

Many older Black people face significant financial challenges. Black adults age 65 and older receive only about half as much income as their white counterparts, and they are more than four times as likely to be impoverished. Shoring up Social Security's finances, boosting Social Security payments to low-income beneficiaries, and expanding Supplemental Security Income would improve financial well-being for many

[Richard W. Johnson](#)

October 12, 2020
Research Report

The Wistar Institute [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

Oct. 13, 2020

Advancement of Anticancer Compounds for B Cell Cancer Therapy Targeting a Cellular Stress Response Mechanism

IRE-1 inhibitors block a main pathway in the endoplasmic reticulum stress response that supports cell survival under stressful conditions and is important for B cell cancer development.

World Economic Forum [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Media

Japanese Prime Minister Makes a First Appearance at the World Economic Forum

News 15 Oct 2020

Leaders Release Unprecedented Map of Blockchain Standards

News 14 Oct 2020

:: The Global Standards Mapping Initiative is the first comprehensive effort to survey blockchain standards, mapping data from over 30 technical standard-setting entities, 185 jurisdictions, and nearly 400 industry groups

:: One of the few standards data sets accessible to the wider public, it is intended to serve as a resource to propel the industry forward

:: The reports synthesize key trends and provide action-oriented guidance for public and private sector stakeholders

:: Discover resources from the Global Standards Mapping Initiative and read the reports [here](#)

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:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch

We will primarily monitor press/media releases announcing key initiatives and new research from a growing number of global foundations and donors engaged in the human rights, humanitarian

response and development spheres of action. This Watch section is not intended to be exhaustive, but indicative.

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases and Statements

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 17 Oct 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 17 Oct 2020]

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

Newsroom

No new digest content identified.

Clinton Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Release

October 16, 2020

[Clinton Foundation and Africa Improved Foods boost Malawi farmers' incomes amidst COVID-19](#)

Co Impact [to 17 Oct 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.

No new digest content identified.

Ford Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://www.fordfoundation.org/press-room/>

The Latest

News 14 October 2020

Ford Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Announce Disability Futures Fellows

(NEW YORK, NY – October 14) Today, the Ford Foundation and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation announced the Disability Futures Fellows, the recipients of an 18-month initiative administered by United States Artists that aims to increase the visibility of disabled creative practitioners across disciplines and geography and elevate their voices individually and collectively.

Through the fellowship, the foundations will support 20 disabled creative practitioners whose work advances the cultural landscape. Each fellowship includes a \$50,000 grant to advance each artist's practice, totaling \$1 million for the cohort overall. This fellowship is the only national, multidisciplinary award for disabled artists and creative practitioners...

J. Paul Getty Trust [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest News

J. Paul Getty Museum Announces Major Acquisition of a Group of 39 Dutch Drawings

October 13, 2020

LOS ANGELES – The J. Paul Getty Museum announced today a landmark acquisition of 39 Dutch drawings, providing a stunning survey of the outstanding artists, styles, genres, and subjects in seventeenth-century art from the Netherlands. The group includes drawings by Rembrandt van Rijn, Jacob Ruisdael, Gerrit van Honthorst, and many other artists of the "Golden Age" of Dutch art. In addition, the acquisition includes a monumental early watercolor by Piet Mondrian, a panoramic landscape view made in 1901...

GHIT Fund [to 17 Oct 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 No new digest content identified.

Grameen Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Latest Updates

No new digest content identified.

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Release

No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Stories

Powering rural communities with renewable energy in Ethiopia

A man sits outside of the Doyole community barber shop in the Amhara Region of Ethiopia. The shop is open during the hours they receive electricity and some days that...

October 14, 2020

Solar-powered technology to level the playing field in underserved communities

Adili Solar Hubs' project 'Solar Powered Ice Flake Machine' will enable women to prepare and store fish on-site. This will help increase the value of the fish, and the additional...

October 12, 2020

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Research Oct 12 2020

New Technology Accelerates Crop Improvement with CRISPR

Researchers know how to make precise genetic changes within the genomes of crops, but the transformed cells often refuse to grow into plants. One team has devised a new solution.

Research Oct 12 2020

Mosquitoes' Taste for Blood Traced to Four Types of Neurons

The female mosquito has an amazing ability to detect blood using her syringe-like "tongue." Now scientists have identified the neurons that give her blood-seeking powers.

Kaiser Family Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

October 15, 2020 *News Release*

Tracking Poll: A Large and Growing Majority, Including Republicans, Does Not Want the Supreme Court to Overturn the ACA's Protections for People with Pre-Existing Conditions

As the Senate considers Judge Amy Coney Barrett's nomination to the Supreme Court, the October KFF Health Tracking Poll finds a large majority (79%) of the public do not want the Court to overturn the Affordable Care Act's protections for people with pre-existing medical conditions, up 17 percentage points since...

October 14, 2020 *News Release*

States Expect Medicaid Enrollment and Spending to Increase by Over 8 Percent Each in FY 2021, Primarily Driven By a Slumping Economy and Federal Conditions to Maintain Eligibility to Access Enhanced Federal Medicaid Funds

Following several years of declining or flat enrollment growth, states expect Medicaid enrollment and spending each to jump by more than 8 percent in fiscal year 2021, chiefly due to a slumping economy amid the pandemic and federal conditions to maintain coverage to access enhanced federal matching funds, according to...

October 13, 2020 *News Release*

New Nationwide Poll by the Kaiser Family Foundation and The Undeclared Reveals Distrust of the Health Care System Among Black Americans

Half of African Americans say they will not take a coronavirus vaccine KFF/The Undeclared poll shows disparate views on health care between Black and white America Poll results published on The Undeclared beginning today The Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) and The Undeclared have conducted a joint nationwide survey that explores...

Kellogg Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://www.wkkf.org/news-and-media>

Selected Announcements

New \$90M global challenge to fund bold solutions to address systemic inequities

Oct. 13, 2020

Battle Creek, MI – Today, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation announced the launch of Racial Equity 2030, a call for bold solutions to drive an equitable future for children, families and communities across the globe. In honor of the foundation's 90th anniversary, the Challenge will award \$90 million to invite, build and scale actionable ideas for transformative change in the systems and institutions that uphold inequities.

"Racial Equity 2030 is an invitation to build on this moment and advance equity," said La June Montgomery Tabron, president and CEO of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. "At the Kellogg Foundation, we know that change happens through people and their collective action. That's why we're awarding \$90 million to fuel creative and actionable solutions to achieve racial equity in the next decade."

Today, too many children's futures are bound by the color of their skin, their families' circumstances or the limits of opportunity in their communities. Racial Equity 2030 seeks bold ideas to create a future that is equitable and just...

Aga Khan Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

14 October 2020

AKU, AKAH, UCA launch climate change documentary series for South and Central Asia

MacArthur Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News, Events, What We're Learning

News Audiences Share Concern about Climate Change

October 13, 2020 *Grantee Research*

An analysis of climate change opinions among U.S. residents by the Yale Program on Climate Change Communications compares the attitudes of audiences who regularly engage with content from six major U.S. news sources—CNN, MSNBC, Fox News, NPR, the Weather Channel, and national nightly news on CBS, ABC, or NBC. While the majority of all audiences are concerned about global warming, they all underestimate the scientific consensus and have different perceptions of climate change's causes and impacts. According to the MacArthur-supported report, most audiences have an appetite for increased media coverage of climate change and see it as important to their vote in the 2020 election.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://mellon.org/>

Mellon News, Press Releases

Grantee News

[Foundations Are Teaming Up to Launch a First-of-Its-Kind Fellowship for Disabled Artists and Creatives](#)

October 14, 2020

Mellon News

[The Monuments Project: Building the Commemorative Landscape 21st-century America Needs](#)

October 11, 2020

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Open Society Foundations [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press releases

October 15, 2020

[Open Society Foundations Stand with Survivors of Sexual Harassment in Journalism](#)

The Open Society Foundations respond to the accusations of Guatemalan media outlet Nómada.

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

News

[Packard Fellowships in Science and Engineering Announces New Class of Fellows in a Year of Connecting Virtually](#)

October 15, 2020

News

[Packard Foundation Welcomes Tamara Mozahuani Alvarado to the Foundation's Local Grantmaking Program](#)

October 13, 2020

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases & Statements

No new digest content identified.

Rockefeller Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Oct 07 2020

Press Releases

[New Guidance for Using Covid-19 Testing Strategies to Reopen America's Schools Safely](#)

10.14.20

:: First-of-its-Kind Screening Testing Protocols for K-12 Schools Across the United States

:: Four Cities and One State to Pilot Protocols with 120,000 Rapid Antigen Tests Provided by HHS

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 17 Oct 2020]

<https://www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom.html>

Latest News and Highlights

No new digest content identified.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 17 Oct 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 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Opinion | 13 October 2020

[Once we have effective Covid-19 treatments, it shouldn't only be the rich who benefit](#)

Jeremy Farrar, Director, Wellcome

We need a range of treatments to make Covid-19 preventable and treatable. Jeremy Farrar describes recent progress made by research and why more investment is needed.

Opinion | 12 October 2020

[More people should have access to monoclonal antibodies. Covid-19 can make that happen](#)

Lindsay Keir, Partner, Innovations team Wellcome

Monoclonal antibodies, one of the most promising treatments for Covid-19, are usually expensive and not available worldwide. Lindsay Keir highlights what needs to be done to change that.

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Candid [*formerly Foundation Center and GuideStar*] [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Press Room

No new digest content identified.

Council on Foundations [to 17 Oct 2020]

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

Newsroom/Blog Posts

No new digest content identified.

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:: Journal Watch

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

AJOB Empirical Bioethics

Volume 11, 2020 Issue 4

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/uabr21/current>

Articles

[The Meaning of Informed Consent: Genome Editing Clinical Trials for Sickle Cell Disease](#)

[Stacy Desine](#), [Brittany M. Hollister](#), [Khadijah E. Abdallah](#), [Anitra Persaud](#), [Sara Chandros Hull](#) & [Vence L. Bonham](#)

Pages 195-207 | Published online: 12 Oct 2020 *Open Access*

<https://doi.org/10.1080/23294515.2020.1818876>

Abstract

Background

A first therapeutic target of somatic genome editing (SGE) is sickle cell disease (SCD), the most commonly inherited blood disorders, affecting more than 100,000 individuals in the United States. Advancement of SGE is contingent on patient participation in first in human clinical trials. However,

seriously ill patients may be vulnerable to overestimating the benefits of early phase studies while underestimating the risks. Therefore, ensuring potential clinical trial participants are fully informed prior to participating in a SGE clinical trial is critical.

Methods: We conducted a mixed-methods study of adults with SCD as well as parents and physicians of individuals with SCD. Participants were asked to complete a genetic literacy survey, watch an educational video about genome editing, complete a two-part survey, and take part in focus group discussions. Focus groups addressed topics on clinical trials, ethics of gene editing, and what is not understood regarding gene editing. All focus groups were audio-recorded, transcribed, and analyzed using conventional content analysis techniques to identify major themes.

Results: Our study examined the views of SCD stakeholders regarding what they want and need to know about genome editing to make an informed decision to participate in a SGE clinical trial.

Prominent themes included stakeholders' desire to understand treatment side effects, mechanism of action of SGE, trial qualification criteria, and the impact of SGE on quality of life. In addition, some physicians expressed concerns about the extent to which their patients would understand concepts related to SGE; however, individuals with SCD demonstrated higher levels of genetic literacy than estimated by physicians.

Conclusions: Designing ethically robust genome editing clinical trials for the SCD population will require, at a minimum, addressing the expressed information needs of the community through culturally sensitive engagement, so that they can make informed decisions to consider participation in clinical trials.

Article

Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues (ELSI) of Responsible Data Sharing Involving Children in Genomics: A Systematic Literature Review of Reasons

Vasiliki Rahimzadeh, Bartha Maria Knoppers & Gillian Bartlett

Pages: 233-245

Published online: 25 Sep 2020

American Journal of Infection Control

October 2020 Volume 48, Issue 10, p1133-1286

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

October 2020 Volume 59, Issue 4, p469-620

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

October 2020 110(S3) Supplement 3 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 103, Issue 3, September 2020
<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/103/3>
[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

6 October 2020 Volume 173, Issue 7
<http://annals.org/aim/issue>
[Reviewed earlier]

Antiquity – A Review of World Archeology

Issue 377 - October 2020
<https://antiquity.ac.uk/latest>
[Reviewed earlier]

Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal

Volume 288 November 2020
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/288/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

<http://resource-allocation.biomedcentral.com/>
(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health

October 2020 - Volume 5 - 10
<https://gh.bmj.com/content/5/10>
[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/bmchealthservres/content>
(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[Do the dynamics of vaccine programs improve the full immunization of children under the age of five in Cameroon?](#)

Among the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), three were devoted to health. Two amongst which MDG4 in relation to the reduction of infant mortality has not been achieved in Least Developed Countries (LD...

Authors: Rodrigue Nda'chi Deffo and Benjamin Fomba Kamga

Citation: BMC Health Services Research 2020 20:953

Content type: Research article

Published on: 15 October 2020

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[Defining and deconstructing girl child marriage and applications to global public health](#)

An estimated 650 million girls and women alive today married before their 18th birthday. Referred to as girl child marriage, the formal or informal union of the girl-child before age 18, the practice is increa...

Authors: Yvette Efevbera and Jacqueline Bhabha

Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20:1547

Content type: Review

Published on: 15 October 2020

[States with fewer criminalizing immigrant policies have smaller health care inequities between citizens and noncitizens](#)

In the last thirty years, major shifts in immigrant policy at national and state levels has heightened boundaries among citizens, permanent residents, and those with other statuses. While there is mounting evi...

Authors: Maria-Elena De Trinidad Young, Hiram Beltrán-Sánchez and Steven P. Wallace

Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20:1460

Content type: Research article

Published on: 15 October 2020

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

October 2020 - Volume 10 - 10

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 98, Number 10, October 2020, 645-724

<https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/98/10/en/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

Volume 46, Issue 6 Pages: 651-750 November 2020

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal

Volume 108 October 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/child-abuse-and-neglect/vol/108/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics

September 2020 Volume 42 Issue 9 p1625-1846, e161-e208

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

Reviews

Antibiotic Stewardship in Food-producing Animals: Challenges, Progress, and Opportunities

Sameer J. Patel, Matthew Wellington, Rohan M. Shah, Matthew J. Ferreira

Published online: August 18, 2020 p1649-1658

Abstract

Purpose

Approximately two thirds of the tonnage of antibiotics sold in the United States are intended for use in food production, and global use is projected to increase. This review summarizes the rationale for antibiotic use in animal agriculture, therapeutic classes used, risks from antibiotic-resistant organisms, and limits of existing regulation. In addition, opportunities for improved surveillance, stewardship, and advocacy will be highlighted.

Methods

A transdisciplinary narrative review of drivers of antibiotics in food production was conducted, including concepts from population health, infectious diseases, veterinary medicine, and consumer advocacy.

Findings

Globally, antibiotics of many important classes in human medicine are given to animals for the treatment of a diagnosed illness, disease control and prevention, and growth promotion. Extensive antibiotic use on farms drives the emergence of antibiotic-resistant organisms in food-producing animals, which can be transmitted to people and the environment. Antibiotic stewardship in food production has been associated with decreased rates of resistance in both animals and humans, without reducing farm productivity. Multiple European nations have successfully implemented stewardship strategies, including banning uses for disease prevention, benchmarking antibiotic utilization, and setting national reduction targets. In the United States, medically important antibiotics are no longer permitted for growth promotion; however, antibiotics may be prescribed for other indications with limited veterinary oversight and requirements for reporting. Marked reductions in use have been achieved in the poultry industry, although use in the pork and beef industries remain high.

Implications

Despite some progress, significant challenges in surveillance and regulatory oversight remain to prevent the overuse of antibiotics in food production. Consumers remain a potent force via market pressure on grocery stores, restaurants, suppliers, and farmers. Improved, verified labelling is important for informing consumer choices. Numerous public health agencies, consumer groups, and professional societies have called for judicious antibiotic use, but increased direct advocacy from health care professionals is needed.

Clinical Trials

Volume 17 Issue 5, October 2020

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/ctja/17/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 96 September 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/96/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

The CRISPR Journal

Volume 3, Issue 4 / August 2020

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/3/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Genetic Medicine Reports

Volume 8, issue 3, September 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/volumes-and-issues/8-3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

October 2020 - Volume 33 - Issue 5

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Developing World Bioethics

Volume 20, Issue 3 Pages: 115-171 September 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14718847/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Development in Practice

Volume 30, Issue 6, 2020

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

New sectoral perspectives on international NGOs: scale, dynamics and influences. Guest Editors: Nicola Banks, Lau Schulpen, and Dan Brockington

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

Volume 38, Issue 5 Pages: 539-681 September 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677679/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 15, Issue 7, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 14 - Issue 2 - April 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disasters

Volume 44, Issue 4 Pages: 619-752 October 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14677717/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

Volume 21 Issue 10 5 October 2020

<https://www.embopress.org/toc/14693178/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 26, Number 10—October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Epidemics

Volume 32 September 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/epidemics/vol/32/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 5 Pages: 1-40 September–October 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/25782363/current>

Participants with autism • Big data and pragmatic trials • Covid-19 research

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Summer 2020 (34.2) July 2020

<https://www.ethicsandinternationalaffairs.org/2020/summer-2020-34-2/>

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 30, Issue Supplement_4, September 2020

https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/30/Supplement_4

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 95 August 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/food-policy/vol/95/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 12, issue 5, October 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/volumes-and-issues/12-5>

Genebanks and Food Security in a Changing Agriculture

In this issue - October 2020

Serge Savary

Plant breeding is vital to ensuring food security, locally to globally. No progress in plant breeding in producing varieties that are adapted locally would be possible without genetic resources. Public gene banks have been created to harbour, conserve, maintain, and distribute genes all over the world. Gene banks have the heavy task of ensuring that genetic diversity is preserved for the future, where climates will have changed, where nutritional needs will have evolved, and where agrosystems will have been transformed. Gene banks are also the repository of history, culture, and traditions, in the form of seeds and DNA. The welfare of public gene banks that can share genetic resources with anyone in need of plant material for breeding purposes is essential. In humanity's capability to adapt to the challenges of population growth, climate change, and nutritional needs, the role of public gene banks is paramount.

The October Issue of Food Security starts with a Special Section on Genebanks, co-edited by Conny Almekinders (Editorial Board of Food Security and WUR The Netherlands), Melinda Smale (Michigan State University, USA) and Nelissa Jamora (Global Crop Diversity Trust, Bonn, Germany). This Special Section starts with an Introductory article by Melinda Smale and Nelissa Jamora, titled Valuing genebanks.

A series of articles on the themes follows:

- :: an economic analysis of the value of gene banks (Douglas Gollin);
- :: an assessment of the impact of IRRI's gene bank on rice breeding in Eastern India (Donald Villanueva et al.);
- :: a study on gene flows and genetic diversity in relation with CIMMYT's gene bank (Vanessa Ocampo-Giraldo et al.);
- :: an example of CIP's potato gene bank on the development of new potato varieties in sub-Saharan Africa (Vivian Bernal-Galeano et al.);
- :: an assessment of CIAT's bean gene bank in the development of improved bean varieties in Rwanda (Stefania Sellitti);
- :: a study of the contribution of the World Agroforestry gene bank to agro-forest systems in Kenya (Kavengi Kitonga et al.);
- :: a study of the role played by gene banks in controlling taro leaf blight in the Pacific through host plant resistance (Sefra Alexandra);
- :: an illustration of the role of genetic diversity in expanding the size of the genepool of wheat (Hafid Aberkane et al.); and
- :: an assessment of the meanings of gene banks in a European country (Czechoslovakia; Nik Tyack and Milan Ščasný).

Forced Migration Review (FMR)

FMR 643 June 2020

<https://www.fmreview.org/issue64>

Climate crisis and local communities / Trafficking and smuggling / COVID-19: early reflections

June 2020

FMR issue 64 includes two main feature themes, one on Climate crisis and local communities and one on Trafficking and smuggling, plus a 'mini-feature' on early reflections on COVID-19 in the context of displacement.

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 47, 2020 - Issue 2

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

Issue Theme: Challenges in an era of new North-South divides. Research in the time of Covid-19

[Reviewed earlier]

Gates Open Research

<https://gatesopenresearch.org/browse/articles>

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

Open Letter metrics AWAITING PEER REVIEW

[Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the human resources for health in India and key policy areas to build a resilient health workforce](#) [version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Ankita Mukherjee, Rakesh Parashar

Peer Reviewers Invited

Funder: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

PUBLISHED 15 Oct 2020

Genome Medicine

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

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Geoheritage

Volume 12, Issue 3, September 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12371/12/3>

[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. 3 October 01, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Public Health

Volume 15, 2020 Issue 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

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

Research

[Understanding the trends in international agreements on pricing and reimbursement for newly marketed medicines and their implications for access to medicines: a computational text analysis](#)

Authors: Kyung-Bok Son

14 October 2020

Health Affairs

Vol. 39, No. 10 October 2020

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

Children's Health

Health and Human Rights

Volume 22, Issue 1, June 2020

<https://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-22-issue-1-june-2020/>

Special Section: Mental Health and Human Rights

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Economics, Policy and Law

Volume 15 - Issue 4 - October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Health Policy and Planning

Volume 35, Issue 8, October 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/35/8>

Original Articles

[Delivering a primary-level non-communicable disease programme for Syrian refugees and the host population in Jordan: a descriptive costing study](#)

Eimhín Ansbro, Sylvia Garry, Veena Karir, Amulya Reddy, Kiran Jobanputra ...

Health Policy and Planning, Volume 35, Issue 8, October 2020, Pages 931–940,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czaa050>

Reviews

Utilization of traditional medicine in primary health care in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review

Jae Kyoung Kim, Kyeong Han Kim, Yong Cheol Shin, Bo-Hyoung Jang, Seong-Gyu Ko
Health Policy and Planning, Volume 35, Issue 8, October 2020, Pages 1070–1083,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czaa022>

Health system resilience: a literature review of empirical research

Louise Biddle, Katharina Wahedi, Kayvan Bozorgmehr
Health Policy and Planning, Volume 35, Issue 8, October 2020, Pages 1084–1109,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/heapol/czaa032>

Health Research Policy and Systems

<http://www.health-policy-systems.com/content>
[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Human Gene Therapy

Volume 31, Issue 17-18 / September 2020
<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/31/17-18>
Special Issue on Gene and Cell Therapies for Pulmonary Disorders
[New issue; No digest content identified]

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 42, Number 3, August 2020
<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/42690>
[Reviewed earlier]

Humanitarian Exchange Magazine

Number 78, October 2020
<https://odihpn.org/magazine/inclusion-of-persons-with-disabilities-in-humanitarian-action-what-now/>
Disability inclusion in humanitarian action
by HPN October 2020

The theme of this edition of Humanitarian Exchange, co-edited with Sherin Alsheikh Ahmed from Islamic Relief Worldwide, is disability inclusion in humanitarian action. Persons with disabilities are not only disproportionately impacted by conflicts, disasters and other emergencies, but also face barriers to accessing humanitarian assistance. At the same time, global commitments and standards and the IASC Guidelines on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in humanitarian action all emphasise how persons with disabilities are also active agents of change. Disability and age-focused organisations have led on testing and demonstrating how inclusion can be done better. Yet despite this progress, challenges to effective inclusion remain.

As Kirstin Lange notes in the lead article, chief among these challenges is humanitarian agencies' lack of engagement with organisations of persons with disabilities. Simone Bula, Elizabeth Morgan and Teresa Thomson look at disability inclusion in humanitarian response in the Pacific, and Kathy Al Jubeh

and Alradi Abdalla argue for a 'participation revolution', building on learning from the gender movement. Tchaurea Fleury and Sulayman AbdulMumuni Ujah outline how the Bridge Article 11 training initiative is encouraging constructive exchange between humanitarian and disability actors. The lack of good, disaggregated data is highlighted by Sarah Collinson; Frances Hill, Jim Cranshaw and Carys Hughes emphasise the need for training resources in local languages and accessible formats; and Sophie Van Eetvelt and colleagues report on a review of the evidence on inclusion of people with disabilities and older people.

Rebecca Molyneux and co-authors analyse the findings of a review of a DFID programme in north-east Nigeria, while Carolin Funke highlights the importance of strategic partnerships between disability-focused organisations, drawing on her research in Cox's Bazar. Sherin Alsheikh Ahmed describes Islamic Relief Worldwide's approach to mainstreaming protection and inclusion, while Pauline Thivillier and Valentina Shafina outline IRC's Client Responsive Programming. The edition ends with reflections by Mirela Turcanu and Yves Ngunzi Kahashi on CAFOD's SADI approach.

Infectious Agents and Cancer

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

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 12, Issue 5, September 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/12/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 9 (2020): Issue 1 (May 2020)

<https://brill.com/view/journals/hrlr/9/1/hrlr.9.issue-1.xml>

[Reviewed earlier]

The International Journal of Children's Rights

Volume 28 (2020): Issue 3 (Aug 2020)

<https://brill.com/view/journals/chil/28/3/chil.28.issue-3.xml>

Special Issue: Article 5 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: Families, Guidance and Evolving Capacities

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health

Vol 7, No 10 (2020) October 2020

<https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/67>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 47 August 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-journal-of-disaster-risk-reduction/vol/47/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 49, Issue 3, June 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/ije/issue/49/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 26, Issue 11, 2020

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

Article

[Remaking generational memory: practices of de-canonisation at historical museums](#)

Efrat Ben-Ze'ev & Edna Lomsky-Feder

Pages: 1077-1091

Published online: 24 Apr 2020

ABSTRACT

Members of generations who participated in seminal national events tend to be identified as 'canonical' and become a model for proper behaviour; they are important carriers of memory. However, their privileged status is not guaranteed for long and their position will, at some point, be challenged. It is this dynamic, whereby a generational unit is canonised and then de-canonised, that we explore in this paper. We follow this process as it is manifested in three historical museums in Israel. These museums exhibit the story of the Palmach, a semi-underground militia, whose members were considered among the Zionists as the elite fighters of the 1948 War. When observing their museological representations in the last decades, we uncover the attempt to root the Palmach heritage, on the one hand, while on the other – to revise its content via three practices of de-canonisation. This revision includes the individualisation of war memories; giving legitimacy to critical voices; and dismantling the bond between the generational legacy and the nation. Paradoxically these practices of freeing the veterans from their previous canonical role ensures the preservation of some symbolic capital.

International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare

Volume 13 Issue 4 2020

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2056-4902/vol/13/iss/4>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Infectious Diseases

September 2020 Volume 98, p1-502
[https://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712\(20\)X0010-5](https://www.ijidonline.com/issue/S1201-9712(20)X0010-5)
[Reviewed earlier]

International Migration Review

Volume 54 Issue 3, September 2020
<http://journals.sagepub.com/toc/mrx/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

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

January-June 2020 Volume 18 | Issue 1 Page Nos. 1-95
<http://www.interventionjournal.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>
[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

October 13, 2020, Vol 324, No. 14, Pages 1371-1476
<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/currentissue>
Viewpoint

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Worker Safety During the COVID-19 Pandemic

David Michaels, PhD, MPH; Gregory R. Wagner, MD
free access

JAMA. 2020;324(14):1389-1390. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.16343

This Viewpoint discusses the importance of preventive measures and supplies to reduce workplace COVID-19 transmission and calls for the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to issue an enforceable requirement that employers implement standards and plans to minimize COVID-19 incidence among essential workers and spread to their families and communities.

Viewpoint

Suboptimal US Response to COVID-19 Despite Robust Capabilities and Resources

Jennifer B. Nuzzo, DrPH, SM; Jessica A. Bell, MS; Elizabeth E. Cameron, PhD
free access

JAMA. 2020;324(14):1391-1392. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.17395

This Viewpoint attempts to reconcile the US's high 2019 preparedness ranking on the Global Health Security Index, an international framework for benchmarking health security, and its faltering coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic response, and explores lessons learned from other countries whose higher rankings and efficient responses were more closely aligned.

Viewpoint

The Case for Algorithmic Stewardship for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technologies

Stephanie Eaneff, MSP; Ziad Obermeyer, MD; Atul J. Butte, MD, PhD
has audio

JAMA. 2020;324(14):1397-1398. doi:10.1001/jama.2020.9371

This Viewpoint proposes creation of algorithmic stewardship programs at health systems, tasked similar to antibiotic stewardship committees with oversight of artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies to ensure they are used safely, effectively, fairly, and to the benefit of diverse patient populations.

[Conversations with Dr Bauchner](#): Algorithmic Stewardship for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Technologies

JAMA Network

[COVID-19 Update October 17, 2020](#)

These articles on COVID-19 were published across the JAMA Network in the last week.

JAMA Pediatrics

October 2020, Vol 174, No. 10, Pages 919-1012

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JBIR Database of Systematic Review and Implementation Reports

October 2020 - Volume 18 - Issue 10

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

METHODOLOGY

[Methodological guidance for the conduct of mixed methods systematic reviews](#)

Stern, Cindy; Lizarondo, Lucylynn; Carrier, Judith; More

JBIR Evidence Synthesis. 18(10):2108-2118, October 2020.

[Updated methodological guidance for the conduct of scoping reviews](#)

Peters, Micah D.J.; Marnie, Casey; Tricco, Andrea C.; More

JBIR Evidence Synthesis. 18(10):2119-2126, October 2020.

Journal of Adolescent Health

October 2020 Volume 67, Issue 4, p461-622

[https://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X\(20\)X0008-5](https://www.jahonline.org/issue/S1054-139X(20)X0008-5)

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research

Vol. 69 (2020)

<https://www.jair.org/index.php/jair>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Community Health

Volume 45, issue 5, October 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/volumes-and-issues/45-5>

Articles

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage

Volume 44 Pages 1-324 (July–August 2020)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-cultural-heritage/vol/44/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2020 Volume 10 Issue 3

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2044-1266/vol/10/iss/3>

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[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 147 November 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/147/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics

Volume 15 Issue 4, October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

September 2020 - Volume 74 - 9

<https://jech.bmj.com/content/74/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine

Volume 13, Issue 3 Pages: 179-249 August 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/17565391/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Global Ethics

Volume 16, Issue 2, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

Volume 31, Number 3, August 2020

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/42831>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Human Trafficking

Volume 6, Issue 4, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Humanitarian Logistics and Supply Chain Management

Volume 10 Issue 3 2020

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2042-6747/vol/10/iss/3>

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Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 22, issue 5, October 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/volumes-and-issues/22-5>

Articles

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies

Volume 18, 2020_ Issue 4

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 222, Issue 3, 1 August 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/jid/issue/222/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of International Development

Volume 32, Issue 7 Pages: 1007-1228 October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

October 2020 - Volume 46 - 10

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Operations Management

Volume 66, Issue 6 Pages: 613-750 September 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/18731317/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 7, Issue 3 (2020)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

October 2020 Volume 225, p1-288

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

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

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[Public spending on orphan medicines: a review of the literature](#)

Little is known about how much public payers spend on orphan medicines. This study aimed at identifying information on orphan medicine expenditure incurred by public payers that was published in literature globally and at possibly synthesising their shares as portion of the total pharmaceutical expenditure.

Authors: Margit Gombocz and Sabine Vogler

Content type: Research

13 October 2020

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

September/October 2020 - Volume 26 - Issue 5

<https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/currenttoc.aspx>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 41, Issue 3, September 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/41/3>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Refugee & Global Health

Volume 3, Issue 1 (2020)

<https://ir.library.louisville.edu/rgh/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of the Royal Society – Interface

October 2020 Volume 17 Issue 171

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsif/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 27, Issue 6, August 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Oct 17, 2020 Volume 396 Number 10258 p1129-1306

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

Editorial

Global health: time for radical change?

The Lancet

What strategies should governments adopt to improve the health of their citizens? Amid the COVID-19 syndemic it would be easy to focus attention on global health security—at a minimum, strong public health and health-care systems. WHO has based its global health strategy on three pillars: universal health coverage, health emergencies, and better health and wellbeing. The indispensable elements of robust public health and health care are well known and endlessly rehearsed—a capable health workforce; effective, safe, and high-quality service delivery; health information systems; access to essential medicines; sufficient financing; and good governance. But has the gaze of global health been too narrow? Have health leaders and advocates been missing the most important determinants of human health?

The [latest report](#) of the Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) 2019 raises uncomfortable questions about the direction global health has taken in the 21st century. On the one hand, the news seems good. The health of the world's population is steadily improving. Global life expectancy at birth increased from 67·2 years in 2000 to 73·5 years in 2019. Healthy life expectancy has increased in 202 of 204 countries and territories. In 21 countries, healthy life expectancy at birth increased by more than 10 years between 1990 and 2019, with gains of up to 19·1 years. The estimated number of deaths in children under 5 years decreased from 9·6 million in 2000 to 5 million in 2019. Indeed, the falls in rates of age-standardised disability-adjusted life-years since 1990 have been the largest for communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases—and progress has been fastest in the past decade.

But GBD also reveals, once again, that health depends on more than health systems. The strong correlation between health and the socio-demographic index—a summary metric of a country's overall development based on average income per capita, educational attainment, and total fertility rates—suggests that the health sector should consider redefining its scope of concern.

GBD 2019 also offers a revised theory of the demographic transition, delineating seven separate stages. A particular innovation is the idea of late-transition and post-transition stages, disaggregated for migration status. 35 countries, largely in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East, are in mid-

transition, with falling birth and death rates (as of 2019, no countries were in the pre-transition stage). Countries such as Brazil, China, and the USA are in the late-transition stage, with death rates plateauing, while birth rates continue to decrease. The final post-transition stage is when the birth rate is lower than the death rate and natural population growth is negative—as seen in Japan, Italy, and Russia. An important and overlooked influence on these demographic stages is migration. 17 countries, including Spain, Greece, and many eastern European countries, are in “a precarious state”—in the post-transition stage, with net emigration. Here, policies are needed to lessen the social and economic effects of an increasingly inverted population pyramid—encouraging immigration could be one way to help.

None of these arguments should suggest that universal health coverage and global health security are irrelevant to health. As the GBD 2019 authors argue, some countries have longer life expectancies than their stage of development would predict. These overperforming nations—such as Niger, Ethiopia, Portugal, and Spain—probably have superior public health and health-care policies. What GBD 2019 does suggest is that the global health community needs to radically rethink its vision. An exclusive focus on health care is a mistake. Health is created from a broader prospectus that includes the quality of education (primary to tertiary), economic growth, gender equality, and migration policy.

This conclusion is immediately relevant to national strategies to address COVID-19. Although attention should be given to controlling community transmission of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 and protecting those most vulnerable to its consequences, success will require a more capacious strategy. [COVID-19 is a syndemic](#) of coronavirus infection combined with an epidemic of non-communicable diseases, both interacting on a social substrate of poverty and inequality. The message of GBD is that unless deeply embedded structural inequities in society are tackled and unless a more liberal approach to immigration policies is adopted, communities will not be protected from future infectious outbreaks and population health will not achieve the gains that global health advocates seek. It's time for the global health community to change direction.

Viewpoint

[Five insights from the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019](#)

GBD 2019 Viewpoint Collaborators

Summary

The Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) 2019 provides a rules-based synthesis of the available evidence on levels and trends in health outcomes, a diverse set of risk factors, and health system responses. GBD 2019 covered 204 countries and territories, as well as first administrative level disaggregations for 22 countries, from 1990 to 2019. Because GBD is highly standardised and comprehensive, spanning both fatal and non-fatal outcomes, and uses a mutually exclusive and collectively exhaustive list of hierarchical disease and injury causes, the study provides a powerful basis for detailed and broad insights on global health trends and emerging challenges. GBD 2019 incorporates data from 281 586 sources and provides more than 3·5 billion estimates of health outcome and health system measures of interest for global, national, and subnational policy dialogue. All [GBD estimates](#) are publicly available and adhere to the [Guidelines](#) on Accurate and Transparent Health Estimate Reporting. From this vast amount of information, five key insights that are important for health, social, and economic development strategies have been distilled. These insights are subject to the many limitations outlined in each of the component GBD capstone papers.

Global Health Metrics

Global age-sex-specific fertility, mortality, healthy life expectancy (HALE), and population estimates in 204 countries and territories, 1950–2019: a comprehensive demographic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019

GBD 2019 Demographics Collaborators

Open Access

Global burden of 369 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019

GBD 2019 Diseases and Injuries Collaborators

Open Access

Global burden of 87 risk factors in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019

GBD 2019 Risk Factors Collaborators

Open Access

Articles

Measuring universal health coverage based on an index of effective coverage of health services in 204 countries and territories, 1990–2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019

GBD 2019 Universal Health Coverage Collaborators

Open Access

Fertility, mortality, migration, and population scenarios for 195 countries and territories from 2017 to 2100: a forecasting analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study

Stein Emil Vollset, et al

Open Access

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health

Oct 2020 Volume 4 Number 10 p709-794, e36-e39

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanchi/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Digital Health

Oct 2020 Volume 2 Number 10 e493-e560

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landig/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Global Health

Oct 2020 Volume 8 Number 10 e1242-e1351

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Oct 2020, Volume 20 Number 10 p1101-1216, e250-e283

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

Editorial

Curing COVID-19

The Lancet Infectious Diseases

As the COVID-19 pandemic moves into its 10th month, greater patient survival suggests that treatment of severe disease has improved. How much of this improvement is due to better supportive care and how much to pharmaceuticals is a matter of debate. Given the huge effort that the biomedical community has put into finding drugs to treat COVID-19, with thousands of trials completed and ongoing, it's worth taking stock of the evidence for what has worked and what has not...

Personal View

Vaccinology: time to change the paradigm?

Christine Stabell Benn, Ane B Fisker, Andreas Rieckmann, Signe Sørup, Peter Aaby

Summary

The existing vaccine paradigm assumes that vaccines only protect against the target infection, that effective vaccines reduce mortality corresponding to the target infection's share of total mortality, and that the effects of vaccines are similar for males and females. However, epidemiological vaccine research has generated observations that contradict these assumptions and suggest that vaccines have important non-specific effects on overall health in populations. These include the observations that several live vaccines reduce the incidence of all-cause mortality in vaccinated compared with unvaccinated populations far more than can be explained by protection against the target infections, and that several non-live vaccines are associated with increased all-cause mortality in females. In this Personal View we describe current observations and contradictions and define six emerging principles that might explain them. First, that live vaccines enhance resistance towards unrelated infections. Second, non-live vaccines enhance the susceptibility of girls to unrelated infections. Third, the most recently administered vaccination has the strongest non-specific effects. Fourth, combinations of live and non-live vaccines given together have variable non-specific health effects. Fifth, vaccinating children with live vaccines in the presence of maternal immunity enhances beneficial non-specific effects and reduces mortality. Finally, vaccines might interact with other co-administered health interventions, for example vitamin A supplementation. The potential implications for child health are substantial. For example, if BCG vaccination was given to children at birth, if higher measles vaccination coverage could be obtained, if diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis-containing vaccines were not given with or after measles vaccine, or if the BCG strain with the best non-specific effects could be used consistently, then child mortality could be considerably lower. Pursuing these emerging principles could improve our understanding and use of vaccines globally.

Lancet Public Health

Oct 2020 Volume 5 Number 10 e512-e567

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Oct 2020 Volume 8 Number 10 p935-1060, e73-e77

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 24, issue 10, October 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/volumes-and-issues/24-10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 40 Issue 6, August 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

The Milbank Quarterly

A Multidisciplinary Journal of Population Health and Health Policy

Volume 98, Issue 3 Pages: 619-1020 September 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/14680009/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature

Volume 586 Issue 7829, 15 October 2020

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

Editorial | 14 October 2020

[Why Nature supports Joe Biden for US president](#)

We cannot stand by and let science be undermined. Joe Biden's trust in truth, evidence, science and democracy make him the only choice in the US election

Editorial | 12 October 2020

[Ending hunger: science must stop neglecting smallholder farmers](#)

Policymakers urgently need ideas on ways to end hunger. But a global review of the literature finds that most researchers have had the wrong priorities.

Matters Arising

Published: 14 October 2020

[Transparency and reproducibility in artificial intelligence](#)

Benjamin Haibe-Kains, George Alexandru Adam[...] & Hugo J. W. L. Aerts

Nature Biotechnology

Volume 38 Issue 10, October 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/38/issues/10>

[SARS-CoV-2 detection](#)

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Communications

<https://www.nature.com/subjects/health-sciences/ncomms>
(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)
[No new digest content identified]

Nature Genetics

Volume 52 Issue 10, October 2020

<https://www.nature.com/ng/volumes/52/issues/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Medicine

Volume 26 Issue 10, October 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/26/issues/10>

Patient-partnered clinical research

The path to productive collaboration between researchers and patients is not always easy, with language differences, knowledge gaps and power dynamics setting considerable barriers along the way. In this issue, we explore how patient- and community-led research is achievable if both sides make it a priority. The cover, designed by illustrator Sarah Lippett, a person living with a rare disease who explores her diagnostic odyssey in her work, shows how effective and equitable patient–researcher collaboration can be transformative to research.

Editorial | 07 October 2020

Scientists, keep an open line of communication with the public

The COVID-19 pandemic has opened up a direct channel between scientists and the public. Keeping it open must become part of scientists' mission. Collaboration can be transformative to research.

News Feature | 07 October 2020

Rare diseases band together toward change in research

Patients with rare diseases, and the scientists who study those diseases, were long inhibited by geographic sparsity. But the social-media age has made it much easier for them to band together to leverage their experience and push forward change.

Claire Ainsworth

News Feature | 07 October 2020

Patient groups and biomedicine: for better and for worse

In recent years, patient research groups have spurred culture shifts in biomedical research and governance, with many health experts lauding the benefit of these groups' being embedded in the research process. Some, however, question private-sector influence in these groups' newfound power.

John Zarocostas

Comment | 07 October 2020

The Human Cell Atlas and equity: lessons learned

The Human Cell Atlas has been undergoing a massive effort to support global scientific equity. The co-leaders of its Equity Working Group share some lessons learned in the process.

Partha P. Majumder, Musa M. Mhlana & Alex K. Shalek

Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 21 Issue 10, October 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/21/issues/9>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Immunology

Volume 20 Issue 10, October 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nri/volumes/20/issues/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Volume 19 Issue 10, October 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrd/volumes/19/issues/10>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

October 15, 2020 Vol. 383 No. 16

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

Perspective

[Covid-19 and the Mandate to Redefine Preventive Care](#)

Daniel M. Horn, M.D., and Jennifer S. Haas, M.D.

Original

[Evaluation of the mRNA-1273 Vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 in Nonhuman PrimatesK.S. Corbett and Others](#)

Kizzmekia S. Corbett, Ph.D., et al.

Editorials

[Audio Interview: Vaccinology and Covid-19](#)

Eric J. Rubin, M.D., Ph.D., Lindsey R. Baden, M.D., and Stephen Morrissey, Ph.D.

In this audio interview conducted on October 14, 2020, the editors discuss the fundamental concepts behind candidate vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 and the status of ongoing clinical trials.

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 49 Issue 5, October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Pediatrics

Vol. 146, Issue 4 1 Oct 2020

<https://pediatrics.aappublications.org/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Pharmaceutics

Volume 12, Issue 7 (July 2020) – 97 articles

<https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4923/12/7>

[Reviewed earlier]

PharmacoEconomics

Volume 38, issue 10, October 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/volumes-and-issues/38-10>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLoS Genetics

<https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/>

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

Research Article

[Risk of disease and willingness to vaccinate in the United States: A population-based survey](#)

Vaccination complacency occurs when perceived risks of vaccine-preventable diseases are sufficiently low so that vaccination is no longer perceived as a necessary precaution. Disease outbreaks can once again increase perceptions of risk, thereby decrease vaccine complacency, and in turn decrease vaccine hesitancy. It is not well understood, however, how change in perceived risk translates into change in vaccine hesitancy. We advance the concept of vaccine propensity, which relates a change in willingness to vaccinate with a change in perceived risk of infection—holding fixed other considerations such as vaccine confidence and convenience.

Bert Baumgaertner, Benjamin J. Ridenhour, Florian Justwan, Juliet E. Carlisle, Craig R. Miller

| published 15 Oct 2020 PLOS Medicine

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pmed.1003354>

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 17 Oct 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS One

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

Research Article

COVID-19 induced economic loss and ensuring food security for vulnerable groups: Policy implications from Bangladesh

Khondoker Abdul Mottaleb, Mohammed Mainuddin, Tetsushi Sonobe
Research Article | published 16 Oct 2020 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0240709>

Using social media influencers to increase knowledge and positive attitudes toward the flu vaccine

Erika Bonnevie, Sarah D. Rosenberg, Caitlin Kummeth, Jaclyn Goldberg, Ellen Wartella, Joe Smyser
Research Article | published 16 Oct 2020 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0240828>

How confidence in health care systems affects mobility and compliance during the COVID-19 pandemic

Ho Fai Chan, Martin Brumpton, Alison Macintyre, Jefferson Arapoc, David A. Savage, Ahmed Skali, David Stadelmann, Benno Torgler
Research Article | published 15 Oct 2020 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0240644>

Countering misinformation via WhatsApp: Preliminary evidence from the COVID-19 pandemic in Zimbabwe

Jeremy Bowles, Horacio Larreguy, Shelley Liu
Research Article | published 14 Oct 2020 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0240005>

Leave no child behind: Using data from 1.7 million children from 67 developing countries to measure inequality within and between groups of births and to identify left behind populations

Antonio P. Ramos, Martin J. Flores, Robert E. Weiss
Research Article | published 14 Oct 2020 PLOS ONE
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238847>

Abstract

Background

Goal 3.2 from the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) calls for reductions in national averages of Under-5 Mortality. However, it is well known that within countries these reductions can coexist with left behind populations that have mortality rates higher than national averages. To measure inequality in under-5 mortality and to identify left behind populations, mortality rates are often disaggregated by socioeconomic status within countries. While socioeconomic disparities are important, this approach does not quantify within group variability since births from the same socioeconomic group may have different mortality risks. This is the case because mortality risk depends on several risk factors and their interactions and births from the same socioeconomic group may have different risk factor combinations. Therefore mortality risk can be highly variable within socioeconomic groups. We develop a comprehensive approach using information from multiple risk factors simultaneously to measure inequality in mortality and to identify left behind populations.

Methods

We use Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) data on 1,691,039 births from 182 different surveys from 67 low and middle income countries, 51 of which had at least two surveys. We estimate mortality risk for each child in the data using a Bayesian hierarchical logistic regression model. We include

commonly used risk factors for monitoring inequality in early life mortality for the SDG as well as their interactions. We quantify variability in mortality risk within and between socioeconomic groups and describe the highest risk sub-populations.

Findings

For all countries there is more variability in mortality within socioeconomic groups than between them. Within countries, socioeconomic membership usually explains less than 20% of the total variation in mortality risk. In contrast, country of birth explains 19% of the total variance in mortality risk. Targeting the 20% highest risk children based on our model better identifies under-5 deaths than targeting the 20% poorest. For all surveys, we report efficiency gains from 26% in Mali to 578% in Guyana. High risk births tend to be births from mothers who are in the lowest socioeconomic group, live in rural areas and/or have already experienced a prior death of a child.

Interpretation

While important, differences in under-5 mortality across socioeconomic groups do not explain most of overall inequality in mortality risk because births from the same socioeconomic groups have different mortality risks. Similarly, policy makers can reach the highest risk children by targeting births based on several risk factors (socioeconomic status, residing in rural areas, having a previous death of a child and more) instead of using a single risk factor such as socioeconomic status. We suggest that researchers and policy makers monitor inequality in under-5 mortality using multiple risk factors simultaneously, quantifying inequality as a function of several risk factors to identify left behind populations in need of policy interventions and to help monitor progress toward the SDG.

Barriers facing persons with disability in accessing sexual and reproductive health services in sub-Saharan Africa: A systematic review

John Kuumuori Ganle, Leonard Baatiema, Reginald Quansah, Anthony Danso-Appiah

Research Article | published 12 Oct 2020 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238585>

No safe place: Prevalence and correlates of violence against conflict-affected women and girls in South Sudan

Mary Ellsberg, Junior Ovince, Maureen Murphy, Alexandra Blackwell, Dashakti Reddy, Julianne Stennes, Tim Hess, Manuel Contreras

Research Article | published 12 Oct 2020 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0237965>

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

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

Article

Voluntary leadership and the emergence of institutions for self-governance

Krister P. Andersson, Kimberlee Chang, and Adriana Molina-Garzón

PNAS first published October 16, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2007230117>

Significance

We offer evidence on the role of local, voluntary leaders during the initial stages of the self-governance process. Our findings, which show that unselfish leadership actions can foster self-governance under conditions that are unfavorable for collective action, provide hope for efforts to address creeping environmental degradation problems, such as climate change and biodiversity loss. The significance of these findings goes beyond environmental policy and speaks to the potential role of voluntary leaders

in the formulation of policy responses to new, emerging threats to human well-being for which there are no established governance institutions.

Article

Dissecting landscape art history with information theory

Byunghwee Lee, Min Kyung Seo, Daniel Kim, In-seob Shin, Maximilian Schich, Hawoong Jeong, and Seung Kee Han

PNAS first published October 12, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2011927117>

Significance

A foundational question in art and aesthetics is if there are culturally and temporally transcendent characteristics in the organizing principles within art and if yes, how these principles evolve over time. We propose a simple yet coherent information-theoretic framework that captures compositional proportion as used for dissecting landscape paintings by artists. The analysis of 14,912 landscape paintings representing the canonical historiography of Western art uncovers that the preferred compositional proportion within the historiography of landscape paintings systematically evolves over time. The network analysis of similarity distributions reveals clear clustering structures of individual artist's artworks, absolute time periods, and conventional style periods, suggesting meaningful supergroups of art historical concepts, which remained so far nonintuitive to a broader audience.

Abstract

Painting has played a major role in human expression, evolving subject to a complex interplay of representational conventions, social interactions, and a process of historization. From individual qualitative work of art historians emerges a metanarrative that remains difficult to evaluate in its validity regarding emergent macroscopic and underlying microscopic dynamics. The full scope of granular data, the summary statistics, and consequently, also their bias simply lie beyond the cognitive limit of individual qualitative human scholarship. Yet, a more quantitative understanding is still lacking, driven by a lack of data and a persistent dominance of qualitative scholarship in art history. Here, we show that quantitative analyses of creative processes in landscape painting can shed light, provide a systematic verification, and allow for questioning the emerging metanarrative. Using a quasicanonical benchmark dataset of 14,912 landscape paintings, covering a period from the Western renaissance to contemporary art, we systematically analyze the evolution of compositional proportion via a simple yet coherent information-theoretic dissection method that captures iterations of the dominant horizontal and vertical partition directions. Tracing frequency distributions of seemingly preferred compositions across several conceptual dimensions, we find that dominant dissection ratios can serve as a meaningful signature to capture the unique compositional characteristics and systematic evolution of individual artist bodies of work, creation date time spans, and conventional style periods, while concepts of artist nationality remain problematic. Network analyses of individual artists and style periods clarify their rhizomatic confusion while uncovering three distinguished yet nonintuitive supergroups that are meaningfully clustered in time.

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 35 - Issue 5 - October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 139 October 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/139/suppl/C>
[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

14 October 2020 Volume 287 Issue 1936

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Public Health

Volume 186 Pages A1-A2, 1-304 (September 2020)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/185/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

IN PROGRESS

Volume 13, Issue 1, April 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 135 Issue 5, September/October 2020

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/135/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 30 Issue 12, October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Refugee Survey Quarterly

Volume 39, Issue 3, September 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Research Ethics

Volume 16 Issue 3-4, July-October 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Reproductive Health

<http://www.reproductive-health-journal.com/content>

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

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 9 Pages: 1691-1886 September 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/15396924/current>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy

<https://www.dovepress.com/risk-management-and-healthcare-policy-archive56>

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

Original Research

[Ethical Questions Linked to Rare Diseases and Orphan Drugs – A Systematic Review](#)

Kaceti J, Marešová P, Maskuriy R, Selamat A

Risk Management and Healthcare Policy 2020, 13:2125-2148

Published Date: 13 October 2020

...The main findings reveal five main ethical issues. The most essential one shows that funding research and development in the field of orphan drugs poses an almost impossible dilemma. Other issues include the significance of non-economic values like compassion and beneficence in decision-making related to orphan drugs and rare diseases; the identification of limits to labelling diseases as rare; barriers to global, supranational and international cooperation; and last but not least, determining and establishing panels of decision-makers.

Conclusions: A strictly global approach would be the most appropriate way to deal with rare diseases. Nonetheless, international, let alone global, cooperation seems to be completely beyond the reach of the current international community, although the EU, for instance, has a centralized procedure for labelling orphan drugs. This deficit in international cooperation can be partly explained by the fact that the current technologically globalized world still lacks globally accepted ethical values and rules. This is further aggravated by unresolved international and intercultural conflicts. In addition, the sub-interests of various parties as well as the lack of desire to deal with other people's problems need to be taken into account. The aforementioned problems are difficult to avoid. Nevertheless, let us be cautiously optimistic. At least, there are people who raise ethical questions about rare diseases and orphan drugs.

Science

16 October 2020 Vol 370, Issue 6514

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

Editorial

[Not throwing away our shot](#)

By H. Holden Thorp
Science16 Oct 2020 : 266

Summary

Over the past few weeks, prominent scientific publications have condemned President Donald Trump's record on science. This is unprecedented. Although my predecessors at Science have always held elected U.S. officials accountable (but could not make a formal political endorsement because of the nonprofit status of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the publisher of Science), many of these publications are now clearly denouncing the U.S. president, administration, and federal agency leaders as the nation approaches a highly consequential presidential election. To paraphrase lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda in "Hamilton" about another set of political essays, why do we write like we're running out of time? Because recent events show that the voice of the scientific community can lead to positive change.

Perspectives

COVID-19 in children and young people

By Matthew D. Snape, Russell M. Viner
Science16 Oct 2020 : 286-288 Full Access

Children have a low risk of COVID-19 and are disproportionately harmed by precautions

Summary

The severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) pandemic has brought distinct challenges to the care of children and adolescents globally. Unusually for a respiratory viral infection, children and adolescents are at much lower risk from symptomatic coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) than any other age group. The near-global closure of schools in response to the pandemic reflected the reasonable expectation from previous respiratory virus outbreaks that children would be a key component of the transmission chain. However, emerging evidence suggests that this is most likely not the case. A minority of children experience a postinfectious inflammatory syndrome, the pathology and long-term outcomes of which are poorly understood. However, relative to their risk of contracting disease, children and adolescents have been disproportionately affected by lockdown measures, and advocates of child health need to ensure that children's rights to health and social care, mental health support, and education are protected throughout subsequent pandemic waves.

Science Translational Medicine

14 October 2020 Vol 12, Issue 565

<https://stm.sciencemag.org/>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 262 October 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/262/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Summer 2020 Volume 18, Number 3

https://ssir.org/issue/summer_2020#

Read about how organizational culture can advance social good, how researchers convinced the Indian government to adopt same-language subtitling for mass literacy, how corporate foundations can align with their companies, how artificial intelligence can apply causal models to become more effective, and other topics in the Summer 2020 issue of Stanford Social Innovation Review.

Systematic Reviews

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

[Accessed 17 Oct 2020]

[Sexual violence against women by so-called Islamic state of Iraq and Syria \(ISIS\): protocol for a systematic review](#)

Violence against women and girls (VAWG) has been significantly increased by the rise of conflict and insecurity in the territories under controlling so-called Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). This review...

Authors: Shadab Shahali, Shahrooz Shariati and Ali Montazeri

Citation: Systematic Reviews 2020 9:239

Content type: Protocol

Published on: 12 October 2020

Torture Journal

2020 Volume 30 - No. 1

<https://irct.org/publications/torture-journal/147>

[Reviewed earlier]

Trauma, Violence, & Abuse

Volume 21 Issue 5, December 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Travel Medicine and Infectious Diseases

Volume 37 September–October 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/37/suppl/C>

Editorial Full text access

[COVID-19 treatment in sub-Saharan Africa: If the best is not available, the available becomes the best](#)

Jan H Dubbink, Tiago Martins Branco, Kelfala BB Kamara, James S Bangura, ... Martin Peter Grobusch
Article 101878

Research article Abstract only

Public health implications of Sabarimala mass gathering in India: A multi-dimensional analysis

Kesavan Rajasekharan Nayar, Shaffi Fazaludeen Koya, K. Mohandas, Sabari Sivasankaran Nair, ...
Jinbert Lordson
Article 101783

Tropical Medicine & International Health

Volume 25, Issue 10 Pages: i-iv, 1167-1305 October 2020
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

<https://unchronicle.un.org/>
Article

The Digital Mask

Vinton G. Cerf, Vice President and Chief Internet Evangelist at Google.

...There is more to the "digital mask" than virus and malware detectors and safe software updates. In fact, one of the most effective means of dealing with the side effects of the online digital world isn't digital at all. It's what I call "wetware", otherwise known as brains. Even when we use computers to help us process information, the ultimate use of that information is a human affair. What we do with it, how we evaluate it, and how and when we share it is all part of the human equation. Uncritical acceptance of information without questioning its origins or corroborating sources and intent serves to spread deliberate disinformation or misinformed rumour. Critical thinking is yet another mask we can wear to protect others and ourselves. Responsible parties should ask questions about information received from any source, including newspapers, magazines, television, radio, books and the Internet. Especially important is information derived from social networks, which should be scrutinized for accuracy before repeating (I almost wrote "retweeting").

Ultimately, we should strive to put the most powerful information processing tool ever invented—the computer—to work validating and verifying the information we obtain from digital sources of all kinds. This is one of the many ways in which digital cooperation can benefit our global and increasingly network-based societies.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care
Volume 15, Issue 3, 2020
[Reviewed earlier]

World Heritage Review

n°95 - July 2020
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/review/94/>
Current Issue

Interpretation and COVID-19

The year 2020 began with an unprecedented health crisis that has affected each one of us, and we still cannot predict its long-term effects. Not only have we been touched in our personal lives.

Lockdown has perturbed our work, our communities and our industries, at times with devastating consequences. And this crisis is not yet over.

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