

ge²p² global foundation

governance, ethics, evidence, policy, practice

The Sentinel

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

Period ending 19 Dec 2020 :: Number 346

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.

Request email delivery of the pdf:

If you would like to receive the PDF of each edition via email [Constant Contact], please send your request to david.r.curry@ge2p2global.org

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

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

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:: 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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Global Launch of the 2020 Human Development Report

The next frontier :: Human development and the Anthropocene

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

2020 :: 412 pages

PDF: <http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/hdr2020.pdf>

Back Page:

We may be entering a new geologic age called the Anthropocene in which humans are a dominant force shaping the planet's future. That future is already taking frightening shape in many ways, from climate change to plunging biodiversity to the epidemic of plastics in our oceans.

The strain on the planet mirrors the strain facing many societies. Indeed, planetary and social imbalances reinforce one another. As the 2019 Human Development Report made plain, many inequalities in human development continue to increase. Climate change, among other dangerous planetary changes, will only make them worse.

The Covid-19 pandemic may be the latest harrowing consequence of imbalance writ large.

Scientists have long warned that unfamiliar pathogens will emerge more frequently from interactions among humans, livestock and wildlife, squeezing ecosystems so hard that deadly viruses spill out. Collective action on anything from the Covid-19 pandemic to climate change becomes more difficult against a backdrop of social fragmentation.

Consciously or not, human choices, shaped by values and institutions, have given rise to the interconnected planetary and social imbalances we face. The good news, then, is that we can make different choices. We have the power to embark on bold new development paths that allow for the continuing expansion of human freedoms in balance with the planet.

That is what the concept of human development, celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, can contribute to the complex predicaments that this new age poses to each of us. And that is the central message of this year's global Human Development Report. Human development is not just possible in the context of easing planetary pressures; it is instrumental to doing so.

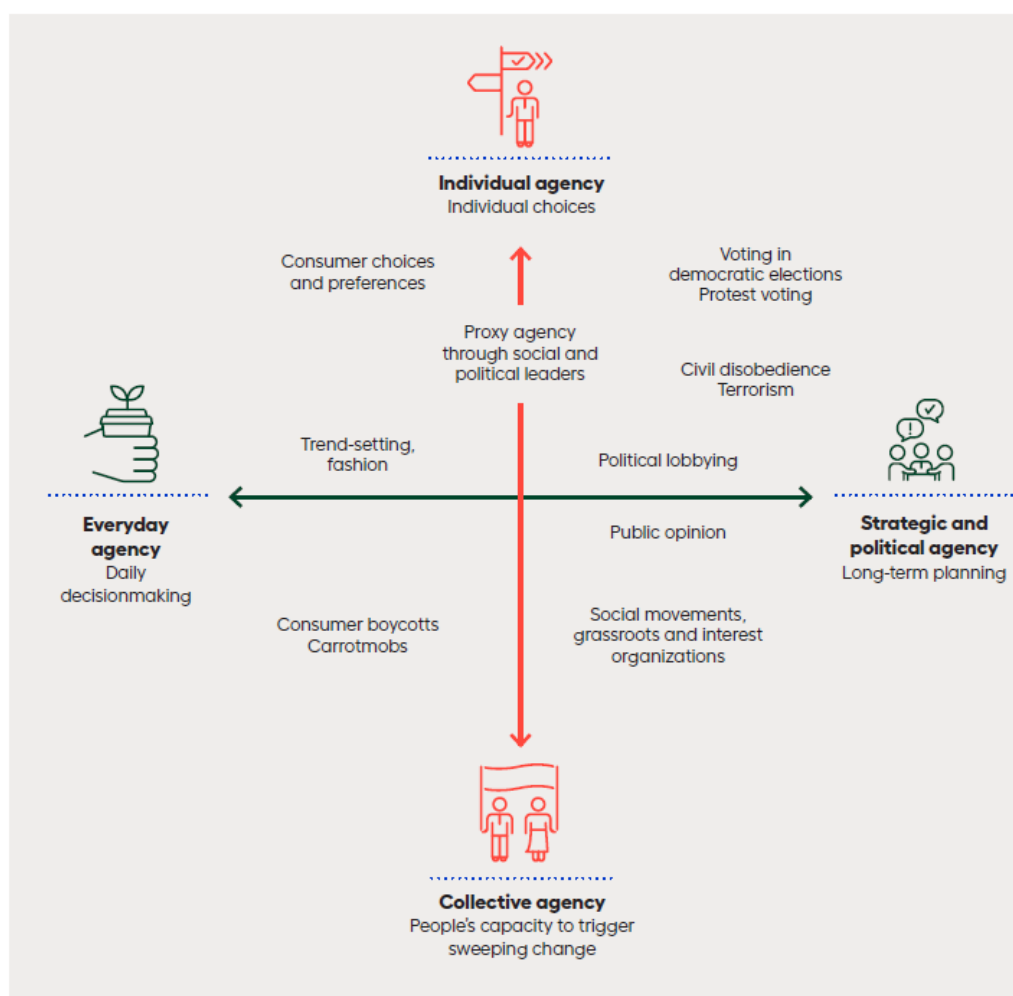
The Report calls for a just transformation that expands human freedoms while easing planetary pressures. For people to thrive in the Anthropocene, new development trajectories must do three things: enhance equity, foster innovation and instil a sense of stewardship of the planet. These outcomes matter in their own right, and they matter for our shared future on our planet. All countries have a stake in them.

The Report organizes its recommendations around mechanisms for change: social norms and values, incentives and regulation, and nature-based human development. Each mechanism of change specifies multiple potential roles for each of us, for governments, for firms and for political and civil society leaders.

The Report goes on to explore new metrics for a new age. Among them is a planetary pressures-adjusted Human Development Index, which adjusts the standard Human Development Index (HDI) by a country's per capita carbon dioxide emissions and material footprint. The Report also introduces a next generation of dashboards, as well as metrics that adjust the HDI to account for the social costs of carbon or for natural wealth.

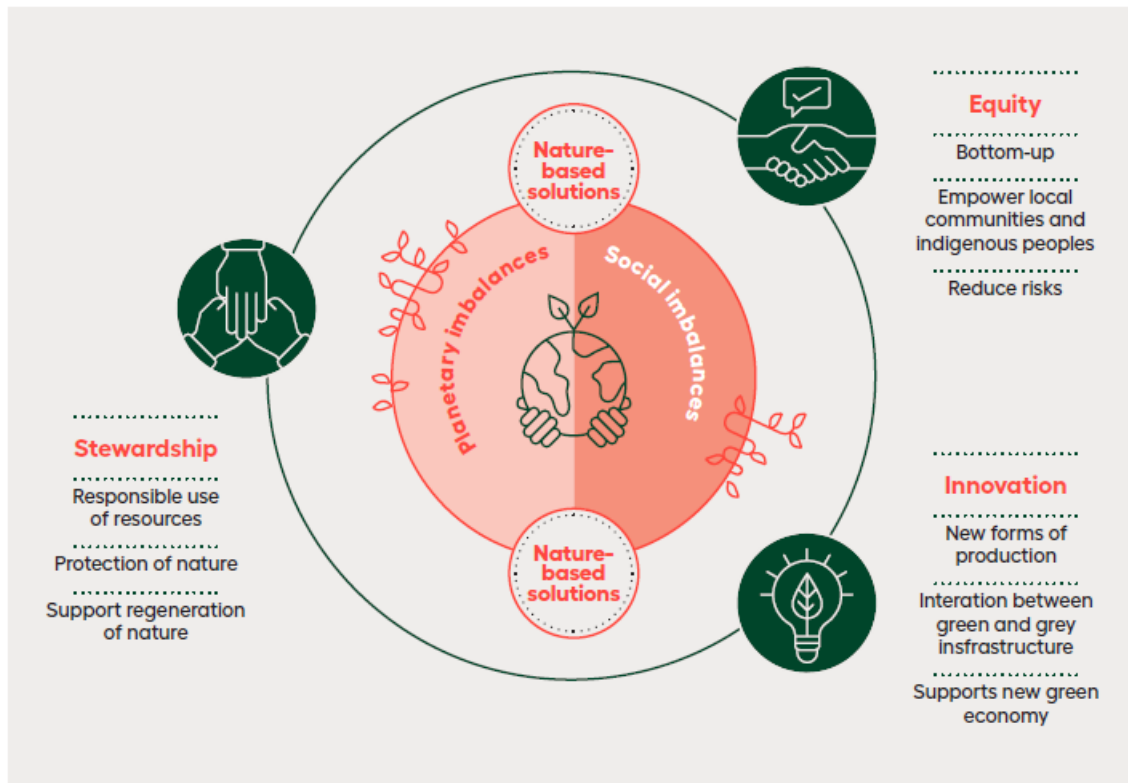
A new normal is coming, one that is more than uncertain; it is unknown. And it cannot be "solved" neatly. The Covid-19 pandemic is just the tip of the spear. Nothing short of a wholesale shift in mindsets, translated into reality by policy, is needed to navigate the brave new world of the Anthropocene, to ensure that all people flourish while easing planetary pressures. This year's 2020 Human Development Report helps signpost the way.

Figure 4.7 Agency plays out in a social structure and can take two dimensions



Source: Otto and others 2020c.

Figure 6.1 Nature-based solutions and the potential for a virtuous cycle between people and planet



Source: Human Development Report Office.

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Featured Journal Content

Nature

Volume 588 Issue 7838, 17 December 2020

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

Article | 09 December 2020

[Global human-made mass exceeds all living biomass](#)

Emily Elhacham, Liad Ben-Uri[...] & Ron Milo

Abstract

Humanity has become a dominant force in shaping the face of Earth^{1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9}. An emerging question is how the overall material output of human activities compares to the overall natural biomass. **Here we quantify the human-made mass, referred to as 'anthropogenic mass', and compare it to the overall living biomass on Earth, which currently equals approximately 1.1 teratonnes^{10,11}. We find that Earth is exactly at the crossover point; in the year 2020 (± 6), the anthropogenic mass, which has recently doubled roughly every 20 years, will surpass all global living biomass.** On average, for each person on the globe, anthropogenic mass equal to more than his or her bodyweight is produced every week. This quantification of the

human enterprise gives a mass-based quantitative and symbolic characterization of the human-induced epoch of the Anthropocene.

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Reproductive Health

[UN partnership set to prevent more than 140 million unintended pregnancies, 320 thousand maternal deaths by 2030, but major investment required](#)

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 14 December 2020 — As the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, UNFPA, the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, announces today the next phase of the **UNFPA Supplies Partnership, which seeks to secure the essential contraceptive supplies and maternal health medicines required by millions of women and adolescent girls over the next decade.**

Between now and 2030, the renewed Partnership, which is the only United Nations programme dedicated to family planning, has the **potential to prevent 141 million unintended pregnancies, 328,000 maternal deaths and 42 million unsafe abortions.** But to achieve this, it requires an estimated investment of US \$2.5 billion by 2030.

“The global community must act now with commitments to support women and girls. Failing to do so will have dire consequences: more unintended pregnancies, more unsafe abortions and more women dying from preventable causes,” said UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Natalia Kanem. “With countries leading the charge, we must rally to improve women’s health and well-being globally, especially at this time of heightened vulnerabilities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Despite mitigation efforts, COVID-19 has slowed or even reversed many countries’ decades of progress in family planning, while pandemic-related restrictions such as lockdowns, together with fears of contracting the virus, have led to fewer women seeking reproductive health services.

The Government of Canada has committed CAD\$25 million (US\$19.6 million) over five years to support the next phase of the UNFPA Supplies Partnership and an additional CAD\$14 million (US\$11 million) to cover urgent needs for contraceptives and maternal health medicines in response to COVID-19. These funds will be used to help prevent stock-outs of contraceptives and other reproductive health commodities and to support health systems to deliver them, with a focus on underserved and vulnerable populations in rural and lower-income countries.

“The pandemic has pushed public health systems to the brink and intensified inequalities. The UNFPA Supplies Partnership is uniquely positioned to address these challenges by supporting countries in their efforts to strengthen health systems and enhance resilience,” said Karina Gould, Canada’s Minister of International Development. “A more inclusive and prosperous world can only be achieved by addressing the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and young people, and that’s exactly what we’re working towards in this Partnership.”

Countries and partners around the world are making bold commitments to support the next phase of the programme. The Government of the Netherlands has also announced a commitment of US\$56 million to the Partnership. Additional donors include the Governments of: Australia, Belgium, Canada,

Denmark, the European Union, Germany, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain and the United Kingdom, together with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Kühne Foundation.

Since 2007, the UNFPA Supplies programme has mobilized over US\$1.8 billion. To date, contraceptive and maternal health commodities supplied by the programme had the potential to avert: 89 million unintended pregnancies, 227,000 maternal deaths; 1.4 million child deaths; and 26.8 million unsafe abortions.

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Technology Governance

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE and DEMOCRATIC VALUES :: The AI Social Contract Index 2020 (AISCI-2020)

Center for AI and Digital Policy, Michael Dukakis Institute for Leadership and Innovation
Boston, MA, Washington, DC
December 2020 :: 382 pages

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose and Scope

Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values: The AI Social Contract Index is the first global survey to assess progress toward trustworthy AI. The AI Index 2020 has these objectives: (

- 1) to document the AI policies and practices of influential countries, based on publicly available sources,
- (2) to establish a methodology for the evaluation of AI policies and practices, based on global norms,
- (3) to assess AI policies and practices based on this methodology and to provide a basis for comparative evaluation,
- (4) to provide the basis for future evaluations, and
- (5) to ultimately encourage all countries to make real the promise of AI that is trustworthy, human-centric, and provides broad social benefit to all.

Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values focuses on human rights, rule of law, and democratic governance metrics. Endorsement and implementation of the OECD/G20 AI Principles is among the primary metrics. Opportunities for the public to participate in the formation of national AI policy, as well as the creation of independent agencies to address AI challenges, is also among the metrics. Patents, publications, investment, and employment impacts are important metrics for the AI economy, but they are not considered here.

The first edition of *Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values* examined AI policies and practices in the Top 25 countries by GDP and other high impact countries. These countries are Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States. High impact countries include Estonia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Rwanda, and Singapore.

Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values will be published on an annual basis and will evolve as country practices change and new issues emerge.

Findings

:: The OECD/G20 AI Principles have Framed the Global Debate over AI policy. There are hundreds of frameworks for ethical AI, but only the OECD/G20 Principles have significantly shaped the policies and practices of national governments. Over 50 governments have formally endorsed the OECD/G20 AI Principles.

:: Governments have Both National Ambitions and Collaborative Goals. National AI policies typically reflect ambitions to be a leader in AI, to establish centers of AI excellence, and to promote economic growth. Many of these ambitions will set countries in competition for investment, personnel, and deployment. At the same time, countries recognize the need for global cooperation in such areas as public health, climate change, and sustainable development.

:: AI Safeguards Build on Data Protection Law. AI policy safeguards follows from other laws and policy frameworks, most notably data protection. The GDPR (Article 22), the Modernized Council of Europe Privacy Convention (Article 9), and the recently adopted California Privacy Rights Act in the US include explicit provisions for AI. The Global Privacy Assembly, the international conference of data protection officials, has recently adopted a sweeping resolution on the need for AI accountability.

:: Facial Surveillance as an AI "Red Line." Few AI applications are more controversial than the use of AI for surveillance in public spaces. The use of facial recognition on a general population has raised widespread controversy with many NGOs stating it should be prohibited. Other controversial AI applications include the scoring of citizens, criminal sentencing, administrative service decisions, and hiring assessments.

:: Concern About Autonomous Weapons Remains. The risk of lethal autonomous weapons was among the first AI issues to focus the attention of government policymakers. Although many other AI policy issues have emerged in the last few years, concerns about autonomous weapons remains.

:: NGOs are Powerful Advocates for the Public. In Europe, civil society groups have published substantial reports on AI policy, documented abuses, and called for reform. Their advocacy has also Artificial Intelligence and Democratic Values strengthened democratic institutions which must now consider legal measures to address public concerns.

:: AI Policy is in the Early Days, but the Pace is Accelerating. AI research can be traced back to the 1950s but the effort of national governments to develop formal frameworks for AI policy is a recent phenomenon. Governments around the world are moving rapidly to understand the implications of the deployment of AI as more systems are deployed. We anticipate that the rate of AI policymaking will accelerate in the next few years.

Recommendations

1. Countries must establish national policies for AI that implement democratic values
2. Countries must ensure public participation in AI policymaking and also create robust mechanisms for independent oversight of AI systems
3. Countries must guarantee fairness, accountability, and transparency in all AI systems
4. Countries must commit to these principles in the development, procurement, and implementation of AI systems for public services
5. Countries must halt the use of facial recognition for mass surveillance

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Vaccine Nationalism

Executive Order on Ensuring Access to United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines

The White House, USA

Issued on: December 8, 2020

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Purpose. Through unprecedented collaboration across the United States Government, industry, and international partners, the United States expects to soon have safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines available for the American people. To ensure the health and safety of our citizens, to strengthen our economy, and to enhance the security of our Nation, we must ensure that Americans have priority access to COVID-19 vaccines developed in the United States or procured by the United States Government ("United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines").

Sec. 2. Policy. It is the policy of the United States to ensure Americans have priority access to free, safe, and effective COVID-19 vaccines. After ensuring the ability to meet the vaccination needs of the American people, it is in the interest of the United States to facilitate international access to United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines.

Sec. 3. American Access to COVID-19 Vaccines.

(a) The Secretary of Health and Human Services, through Operation Warp Speed and with the support of the Secretary of Defense, shall ensure safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines are available to the American people, coordinating with public and private entities — including State, territorial, and tribal governments, where appropriate — to enable the timely distribution of such vaccines.

(b) The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the heads of other executive departments and agencies (agencies), as appropriate, shall ensure that Americans have priority access to United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines, and shall ensure that the most vulnerable United States populations have first access to such vaccines.

(c) The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall ensure that a sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses is available for all Americans who choose to be vaccinated in order to safeguard America from COVID-19.

Sec. 4. International Access to United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines. After determining that there exists a sufficient supply of COVID-19 vaccine doses for all Americans who choose to be vaccinated, as required by section 3(b) of this order, the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, the Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and the heads of other agencies, shall facilitate international access to United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines for allies, partners, and others, as appropriate and consistent with applicable law.

Sec. 5. Coordination of International Access to United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines. Within 30 days of the date of this order, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs shall coordinate development of an interagency strategy for the implementation of section 4 of this order.

Sec. 6. General Provisions.

(a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

- (i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or
- (ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

DONALD J. TRUMP
THE WHITE HOUSE
December 8, 2020

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Vaccine Multilateralism

Statement on COVID-19 Immunization and Equitable Access to Vaccines

WFPHA: World Federation of Public Health Associations

Dec 17, 2020

PDF: <https://drive.infomaniak.com/app/share/141741/8c4e56c4-6620-4c77-8095-e967707d8c8a/17300/download>

Purpose

The Global Taskforce of the WFPHA understands the importance of equity as a determinant of health outcomes and is concerned that the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines may not be done on an equitable basis.

Immunisation

Immunisation is one of the most successful public health measures. According to a World Health Organization report on the prevention of infectious diseases, it is second only to clean water as a preventive health measure (WHO 2008). Annually immunisation prevents an estimated 2.5 million deaths globally and considerably reduces disease-specific treatment costs (WHO 2018).

Prevention

For all the devastation caused by COVID-19, an important lesson is that the balance needs to shift from treating disease to preventing it. Immunisation has an important role to play in prevention not only for infants but throughout life as a key component of healthy ageing. It saves, prolongs and improves the quality of lives. At the same time, by saving time and other resources, immunisation leads to sustainable healthcare systems (UK Chief Medical Officers' Guidelines 2011). Additionally, immunisation has positive long-term impacts, contributing to make communities healthier and promoting social and economic development.

GAVI, WHO and UNICEF have warned that 80 million children under the age of one are at risk of disease due to disruptions to vital immunisation programmes because of COVID-19

(GAVI 2020a). Specific to COVID-19, almost everyone is at risk and may require vaccination if given the opportunity. Hence, it is likely that demand will surpass supply. The concern of the WFPHA Immunisation Taskforce is the tendency for the rich to acquire and pay for the limited supply of available efficacious vaccines to the detriment of the populations genuinely at-risk, particularly in low-income settings.

COVID-19 Vaccines and Information

Not surprisingly, the race to produce a safe and efficacious vaccine for COVID-19 has been on-going and early distribution in the United Kingdom and the United States indicates success may not be too far away. In the course of immunisation programs, member states need to tirelessly work to ensure that all information with respect to vaccine distribution is stored in secure, audited and updated immunisation information systems. This promotes central reporting, transparency, equitable distribution across the population and informed decisions leaving no one behind.

An important lesson from previous immunisation programs is that, even when effective and safe vaccines are available, vulnerable persons in low-income settings usually do not have access to these vaccines for some time, if at all. There is a myriad of reasons for this state of affairs. These include (among others) high cost of vaccination programmes for countries, health systems, families and individual, individual's poor geographical access to vaccination centres, and inadequate supply of available vaccines due to competition.

The Global Immunisation Taskforce of the WFPHA supports the efforts of COVAX, a global collaboration of governments, global health organisations, manufacturers, scientists, private sector, civil society and philanthropy, in its aim for a global solution to this pandemic by ensuring equitable access to effective and safe COVID-19 vaccines to all countries no matter their wealth (GAVI 2020b).

Therefore, the WFPHA Global Immunisation Taskforce recommends:

1. The international community should continue the process of collaboration to support research and development of effective COVID-19 vaccines from multiple centres
2. The international community should establish a COVID-19 vaccination fund to support needy but resource-constrained countries
3. Support for the World Health Organization in its efforts to coordinate the response to COVID-19 and in the development of an appropriate vaccine
4. National authorities financially support the WHO and invest in strengthening national health systems with a particular focus on sustainable immunisation programs
5. Support for COVAX in its efforts to ensure equitable access of COVID-19 vaccines around the world with special focus on vulnerable populations, particularly in resource-constrained countries.

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EMERGENCIES

Coronavirus [COVID-19]

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Weekly Epidemiological and Operational updates

Last update: 5 December 2020, 9:02 am GMT-5

Confirmed cases :: 74 299 042 [week ago: 69 808 588] [two weeks ago: 65 257 767]

Confirmed deaths :: 1 669 982 [week ago: 1 588 854] [two weeks ago: 1 513 179]

Countries, areas or territories with cases :: 222

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15 December 2020

[Weekly epidemiological update - 15 December 2020](#)

14 December 2020

[Weekly operational update - 14 December 2020](#)

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Emergencies

POLIO

Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC)

Polio this week as of 09 December 2020

:: The EB reports on both polio eradication and polio transition planning/post-certification are now available [here](#) under "148th Executive Board". These reports will help inform the discussions on polio eradication by Member States at the upcoming EB to be held on 18 – 26 January 2021.

:: Revision to WHO global poliovirus containment guidance – Following a Containment Advisory Group (CAG) [recommendation](#), revision to WHO's chief guidance document for poliovirus containment – [GAPIII](#)– has been initiated. The aim is to harmonize GAPIII requirements with other relevant biorisk management standards and CAG recommendations, through wide stakeholder engagement. Comments are still being received; contact hsingh@who.int for more information. The revised draft is expected to be ready for publication in Q1 2021, with critical review and endorsement of the document by CAG to follow.

:: New online tool to identify and assess potentially infectious material – A Potentially Infectious Materials (PIM), Poliovirus Identification and Assessment Digital Online Tool has been developed to assist all labs to identify samples or collections as PIM and carry out appropriate measures. The tool, to be available in Q1 2021, is to be used in conjunction with WHO's [PIM guidance](#). Thanks to facilities which helped pilot the tool.

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

:: Afghanistan: 54 cVDPV2 cases

:: Pakistan: three WPV1 and two cVDPV2 positive environmental samples

:: Chad: two cVDPV2 cases

:: Democratic Republic of the Congo: two cVDPV2 cases

:: Nigeria: two cVDPV2 cases and one positive environmental sample

:: South Sudan: six cVDPV2 cases

:: Sudan: two cVDPV2 cases

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WHO Grade 3 Emergencies [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

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 19 Dec 2020]

Iraq

:: WHO hands over essential health commodities to the Ministry of Health to contain COVID-19 in Iraq
Baghdad, 16 December 2020 – The World Health Organization (WHO) has today handed over essential medical supplies to the Iraqi Ministry of Health to strengthen its capacity to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The supplies, which included personal protective equipment (58 800 face shields, 9800 protective goggles, 10 600 isolation gowns and 28 000 N95 face masks), were handed over to the Ministry of Health by the WHO Representative in Iraq, Dr Adham Ismail....

Burkina Faso

:: Améliorer la prévention et le contrôle de infections (PCI) dans les structures...17 décembre 2020

:: Réglementation des médicaments et produits de santé : L'OMS appuie à distance l'autoévaluation de l...16 décembre 2020

Measles in Europe

:: Republic of Moldova launches campaign to raise awareness about vaccines and encourage catch up on missed immunizations 16-12-2020

Myanmar

:: 12 December 2020 News release Closer to Measles and Rubella elimination from Bangladesh, 34 million children will be immunized within 6 weeks

Afghanistan - *No new digest announcements identified*

Angola - *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*

MERS-CoV - *No new digest announcements identified*

Mozambique - *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 19 Dec 2020]

Kenya

:: Keeping to the universal health coverage path in Kenya 11 December 2020

Chad - *No new digest announcements identified*
Djibouti - *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 - *No new digest announcements identified*
Yemen - *No new digest announcements identified*

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UN OCHA – Corporate Emergencies

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

COVID-19

:: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19): Weekly Epidemiological Update (13 December 2020)

East Africa Locust Infestation

:: Desert Locust situation update 19 December 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 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Meetings/Press Releases/Announcements

18 December 2020

SC/14934

Public Statement by Chair of Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict

The Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, in connection with the examination of the seventh report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in the Philippines ([S/2020/1030](#)), agreed to convey the following messages through a public statement by the Chair of the Working Group.

17 December 2020

SG/SM/20507

Migrants, Integral to Crisis Response, Must Be Included in Pandemic Recovery, Secretary-General Says, Marking International Day

14 December 2020

GA/12302

Cautiously Optimistic about COVID-19 Vaccine, Speakers in General Assembly Say Multilateral Approaches Key for Ensuring Unhindered, Equitable Distribution

Delegates struck a cautiously hopeful note as the General Assembly completed its special session dedicated to the COVID-19 pandemic, while stressing the need for multilateral approaches to distributing vaccines and mitigating the pandemic's wide-ranging fallout.

14 December 2020

GA/12301

Adopting 4 Resolutions, General Assembly Stresses Need for Affordable Health Care, Establishes Decade of Healthy Ageing, Elects Peacebuilding Committee Members

Against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Assembly adopted two health-related resolutions this morning — one, by recorded vote, underscoring the importance of affordable health care for all and of monitoring the unfolding impact of the novel coronavirus, and another, by consensus, declaring 2021 to 2030 as the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing.

UN OHCHR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Top News

Press briefing notes on Thailand

UN experts alarmed by sixth Palestinian child killing by Israeli forces in 2020, call for accountability

UN Experts: Venezuela must stop attacks against civil society

China: Shock at continued crackdown on human rights defenders and lawyers – UN expert

Bachelet urges Colombia to improve protection amid heightened violence in remote areas

United Nations Human Rights Council [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Human Rights Council Elects Three Vice Presidents for 2021 Bureau

16/12/2020

Committee on the Rights of the Child [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

SRSG/CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

The Sapienza Human Rights Award 2020 is awarded to the United Nations Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflicts

Monday, 14 December 2020

SRSG/SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict [to 19 Dec 2020]

<http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/>
16 December, 2020

Remarks by SRSG Patten, Women & Armed Forces: Parity in Uniform Conference organized by the Italian Ministry of Defense

Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights [to 19 Dec 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 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News

UN experts: Bangladesh should release artist jailed over cartoons

16 December 2020

Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News

UN experts: Bangladesh should release artist jailed over cartoons

16 December 2020

Rights of U.S. indigenous leader must be respected – UN experts

15 December 2020

Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest news

Rights of U.S. indigenous leader must be respected – UN experts

15 December 2020

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants

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

Latest News

Migrants must be included in all COVID-19 recovery plans – UN and regional experts

17 December 2020

UN OCHA [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases

18 December 2020

Humanitarian community in South Sudan scales up response to save lives

18 December 2020

Mozambique: Aid Organizations Appeal for US\$254 Million to Respond to Urgent Humanitarian Needs [EN/PT]

17 December 2020

UN Emergency funding released for humanitarian response to Ethiopia's Tigray conflict

15 December 2020

346,000 Palestinians pushed from moderate to severe need of assistance

Centre for Humanitarian Data/HDX [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNICEF [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Press releases, Statements

Statement

12/18/2020

Remarks by Henrietta Fore, UNICEF Executive Director, at briefing on COVAX progress to date

As delivered

Statement

12/18/2020

Statement by UNICEF Nigeria Representative Peter Hawkins on the release of schoolboys in Katsina

Press release

12/18/2020

UNICEF outlining plans to transport up to 850 tonnes of COVID-19 vaccines per month on behalf of COVAX, in 'mammoth and historic' logistics

UNICEF – in partnership with Gavi and WHO – is also helping low- and lower-middle-income countries prepare to receive COVID-19 vaccines in 2021

Press release

12/18/2020

COVID-19 has led to dramatic reduction in essential services and protection for migrant and displaced children in countries around the world

New survey data show children on the move largely excluded from pandemic response and recovery

Press release

12/18/2020

UNICEF ready to support thousands of children in the wake of Tropical Cyclone Yasa in Fiji

Press release

12/18/2020

UN agencies' alarmed at worsening hunger in South Sudan

Conflict, floods and COVID-19 push more people into extreme hunger

Press release

12/17/2020

Death threats and gang violence forcing more families to flee northern Central America – UNHCR and UNICEF survey

Statement

12/15/2020

[Millions of children in Tigray remain out of reach, despite access agreement - UNICEF](#)

Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore

Statement

12/14/2020

[Teachers should be prioritized for vaccination against COVID-19](#)

Statement by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore

Statement

12/14/2020

[Remarks by UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore at the Nutrition for Growth \(N4G\) Kick-Off Event](#)

As prepared for delivery

Press release

12/14/2020

[Almost 2 billion people depend on health care facilities without basic water services – WHO, UNICEF](#)

Lack of water puts health care workers and patients at higher risk of COVID-19 infection

Statement

12/13/2020

[Statement by UNICEF Regional Director for West and Central Africa Marie-Pierre Poirier on school attack in north-western Nigeria](#)

UNHCR Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Announcements

[UNHCR releases supplementary COVID-19 appeal to meet exceptional refugee needs in 2021](#)

18 Dec 2020

[UNHCR airlift supplies to assist thousands of Somalis displaced by Cyclone Gati](#)

18 Dec 2020

[More than 530,000 displaced in Mozambique's conflict-torn north](#)

18 Dec 2020

[Death threats and gang violence forcing more families to flee northern Central America - UNHCR and UNICEF survey](#)

17 Dec 2020

[Kat Graham appointed UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador](#)

16 Dec 2020

UNHCR and IOM saddened at deaths of refugees and migrants in shipwreck off Venezuela coast

15 Dec 2020

UNHCR condemns attack on Niger town hosting forcibly displaced people

15 Dec 2020

UNHCR applauds Kenya's decision to resolve the statelessness of the Shona and other communities

14 Dec 2020

IOM / International Organization for Migration [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Announcements

Over 3,000 people die during migration journeys in 2020 despite COVID-19 pandemic

2020-12-18 21:03

Berlin – The International Organization for Migration (IOM)'s Missing Migrants Project has recorded over 3,000 deaths on migratory routes worldwide so far in 2020.

IOM and UNHCR Saddened at Deaths of Refugees and Migrants in Shipwreck off Venezuela Coast

2020-12-15 16:03

Geneva – The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, are deeply distressed by the death or disappearance at sea of up to 25 refugees and migrants from Venezuela, including children, after their boat capsized en route to Trinidad and...

IOM and Doctors Worldwide Conclude 9-Month Training for Medical Practitioners in Cox's Bazar

2020-12-15 14:00

Cox's Bazar – Health emergencies take place daily in Cox's Bazar district and nearby refugee camps, affecting people of all ages and spanning all types of injuries and infections, heart attacks and strokes, pregnancy-related complications and chronic diseases.

Thousands of Migrants from West and Central Africa at Risk as Critical Funding for Humanitarian Interventions Comes to an End

2020-12-14 10:09

Dakar – The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is appealing for EUR 100 million to continue providing urgent protection and critical assistance to vulnerable migrants from West and Central Africa along the Central and Western Mediterranean routes, as funding from the...

UNAIDS [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases/Reports/Statements

18 December 2020

Lima joins the Fast-Track cities initiative

15 December 2020

[**Coming together to address the cost of inequality**](#)

14 December 2020

[**New modelling shows COVID-19 should not be a reason for delaying the 2030 deadline for ending AIDS as a public health threat**](#)

WHO & Regional Offices [to 19 Dec 2020]

18 December 2020 Departmental news

[**Meet the 100+ outstanding Nurses and Midwives**](#)

18 December 2020 Joint News Release

[**COVAX Announces additional deals to access promising COVID-19 vaccine candidates; plans global rollout starting Q1 2021**](#)

17 December 2020 Joint News Release

[**New PSA campaign from WHO and YouTube is a playbook for a safe holiday season**](#)

17 December 2020 Departmental news

[**WHO launches Baseline report for Decade of Healthy Ageing**](#)

17 December 2020 Departmental news

[**Launch of the Tripartite Joint Risk Assessment Operational Tool**](#)

17 December 2020 Departmental news

[**Joint Risk Assessment Operational Tool in the time of COVID-19**](#)

17 December 2020 Departmental news

[**A parasitic infection that can turn fatal with administration of corticosteroids**](#)

17 December 2020 Departmental news

[**New study highlights cost-effectiveness of bans on pesticides as a suicide prevention strategy**](#)

15 December 2020 Departmental news

[**Updated WHO Information Note: Ensuring continuity of TB services during the COVID-19 pandemic**](#)

15 December 2020 Departmental news

[**Monitoring childbirth in a new era for maternal health**](#)

15 December 2020 Departmental news

[**Neglected tropical diseases: WHO and Sanofi renew decades-long collaboration to sustain elimination efforts**](#)

14 December 2020 Departmental news

Available for review: Chemical background documents for the WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality

14 December 2020 News release

World's largest youth organizations, representing 250 million members, and WHO launch global mobilization to respond to disruptive impacts of COVID-19 on young people

.....

WHO Regional Offices

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

WHO African Region AFRO

:: Responding to a yellow fever outbreak in Nigeria amidst a global pandemic

14 December 2020 In early November 2020, positive samples for yellow fever were reported from five Nigerian states. Nigeria is a high-risk country for yellow fever and is a priority country for the global eliminate yellow fever epidemics (EYE) strategy. The re-emergence of the virus there in September 2017 has been marked by outbreaks throughout the country.

WHO Region of the Americas PAHO

No new digest content identified

WHO South-East Asia Region SEARO

:: 18 December 2020 News release

WHO and EU join together to support COVID-19 response and systems strengthening in Asia

WHO European Region EURO

:: International Migrants Day 2020 – Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge meets a migrant health-care worker, “expert by experience” 18-12-2020

:: The holiday season amid COVID-19 and a growing mental health crisis in Europe 18-12-2020

:: Establishing the Pan-European Transformational Leadership Academy 18-12-2020

:: Turning the tide: Slovenia’s success story of fighting cervical cancer 17-12-2020

:: WHO analytical tool helps Ukraine monitor how regions respond to COVID-19 17-12-2020

:: Minimizing the COVID-19 risk: advice to individuals, communities and governments for the winter holidays 16-12-2020

:: New data reveals significant gaps in influenza immunization of those who need it most in Europe 15-12-2020

:: WHO hubs pool resources in the European Region to boost COVID-19 response 14-12-2020

WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region EMRO::

:: WHO hands over essential health commodities to the Ministry of Health to contain COVID-19 in Iraq 16 December 2020

:: A new WHO-KSRelief partnership to support the delivery of essential health services in Yemen 14 December 2020

:: Somalia, United Nations renew promise to deliver health for all 12 December 2020

WHO Western Pacific Region

:: 18 December 2020 | News release

WHO and EU join together to support COVID-19 response and systems strengthening in Asia

This week, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the European Union (EU) agreed to join forces to support eight South East Asian countries in their response to COVID-19 and to strengthen preparedness for future pandemics.

:: 17 December 2020 | News release

From containment to suppression: WHO and Lancet COVID-19 Commission highlight lessons from the Western Pacific Region

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, Dr Takeshi Kasai and expert panellists across Asia and the Pacific explored lessons from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) suppression at a forum jointly hosted today by the Lancet COVID-19 Commission and the World Health Organization (WHO).

:: 17 December 2020 | Statement

Virtual press conference on COVID-19 in the Western Pacific

As 2020 comes to a close, we've been reflecting on the response to COVID-19. In particular, how countries and areas in this Region have managed to keep numbers comparatively low, lessons that can help in the year to come, and what each of us needs to do to minimize the illness, death and disruption that this virus can cause going forward.

World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

UNFPA United Nations Population Fund [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Meetings and events

14 December 2020 *Press Release*

UN partnership set to prevent more than 140 million unintended pregnancies, 320 thousand maternal deaths by 2030, but major investment required

[See Week in Review above for detail]

UNDP United Nations Development Programme [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest from News Centre

Global Launch of the 2020 Human Development Report

Posted on December 15, 2020

[See Week in Review above for detail]

UN Division for Sustainable Development [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

UN Statistical Commission :: UN Statistics Division [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

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

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

Meetings and events
No new digest content identified.

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

17 Dec 2020 *Press release*

Partnership to support the Global Tailings Standard

Investors ask all mining companies to confirm support for the implementation of the Global Standard in their operations 18 December 2020 - Today the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Principles for...

17 Dec 2020 *Press release*

Smart new technologies can play a vital role in addressing plastic pollution crisis in our waters – new study

Nairobi/Colombo, 17 December 2020 - From source to sea, our waters are contaminated by a plastics scourge. A new study by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI)...

16 Dec 2020 *Press release*

Building sector emissions hit record high, but low-carbon pandemic recovery can help transform sector – UN report

CO2 emissions increased to 9.95 GtCO2 in 2019. The sector accounts for 38% of all energy-related CO2 emissions when adding building construction industry emissions Direct building CO2 emissions need to halve by...

15 Dec 2020 *Press release*

UNEP names seven dynamic environmentalists as its 2020 Young Champions of the Earth

The Young Champions of the Earth prize is awarded every year to seven entrepreneurs under the age of 30 with bold ideas for sustainable environmental change. The seven winners, hailing from different regions around...

UNDRR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest news

Updates

18 December 2020

Sendai Framework National Focal Points From Europe and Central Asia Meet to Discuss Strategic Priorities for 2021

Sendai Framework National Focal Points from 39 Europe and Central Asia member states met this week to discuss strategic priorities for 2021, as well as take stock of resilience efforts in the region as countries dealt with the historic impact of the COVID

Updates

18 December 2020

COVID-19 exposes "deep-rooted vulnerabilities" in public health infrastructure

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed “deep-rooted vulnerabilities” in public health infrastructure and supply chains. That was the conclusion of the Secretary-General’s Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction, Mami Mizutori at the online event

Op Eds

18 December 2020

New Year reckoning looms on climate and disaster action

By Mami Mizutori Climate-vulnerable nations know all too well that action on the climate emergency is just as important as a successful and affordable vaccine against COVID-19. This year’s U.N. climate talks may have been postponed, but no one can take

Statements and messages

17 December 2020

Statement by SRSG Mizutori, Build Back Better: building resilient health infrastructure and supply chains. What have we learnt from COVID-19?

(Check against delivery) Build Back Better: building resilient health infrastructure and supply chains. What have we learnt from COVID-19? Statement by Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction 17th

Updates

17 December 2020

Pacific countries strengthen disaster finance strategies

Suva – Pacific island countries are seeking to broaden and strengthen their disaster risk financing strategies as a key element of addressing the ongoing Climate Emergency. With climate change remaining the biggest threat – even in the era of a pandemic –

Updates

16 December 2020

Protection in the Pacific in a time of pandemic

The immense challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic have not stopped efforts to protect the health and rights of women and girls in remote areas in Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu. That said, pandemic-related lockdowns and movement restrictions have

UN DESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

18 Dec 2020 | DESA

Integral to societies, migrants are central to COVID-19 recovery

The UN marks International Migrants Day on Friday, highlighting their essential contribution to societies everywhere, and underlining migrants’ central role in recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.

17 Dec 2020 | DESA

Vaccines for all, an ‘acid test’ in COVID-19 battle

Equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines will represent an “acid test” for the international community, the President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) told journalists on Wednesday, highlighting the importance of global cooperation and solidarity in beating back the disease.

15 Dec 2020 | DESA

More than a game – recovering better with sports

Sport is all about participation. It has the power of bringing together individuals, communities and countries, often bridging cultural, ethnic and national divides. But as COVID-19 has ravaged through our world, it has taken a heavy toll on both professional and recreational sports.

UNESCO [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Latest News

UNESCO joins key partners to assess the impact of Covid-19 on cultural and creative industries in Latin America

19/12/2020

The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures of social distancing and quarantine have posed unprecedented challenges to the world, especially affecting the value chain of the cultural sector, further weakening the situation of cultural professionals, mainly workers in micro, small and medium enterprises, and artists and independent workers, many of them informal.

UNESCO and Education International call on governments to consider teachers and school personnel as a priority group in COVID-19 vaccination efforts

14/12/2020

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Announcements

No new digest content identified.

UNODC United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

16/12/2020 –

Leading UN Forum Renews Commitment to Countering Human Trafficking

UN-HABITAT United Nations Human Settlements Programme [to 19 Dec 2020]

<http://unhabitat.org/>

News & Stories

No new digest content identified.

FAO Food & Agriculture Organization [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

World Food Programme [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News releases

18 December 2020

Nine out of ten Syrian refugee families in Lebanon are now living in extreme poverty, UN study says

Beirut, LEBANON – UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) today published the key findings of the 2020 Vulnerability Assessment of Syrian Refugees in Lebanon (VASyR).

18 December 2020

UN agencies’ alarm at worsening hunger in South Sudan

Conflict, floods and COVID-19 push more people into extreme hunger

JUBA – Three United Nations organizations are calling for immediate humanitarian access to parts of South Sudan’s Pibor County in Jonglei State, where people have run out of food and are facing catastrophic levels of hunger according to a new Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) report released today.

17 December 2020

Germany reinforces its support to vulnerable populations in Jordan

AMMAN – Germany has again shown its commitment to support refugees and vulnerable Jordanians with a contribution of 65 million Euros (US\$76.9 million USD) to the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Jordan for the years 2020 and 2021.

17 December 2020

WFP Ministry of Education and higher education provide food assistance for families of students attending public schools

BEIRUT – The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) started this week, in close partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE), distributing the first round of food assistance for vulnerable Lebanese and Syrian refugee schoolchildren and their families across Lebanon.

17 December 2020

Funds for emergency food assistance run dry as millions face hunger season in Zimbabwe

HARARE – With millions of Zimbabweans devastated by a year of drought, rising hyperinflation and COVID-19, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) today appealed for an additional US\$204 million to support over four million of the most food insecure people over the next six months.

17 December 2020

Germany extends support to WFP to scale up food assistance to vulnerable Palestinians

Jerusalem – The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) welcomed a €9 million (US\$10.5 million) contribution from the Government of Germany to provide much-needed food assistance for the poorest and most food insecure Palestinian families.

17 December 2020

WFP warns of critical food shortages for refugees in Kenya

NAIROBI – The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) today warned more than 435,000 refugees in Kenya faced imminent food shortages unless new funds are swiftly received.

15 December 2020

The Russian Federation supports WFP school feeding programme in Tajikistan

DUSHANBE – The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) today held a ceremony to hand over to the Government of Tajikistan more than 180 tons of vegetable oil purchased with funds from the Russian Federation. This is the first batch of a total of 300 tons of vegetable oil to cover the needs of its National School Feeding Programme.

ILO International Labour Organization [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

Labour migration

Who are the women on the move? A portrait of female migrant workers

18 December 2020

The international migration of women, either together with their family or on their own, is an increasingly important and complex phenomenon but remains insufficiently documented owing to a lack of data. New ILOSTAT data offer some insights on the profile of women looking for work and better opportunities abroad.

International Migrants Day

ILO announces winners of the 2020 Global Media Competition on Labour Migration and Fair Recruitment

18 December 2020

Winning entries provide outstanding and balanced reporting on labour migration and fair recruitment.

Labour Overview 2020

COVID-19 leaves a trail of high unemployment, inactivity and precarious employment in Latin America and the Caribbean

17 December 2020

Some 30 million people are unemployed and 23 million will have left the workforce due to the lack of opportunities. In 2021, employment will be in intensive care and the indicators could worsen, says ILO annual Labour Overview for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Jobs for peace and resilience

COVID-19 is a threat to peacebuilding in conflict-affected nations

17 December 2020

Humanitarian and development agencies should use COVID-19 crisis programmes to promote resilience and peace and help societies build back better.

APESO 2020

81 million jobs lost as COVID-19 creates turmoil in Asia-Pacific labour markets

15 December 2020

Pandemic leads to huge reduction in working hours, reverses job growth and pushes millions into working poverty.

Labour migration

Migrant pay gap widens in many high-income countries

14 December 2020

Migrants earn nearly 13 per cent less than national workers, an ILO study shows. In some countries, the gap is as much as 42 per cent.

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News

New Model Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Regulations to help countries set out globally-aligned civil UAS operations in domestic airspace

17/12/2

IMO International Maritime Organization [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest Press Briefings

No new digest content identified.

WMO World Meteorological Organization [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

WMO and European Commission forge closer ties

Press Release

Publish Date: 14 December 2020

The World Meteorological Organization has signed a formal working arrangement with the European Commission on issues of common interest relating to weather, climate, atmospheric environment and hydrology and in support of Europe's Green Deal.

UPU Universal Postal Union [to 19 Dec 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 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

UNIDO secures over US\$21m in GEF funding

VIENNA, 18 December 2020 – The Global Environment Facility's (GEF) 59th Council Meeting, chaired for the first time by the newly appointed CEO, Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, has approved proposals for over US\$21m of funding submitted by UNIDO.

International Organization for Standardization (ISO) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

By Clare Naden on 17 December 2020

What a great idea

A new standard for protecting intellectual property in innovation just published.

[ISO 56005](#), *Innovation management – Tools and methods for intellectual property management – Guidance*, provides guidelines and strategies to help organizations protect and maximize their best ideas.

By Clare Naden on 16 December 2020

Keeping an eye on information security

The standard for IS governance just updated.

[ISO/IEC 27014](#), *Information security, cybersecurity and privacy protection – Governance of information security*, provides guidance on concepts, objectives and processes for the governance of information security, by which organizations can evaluate, direct, monitor and communicate an information security management system (ISMS) based on [ISO/IEC 27001](#).

By Clare Naden on 15 December 2020

Working safely in a pandemic

While the average ISO International Standard takes three years to develop, the newly published [ISO/PAS 45005](#), *Occupational health and safety management – General guidelines for safe working during the COVID-19 pandemic* was developed in just three months in response to the urgency of the situation and the need for such information now.

By Barnaby Lewis on 15 December 2020

Managing biorisk: why we need ISO 35001

With virus testing at the centre of many COVID strategies, the ISO standard for managing biorisk has arrived at just the right time.

UNWTO World Tourism Organization [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

Asia and the Pacific

Rural Development and Recovery Focus of Executive Training Programme

18 Dec 2020

All Regions [Barometer](#), [COVID-19](#)

Tourism Back to 1990 Levels as Arrivals Fall by More than 70%

17 Dec 2020

Americas

UNWTO Recognizes the Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association in Canada for Excellence in Governance

15 Dec 2020

Middle East [COVID-19](#), [Working Together](#)

UNWTO and Google Host Tourism Acceleration Program in Middle East

14 Dec 2020

All Regions [#RestartTourism](#), [COVID-19](#), [Working Together](#)
[UNWTO and CNN Partner for Global #RestartTourism Campaign](#)
14 Dec 2020

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization [to 19 Dec 2020]
<http://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/>
Press Releases

[WIPO PROOF Obtains Important Certifications to International Standards](#)

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) today announced that its newest digital business service, WIPO PROOF, has received important “trust service provider” certifications from two international organizations that set global technical standards for their domains.
Dec 15, 2020 [PR/2020/872](#)

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity [to 19 Dec 2020]
<https://www.cbd.int/>
Announcements

[18.12.2020 Climate change could create 63 million migrants in South Asia by 20](#)

[18.12.2020 Living Planet: Beekeepers in Botswana battle climate change](#)

.....

USAID [to 19 Dec 2020]
<https://www.usaid.gov/news-information>
Selected Press Releases, Statements, Announcements

[Fulfilling President Trump’s Commitment to Provide Ventilators](#)

December 18, 2020

Statement by Acting Deputy Administrator John Barsa

Today, I am pleased to announce that the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has fulfilled President Trump’s promise to deliver nearly 9,000 ventilators to 43 countries, plus the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

[The United States Delivers \\$20 Million in Wheat to the Sudanese People](#)

December 16, 2020

Fulfilling a pledge made in November, the United States has provided 65,000 metric tons of wheat in the Republic of Sudan through a grant worth \$20 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to the World Food Programme (WFP). This donation will help alleviate a significant shortage of affordable wheat as the Sudanese people face growing needs because of a challenging economy, historic floods earlier this year, and the pandemic of COVID-19.

Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office [nee DFID] [to 19 Dec 2020]
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/foreign-commonwealth-development-office>
Selected Press Releases. Announcements
No new digest content identified.

ECHO [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News

Coronavirus: rescEU medical materials dispatched to Serbia

18/12/2020

Following a request for assistance from Serbia, the European Union is sending facemasks, medical gloves and other personal protective equipment from the rescEU medical equipment reserve hosted in Greece. The medical material delivered includes:...

Central America: EU increases humanitarian support by €5 million and delivers additional in kind assistance to hurricane victims

15/12/2020

On 15 December, further EU assistance has been delivered in Honduras to the victims of Hurricanes ETA and IOTA through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Queen Letizia of Spain is in Honduras as 2 shipments totalling some 17.7 tonnes of cargo,...

.....

African Union [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

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

Official Inauguration in Morocco of the African Migration Observatory

December 18, 2020

Africa on the Right Track to Implement its Infrastructure Priorities

December 14, 2020

Ground Breaking and Unveiling Ceremony for Africa CDC HQ

December 14, 2020

AU signs MoU with EU's International Centre for Migration Policy Development

December 13, 2020

ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Secretariat News

Student leaders reflect on ASEAN identity and community building

HA NOI, 18 December 2020 – The ASEAN University Student Council Union (AUSCU), supported by Viet Nam's National Committee on Youth, organised its fourth conference on 10 -11 December. The virtual conference's theme was ASEAN Youth with ASEAN Identity: Raising Awareness and Taking Action for a Cohesive and Responsive Community. Over 60 student leaders across the [...]

December 18th, 2020 | ASEAN Secretariat News

European Commission [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest

Press release 19 December 2020

Tigray conflict: EU increases humanitarian support by €23.7 million in Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya

To address the urgent humanitarian crisis linked to the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, the EU has today increased humanitarian funding for the area by €23.7 million.

Press release 17 December 2020

Coronavirus: Commission concludes exploratory talks with Novavax to secure a new potential vaccine

Today, the European Commission concluded exploratory talks with the pharmaceutical company Novavax with a view to purchasing its potential vaccine against COVID-19.

Press release 15 December 2020

Central America: EU increases humanitarian support by €5 million and delivers additional in kind assistance to hurricane victims

OECD [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Top Stories

Employers must remove barriers to work for all generations

Governments and employers should work together to promote multi-generational workforces to adapt to ongoing changes in the world of work that have been accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a new OECD report.

16-December-2020

Organization of American States (OAS) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

Declaration of the OAS General Secretariat on International Migrants Day

December 18, 2020

Statement from the OAS Electoral Observation Mission to the General Elections in the United States

December 15, 2020

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases

OIC Commends Progress on Implementation of Riyadh Agreement and New Political Power-sharing Yemeni Government Formation

The Secretary General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Dr Yousef Al-Othaimeen, commended the co-implementation by the legitimate government of Yemen and the Southern

Transitional Council (STC) of the Riyadh Agreement and the decision to form a new Yemeni government from across the political spectrum....

18/12/2020

OIC condemns Israel's approval of plan to build 8,300 new settler units

The General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) condemned the decision by the Israeli occupation authorities to approve building plans for 8,300 new settlement homes in Al-Quds, dismissing the Israeli colonial settlement policy as illegal under international law and relevant UN resolutions, most notably under Security Council resolution 2334 of 23 December 2016....

16/12/2020

OIC: "Makkah Al-Mukarramah Document" approved and publicized within national and regional institutions in Member States

The Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), through their national and regional institutions, are endeavoring to publicize the "Makkah Al-Mukarramah" document, signed in the holiest city in Islam by over 1 200 prominent Muslim scholars from 139 countries and 27 Muslim schools of thought. Thus, the document is significant in that it brings to the fore the values of tolerance and mutual understanding between peoples of different cultural and religious backgrounds, as equally recognized by the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation....

16/12/2020

Group of 77 [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest Statements and Speeches

[Statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China by Ms. Sondra Cheong, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana to the United Nations on agenda item 153: Proposed budget for the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals for the year 2021, at the Fifth Committee during the main part of the seventy-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly \(New York, 14 December 2020\)](#)

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UNCTAD [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

World Customs Organization – WCO [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News – Selected Items

18 December 2020

First Global Free Zone Conference paved the way for Free Zones' competitiveness, safety and sustainability with solid and enhanced Customs involvement

WTO - World Trade Organisation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

WTO News and Events

World trade volume rallies in third quarter after COVID-19 shock

18 December 2020

Global merchandise trade volumes bounced back in the third quarter of 2020 from a deep second quarter slump brought on by the COVID-19 crisis according to statistics released by the WTO on 18 December. The third quarter rally helped limit the contraction in world trade since the start of the year.

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IPU Inter-Parliamentary Union [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press releases

No new digest content identified.

International Court of Justice [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

International Criminal Court (ICC) [to 19 Dec 2020]

Trying individuals for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity

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

News

Statement of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, ahead of elections in the Central African Republic: "The peaceful course of elections in the Central African Republic is essential to prevent cycles of violence."

Statement 17 December 2020

.....

World Bank [to 19 Dec 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]

Better Knowledge for an Effective COVID-19 Response

Latin America and the Caribbean accounts for over a quarter of the world's total COVID-19 cases. The World Bank released a series of studies to provide better knowledge and guidance to countries for an...

Date: December 17, 2020 Type: Brief

Deepened and Prolonged Poverty Affects Syrian Refugees and their Hosts, Requiring Bold Action

New Report: An estimated 4.4 million people in host communities in Jordan, Lebanon and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), in addition to 1 million Syrian refugees and 180,000 Iraqi IDPs have been pushed...

Date: December 17, 2020 Type: Press Release

Deepened and Prolonged Poverty Affects Syrian Refugees and their Hosts, Requiring Bold Action

New Report: An estimated 4.4 million people in host communities in Jordan, Lebanon and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI), in addition to 1 million Syrian refugees and 180,000 Iraqi IDPs have been pushed...

Date: December 17, 2020 Type: Press Release

Compounding Misfortunes

Changes in Poverty since the Onset of COVID-19 on Syrian Refugees and Host Communities in Jordan, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq and Lebanon COVID-19 has had an enormous impact on nearly every country in...

Date: December 17, 2020 Type: Publication

The World Bank can only accomplish its mission of ending extreme poverty in Africa by prioritizing the Sahel region

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry famously referred to my country, Mauritania, as Terre des Hommes or Land of Men—a fitting description that applies to the entire Sahel region. From time immemorial, it has been...

Date: December 16, 2020 Type: Opinion

IMF [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News, Announcements

December 17, 2020

IMFC Selects Sweden's Minister for Finance Magdalena Andersson as New Chair

Her previously held positions include Deputy Director-General at the Swedish Tax Agency

December 15, 2020

Building the Foundation of a 21st Century Economy

Antoinette M. Sayeh

Deputy Managing Director

Keynote Speech at the Rome Investment Forum 2020

African Development Bank Group [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

African Development Bank approves \$7 million in SEFA technical assistance to transform mini-grid investment in Africa

18-Dec-2020 - The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank have approved a \$7 million grant from the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA), for technical assistance in setting up a mini-grid acceleration initiative to meet the needs of the continent's fast-evolving renewable mini-grid industry.

Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa and Clean Technology Fund provide \$25 million in funding for medium scale independent power producers

18-Dec-2020 - The African Development Bank's Board of Directors on Monday 14 December 2020 approved \$15 million from the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) and \$10 million from the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) to advance African Renewable Energy Fund (AREF) II's projects to boost low-carbon energy generation in sub-Saharan Africa.

The African Development Bank secures nearly \$90 million in new donor funds to transform the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa

16-Dec-2020 - The African Development Bank announced \$90 million in new donor commitments for the Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) during a virtual launch event held on Monday, in which SEFA's transformation into a Special Fund was also unveiled.

Key stakeholders reaffirm strong support for African Development Bank's Desert to Power Initiative

14-Dec-2020 - The African Development Bank's Desert to Power (D2P) project drew strong support during the 4th Africa Energy Marketplace event held December 8-10 to share progress and developments around what is one of the institution's flagship initiatives. The virtual event, themed Unlocking the Solar potential of the G5 Sahel Countries

14-Dec-2020 - The African Development Bank's Desert to Power (D2P) project drew strong support during the 4th Africa Energy Marketplace event held December 8-10 to share progress and developments around what is one of the institution's flagship initiatives. The virtual event, themed Unlocking the Solar potential of the G5 Sahel Countries

Asian Development Bank [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

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

18 Dec 2020

Water Security a Top Priority in COVID-19 Recovery, Says ADB Report

Economies of Asia and the Pacific must put water security at the top of their agenda to recover from the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic and adapt to climate change, according to a new flagship report released by ADB.

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://www.aiib.org/en/news-events/news/index.html>

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

News

Beijing, China, Dec. 17, 2020

AIIB Loans to Tourism-dependent Countries Mitigate Economic Disruption Caused by COVID-19

Tourism-dependent countries have been particularly hard-hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, as their economies have been adversely affected by global travel restrictions.

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Islamic Development Bank [to 19 Dec 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 19 Dec 2020]

<http://www.actioncontrelafaim.org>

Communiqués de presse

Climat

L'intelligence artificielle pour lutter contre le changement climatique au Sahel

Posté le 18 décembre 2020

Un message radio dans différentes langues locales qui indique une nouvelle direction aux éleveurs pour nourrir leurs chameaux.

Alliance for International Medical Action (ALIMA) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

PRESS RELEASES

Statement of Commitment on Climate by Humanitarian Organisations

December 2020

The climate and environmental emergency is a global emergency. It already affects all the world's people and ecosystems, but the most vulnerable people, who have contributed the least to these disruptions, are the hardest hit.

Without a drastic reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and without ambitious measures to preserve and restore biodiversity, these crises will continue to have a major impact on humanitarian needs and the chances of vulnerable populations to sustainably improve their living conditions.

Solidarity organizations must therefore adapt their mode of action in order to respond to these crises and support populations to be more resilient, prepare for and adapt to this new reality as well as preserve and conserve their environment.

The actions of solidarity organizations, crucial as they may be, can nevertheless generate environmental and climate impacts. Therefore, for the humanitarian sector, taking these issues into account is a question of overall coherence of action, exemplarity and respect for the principle of "do no harm".

In order to be in line with the commitments made by States at COP 21 to limit the increase in temperature well below 2°C and if possible 1.5°C compared to the pre-industrial era, in order to anticipate the commitments of COP 15 on biological diversity which will take place in 2021, and conscious of our responsibilities, we, organizations of international solidarity, commit* to :

1. MEASURING OUR IMPACTS

:: Measure the environmental and carbon impacts of our actions on a regular basis.

2. REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

:: Set a reduction target in line with IPCC'S recommendations to halve** emissions*** by 2030 and at least 30% by 2025.

3. ADAPTING OUR HUMANITARIAN ACTION TO MEET THESE NEW CHALLENGES

:: Integrate analysis of climatic and environmental risks into all our actions and promote the implementation of prevention, mitigation and adaptation actions where relevant.

:: Reduce negative impacts and promote humanitarian and development actions that have a positive impact on the environment and climate.

:: Develop and call upon local expertise in connection with Grand Bargain's commitments on localization.

4. COMMUNICATE

:: Make this information public as soon as available and on an annual basis.

5. TRAINING OTHERS TO RAISE THE AMBITION

:: Raising the awareness of as many of our collaborators as possible, within everyone's means, of the major impacts of the climate and environmental crises on the most vulnerable.

:: Contribute to the project to develop an environmental and climate charter for the entire sector (currently being launched by the ICRC and the Red Cross).

List of signatories:

ACF

ACTED

ALIMA (The Alliance for International Medical Action)

CARE France

Électriciens Sans Frontières

Groupe URD

Médecins du Monde

Première Urgence Internationale

Secours Islamique France

Solidarités International

Amref Health Africa [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases

[EAC Contributes to Safer One-Stop Border Posts](#)

December 14, 2020

East African Community, Arusha, Tanzania, 11th December 2020: The training of trainers' course on COVID-19 preparedness and...

Aravind Eye Care System [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://aravind.org/>

Aravind News

No new digest content identified.

Blue Shield International [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

BSI News

No new digest content identified.

BRAC [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest

December 20, 2020

[**A shoulder to lean on: How coaching enables success in poverty graduation**](#)

December 20, 2020

[**An innovation fund for the RMG sector**](#)

Clubhouse International [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News/Events

No new digest content identified.

Danish Refugee Council [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://drc.ngo/>

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

ECPAT [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News from ECPAT

[**THE AMERICAS: First overview on child protection standards to make travel and tourism free from sexual exploitation**](#)

18/12/202

Civil society organisations in the Americas have long been working with the travel and tourism sector to protect children from sexual exploitation. An essential tool is codes of conduct that guide all actors in the sector on how to improve their child protection work. In the Americas, national codes of conduct

are used, along with the ECPAT hosted initiative The Code, that help meet the international legal standards.

Today, ECPAT International and the Regional Action Group of the Americas (GARA), are releasing the first report that analyses how these codes can be streamlined and collectively work to protect every child in the region from all forms of sexual exploitation.

Fountain House [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

GE2P2 Global [to 19 Dec 2020]

A foundation/501[c]3 and a public benefit corporation focused on advancing ethical and scientific rigor in research and evidence generation – informing governance, policy and practice

www.ge2p2.org

News, Publications, Webinars

No new digest content identified.

Humanity & Inclusion [nee Handicap International] [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Heifer International [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

No new digest content identified.

HelpAge International [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

No new digest content identified.

ICRC [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected News Releases, Statements, Reports

International Humanitarian Law Bibliography

The ICRC International Humanitarian Law Bibliography lists references to English and French publications on international humanitarian law.

18-12-2020 | Article

South Sudan: Floods intensify impact of hunger and insecurity

Juba (ICRC) – Massive flooding that residents say they haven't seen before has left hundreds of thousands of people displaced with little or no means to survive across different parts of South Sudan.
17-12-2020 | News release

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: Operational Update December 2020

One month after ceasefire deal, deep humanitarian needs persist in Nagorno-Karabakh
15-12-2020 | News release

IFRC [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Press Releases, Announcements

Asia Pacific, Fiji

Extensive destruction reported as Cyclone Yasa slams into Fiji

Suva/Kuala Lumpur, 18 December 2020 – Cyclone Yasa has slammed into Fiji, with initial reports showing extensive destruction across the island nation with tens of thousands of people affected. Packing wind gusts of up to 345 kilometres per hour, the C ...
18 December 2020

Global

IFRC President: Migrants must not be left stranded at back of COVID-19 vaccine queue

Geneva, 17 December 2020 – The President of the world's largest humanitarian organisation warns that inclusive action is urgently needed to safeguard the health and dignity of migrants worldwide, and to ensure they are not left behind as the first COVI ...
17 December 2020

Asia Pacific

Red Cross faces record number of climate related disasters in 2020

Kuala Lumpur, 16 December 2020 – In a record-breaking year, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) has responded to more climate-related disasters across Asia Pacific than any other time this century so far. The IFR ...
16 December 2020

Asia Pacific, Fiji, Vanuatu

Pacific nations brace for first major cyclones of the season

Suva, 16 December 2020 – Two tropical cyclones have formed in the Pacific, signaling the beginning of what is forecast to be a busy season for emergency responders across the region. Tropical Cyclone Yasa has been building strength between Fiji and Van ...
16 December 2020

Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama

Humanitarian response to hurricanes Eta and Iota one of the most challenging faced by Central America in decades

Panama/Geneva, 14 December 2020 – One month after hurricanes Eta and Iota hit Central America and Colombia, affecting more than 7.5 million people, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) warns that millions are stil ...
15 December 2020

International Medical Corps (IMC) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Updates / Alerts

Story

Achieving the Impossible

December 16, 2020

As COVID-19 cases proliferated in early 2020 and parts of the world began to shut down, demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) exploded. Hospitals struggled to get the surgical masks, respirators, gloves and gowns that healthcare workers needed to safely do their jobs. Photos circulated online of doctors and nurses wearing trash bags, rather than ...

IRC International Rescue Committee [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Media highlights [Selected]

Press Release

IRC's 2021 Emergency Watchlist: triple threat of COVID, climate change and conflict threatens 200 million people without urgent action

December 16, 2020

Press Release

The IRC condemns attack on civilians in Toumour, Niger which killed 28 people and burned over 800 homes

December 15, 2020

IRCT [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://irct.org/>

Latest News

News 17 Dec 2020

Paris Court of Appeal Rejects 4th European Arrest Warrant against Ms Iratxe Sorzabal

Islamic Relief Worldwide [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

Palestinian Territories

Report sets out blueprint to help Gaza's youth reclaim their dreams

Published: 17 December, 2020

Landsea [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Medecins du Monde [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Mercy Corps [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News Releases & Alerts

December 17, 2020

[News Alert: Severe Flooding Ravages Idlib, Syria](#)

Heavy winter rains are falling across Idlib, Syria, washing away tents and damaging shelters of displaced people. Max...

December 14, 2020

[Mercy Corps Seeks New Board Directors](#)

Application Period Runs Through January 31, 2021 PORTLAND, OR – Mercy Corps, a global humanitarian organization, is..

MSF/Médecins Sans Frontières [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest [Selected Announcements]

Ethiopia

["They saw soldiers and civilians coming in, wounded or dead"](#)

Project Update 18 Dec 2020

Greece

[Alarming mental health distress among asylum seekers on Greek islands](#)

Project Update 17 Dec 2020

Afghanistan

[Patients face persistent insecurity amid "peace process"](#)

Project Update 16 Dec 2020

Honduras

[MSF steps up medical care in response to humanitarian crisis in Ho...](#)

Press Release 16 Dec 2020

Access to medicines

[Governments must act fast on consensus supporting historic move to suspend monopolies during pandemic](#)

Press Release 15 Dec 2020

[Nigeria](#)

[Extra-long malaria season in Borno claims lives](#)

Project Update 14 Dec 2020

Yemen

Civilians wounded and killed in indiscriminate frontline hostilities

Press Release 14 Dec 2020

Operation Smile [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Program Schedule

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

OXFAM [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected News/Announcements

Homes flattened, thousands in evacuation centers as powerful Tropical Cyclone Yasa strikes Fiji

18 December 2020

Cyclone Yasa landfall in Fiji yesterday, carrying destructive winds of up to 345km/h, heavy rain and storm swells, has flattened homes and left major devastation to roads, and vegetation. More than 600,000 people in the South Pacific island nation are now affected, thousands of which are already in evacuation centers as the tropical storm disrupted access to essential utilities including water supply and sanitation facilities, as well as food.

2.7 billion people have had no social protection to cope with Covid-19 economic crisis

15 December 2020

New Oxfam research shows that over a third of the world's population has had no public money to cope with the effects of the pandemic. A new report "Shelter from the Storm" reviewed government programs used to inject additional money to help people and found none of them were adequate to meet everyone's needs

Norwegian Refugee Council [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest news

No new digest content identified.

Pact [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Partners In Health [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

New Oxygen Plant at PIH Hospital Will Fill Void, Save Lives in Lesotho

Lesotho health leaders said the country's first medical oxygen plant is a landmark for building a stronger health system during COVID-19 and beyond
December 18, 2020

In Mexico, COVID-19 Patient Recovers After Seeking Care At Hospital

Armando Torres, a 67-year-old coffee farmer in Chiapas, Mexico, spent 18 days in a PIH-supported hospital and shares his story of surviving COVID-19, thanks to the compassionate care he received.
December 17, 2020

Ekip Solid: A Conversation with Dr. Melino Ndayizigiye

Seventeen years old and at a boarding school far from home, Melino Ndayizigiye became so sick he feared he would die before his family learned of his illness. But he recovered, and the doctor who cured him—the first doctor Melino had ever seen—later became Melino's professor, launching a career dedicated to rural medicine.
December 16, 2020

Partners In Health Joins Global Movement For Free, Accessible COVID-19 Vaccine

Partners In Health stands in solidarity with global organizations and leaders calling for a “People’s Vaccine”—a vaccine that is made free and accessible to all people around the world. PIH leaders signed an open letter urging the incoming U.S. presidential administration to ensure that the vaccine, likely from among the candidates developed by American companies, is made available to all.
December 16, 2020

PATH [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Release

No new digest content identified.

Plan International/BORNEfonden [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

Save The Children [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

20 December 2020 - *Germany, Syria*

Save the Children welcomes the return of German children from Syria

19 December 2020 - *Afghanistan*

Explosion kills at least 15 children in Afghanistan’s Ghazni province

18 December 2020 - *United Kingdom*

Needs, not money should guide fair access to COVID-19 vaccine - SAVE THE CHILDREN

18 December 2020 - *Global*

'Stop Treating Child Migrants as Criminals' – Save the Children

18 December 2020 - *Fiji*

Trail of destruction slowly emerging after Cyclone Yasa smashes Fiji

16 December 2020 - *Fiji*

Concerns for children as Cyclone Yasa barrels towards Fiji

15 December 2020 - *Global*

Malnutrition could kill 153 children every day over the next two years because of COVID-19, warns Save the Children

14 December 2020 - *Nigeria*

SAVE THE CHILDREN - 'School turned into nightmare after attack in Nigeria'

SOS-Kinderdorf International [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

All News

Bosnia – December 14 2020

Remembering childhood during the Bosnia War

The official signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement on 14 December 1995 put an end to the Bosnian War, the most devastating armed conflict on European soil since World War II, in which over 100,000 souls perished and over 2.2 million people were displaced.

Tostan [to 19 Dec 2020]

<http://www.tostan.org>

News/Events

The Current State of Tostan's Community Empowerment Program (CEP) and Diffusion Communities

Dec 17, 2020

"This study was not designed to estimate causal effects. The results are a rich description of the current reality in study communities but they cannot be interpreted as attributing any aspects of that reality to Tostan, the CMC, or any other actor. The study was also...

Women for Women International [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Blogs & Updates

December 18, 2020

A Sweet Celebration with a Sister Across the World

Article

Bosnia and Herzegovina

World Vision [to 19 Dec 2020]

<http://wvi.org/>

Newsroom

World Vision mobilising for a historic humanitarian response in Ethiopia's Tigray region

December 16th 2020

World Vision commits US\$500 million to fight global malnutrition

December 14th 2020

:: World Vision will commit \$500 million of private funding to tackle malnutrition over the next five years and will also allocate an additional \$700m in nutrition grant-funded programmes.

:: The aid agency's investment will mean that more than 1 million children will avoid malnutrition.

.....

Electronic Frontiers Foundation

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

No new digest content identified.

Freedom House [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://freedomhouse.org/>

Latest Updates

Report: Amid Global Decline, China Remains World's Worst Abuser of Internet Freedom in 2020

Press release

December 15, 2020

Human Rights Watch [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Featured Commentary, Announcements, Statements

December 18, 2020

Turkey: YouTube Precedent Threatens Free Expression

YouTube announced on December 16, 2020, that it will appoint a local representative in Turkey to comply with the country's recently amended internet law, making it much more susceptible to content removal and take-down requests by the Turkish authorities, ARTICLE 19, Human Rights Watch, and IFÖD said today. Such a move will inevitably lead to an increase in arbitrary censorship, compromise people's privacy and right of access to information, and could implicate YouTube in human rights violations.

December 18, 2020

News Release

New York: Inquiry Confirms Police Misconduct at Protests

Europe/Central Asia

December 18, 2020

Report

Italy: Flawed Migrant Regularization Program

Transparency International [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press

[Transparency International condemns fake news campaign in Nigeria](#)

Transparency International condemns the meritless false accusations made against it by groups in Nigeria and promoted by certain media outlets. In Nigeria and around the world, Transparency...

18 December 2020

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ChildFund Alliance [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://childfundalliance.org/>

News/ Statements

No new digest content identified.

CONCORD [to 19 Dec 2020]

<http://concordeurope.org/>

Latest News and Events

No new digest content identified.

The Elders [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://theelders.org/news-insight>

Selected Press Releases and Major Announcements

News

[Stories from the frontlines: Refugee-Led Organisations in the Shadow of COVID-19](#)

18 December 2020

Three refugee-led organisations share their reflections on a challenging year for people who have been forcibly displaced.

Evidence Aid [to 19 Dec 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

[Dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 in COVID-19 patients \(research published up to 23 April 2020\)](#)

[Added December 17, 2020](#)

[Gender and severity of COVID-19 infection \(research published up to 26 March 2020\)](#)

[Added December 17, 2020](#)

[Matrix metalloproteinase 9 as a target for treatments for COVID-19 \(search done on 23 March 2020\)](#)

[Added December 17, 2020](#)

[Physical and mental health impacts of COVID-19 on healthcare workers \(research published up to March 2020\)](#)

[Added December 17, 2020](#)

Computerised tomography (CT) findings and COVID-19 Infection (multiple reviews)
Added December 17, 2020

Smoking and COVID-19 (multiple reviews) **Added December 15, 2020**

Mental health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic (multiple reviews) **Added December 15, 2020**

Gavi [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News releases

Gavi Board approves new push to reach unvaccinated children worldwide

17 December 2020

COVAX announces additional deals to access promising COVID-19 vaccine candidates; plans global rollout starting Q1 2021

18 December 2020

Getty Conservation Institute [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

Global Fund [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

The Global Fund Appoints Hui C. Yang as Head of Supply Operations

16 December 2020

The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria has appointed Hui C. Yang, a highly experienced procurement and supply chain executive, as Head of its Supply Operations Department. Ms. Yang brings over two decades of experience in both the public and private sector and will join the Global Fund on 1 March 2021.

Canada Contributes CAD 65 million to Global Fund's COVID-19 Response

14 December 2020

The Global Fund applauds the government of Canada for allocating CAD 65 million to the Global Fund's efforts to support low- and middle-income countries to fight COVID-19, including procuring and deploying millions of COVID-19 rapid diagnostics tests as well as reinforcing health systems.

Hilton Prize Coalition [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

ICVA - International Council of Voluntary Agencies [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://icvanetwork.org/>

Latest resources, events, content

No new digest content identified.

InterAction [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Crises & Countries in Conflict Crises & Countries in Conflict

[When the Key to Unlocking a Crisis Is in the Fine Print](#)

Elizabeth Courtney | Dec 17, 2020

Crises & Countries in Conflict

[Statement on Deteriorating Humanitarian Conditions in Ethiopia](#)

InterAction | Dec 16, 2020

Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment

[Jumpstarting Safeguarding: A Case Study](#)

Kirsten Mullin | Dec 15, 2020

.....

3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Publications/Events/Blogs

[Mapping the effects of food systems interventions on food security and nutrition: Launch of the 3ie Food Systems Evidence Gap Map](#)

The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie) and Innovative Methods and Metrics for Agriculture and Nutrition Actions (IMMANA) research group were commissioned by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in February 2020 to develop an Evidence Gap Map (EGM) of the effects of food systems interventions on food security and nutrition outcomes. This map can help increase the discoverability of evidence and its use by decision makers working on policies and programmes.

Time: 8:00 am EST – 9:30 am EST Start Date: 14 January 2021 End Date: 14 January 2021

[Register Now](#)

CHS Alliance [to 19 Dec 2020]

<http://chsalliance.org/>

Our Impact

No new digest content identified.

Development Initiatives [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

No new digest content identified.

.....

Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance in Humanitarian Action (ALNAP) [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News/Blog/Events

No new digest content identified.

Disasters Emergency Committee [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

LATEST PRESS RELEASES

No new digest content identified.

EHLRA/R2HC/HIF [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Geneva Centre of Humanitarian Studies [nee CERAH] – [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://humanitarianstudies.ch/>

News/Events

Policy brief: COVID-19 and fragile settings

14/11/20

Our director, [Prof. Karl Blanchet](#) contributed to a [new policy brief on COVID-19 and fragile settings](#) produced by [UHC2030](#) to address these issues.

Groupe URD [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Publications, Events, News

No new digest content identified.

International Humanitarian Studies Association [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://ihsa.info/>

Weekly humanitarian blog posts selection

Needed shifts in global issues of humanitarianism

Selection#36 (7th -13th of December)

Several articles focus on global issues of humanitarianism, such as how Covid-19 should repurpose humanitarian bureaucracies. There is also an independent review of individual donor assessments, a blog on the concentration of resources by donors, and a sharp commentary on how narratives of poverty reinforce global inequalities.

Other articles focus on specific topics such as the Tigray War, the effects of the Third Geneva Convention on women prisoners of war, and how gender equality initiatives spearheaded by NGOs have suffered since the pandemic outbreak.

INEE – an international network for education in emergencies [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://inee.org/>

News

No new digest content identified.

Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://phap.org/>

Association news, events

No new digest content identified.

Sphere [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Start Network [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News and Blog

MERF ends after providing assistance to more than 175,000 people

by Helen James 18 Dec 20

After more than three years, the Start Network's Migration Emergency Response Fund (MERF) has closed. The fund was set up to address the unpredictable nature of the mixed migration context across the Mediterranean and rapidly respond to new or emerging needs. It also aimed to improve the effectiveness and understanding of migration responses and trends.

Funded by the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO), the MERF has funded over 30 projects across nine countries in Europe and Africa, including nine Collaborative Information Collection and Analysis (CICA) grants since 2017...

Start Network welcomes four new members

by Helen James 17 Dec 20

... The new members are: Asociación de Servicios Comunitarios de Salud (ASECSA), BRAC International, Medair and People In Need (PIN)

.....

Brookings

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

Accessed 19 Dec 2020

Latest Research/Events

Report

Gender-based violence in primary schools: Kenya

Mary Otieno

Friday, December 18, 2020

Infrastructure

[Four steps to undo the harms of legacy infrastructure in the COVID-19 recovery](#)

Shalini Vajjhala and Joseph W. Kane

Thursday, December 17, 2020

Infrastructure

[Prioritize people, not projects: Addressing the harms of legacy infrastructure in the COVID-19 recovery](#)

Joseph W. Kane and Shalini Vajjhala

Thursday, December 17, 2020

Report

[Policy and institutional responses to COVID-19 in the Middle East and North Africa: Morocco](#)

Yasmina Abouzzohour

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Essay

[Separate and unequal: Persistent residential segregation is sustaining racial and economic injustice in the U.S](#)

Tracy Hadden Loh, Christopher Coes, and Becca Buthe

Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Center for Global Development [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Publications, News and Events

December 17, 2020

[The Education Impacts of Cash Transfers for Children with Multiple Indicators of Vulnerability](#)

This study draws on a randomly assigned pilot of a community implemented cash transfer program targeted to households with low socioeconomic status in Tanzania to examine the educational impacts of cash transfers for children facing different challenges. We find that on average, being assigned to receive cash transfers significantly boosts children's school participation and primary completion rates. But we provide suggestive evidence that these gains are unequally distributed across children.

David Evans , Charles Gale and Katrina Kosec

December 16, 2020

[From Displacement to Development: How Peru Can Transform Venezuelan Displacement into Shared Growth](#)

This case study is part of the "Let Them Work" initiative by Refugees International (RI) and the Center for Global Development (CGD). It outlines the barriers Venezuelans face in Peru to economic inclusion, the impacts of these barriers, and the steps that the Government of Peru, international organizations, donors, and the private sector could take to overcome them.

Martha Guerrero Ble , Izza Leghtas and Jimmy Graham

December 16, 2020

[The Effect of COVID-19 on the Economic Inclusion of Venezuelans in Peru](#)

This policy paper, part of the “Let Them Work” initiative, outlines how the Government of Peru, donors, international organizations, and NGOs can address and overcome these barriers and promote economic inclusion.

[Martha Guerrero Ble](#) and [Jimmy Graham](#)

December 16, 2020

[Measuring the Development Impact of the IFC and Development Finance](#)

Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) including the International Finance Corporation (IFC) tend to look at their development impact using project-level indicators of outputs and employment impacts.

[Charles Kenny](#) and [George Yang](#)

December 15, 2020

[ODA in Turmoil: Why Aid Definitions and Targets Will Come Under Pressure in the Pandemic Age, and What Might be Done About It?](#)

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, official development assistance (ODA) remains an essential, though often criticised, form of external financing for developing countries.

[Andrew Rogerson](#) and [Euan Ritchie](#)

December 15, 2020

[On the Political Economy Determinants of Tax Reforms: Evidence from Developing Countries](#)

This paper analyzes the role of political variables in the implementation of structural tax reforms in 45 emerging market and low-income economies during 2000-2015.

[Sanjeev Gupta](#) and [João Tovar Jalles](#)

December 14, 2020

[Malaria Case Management After the Affordable Medicines Facility for Malaria \(AMFm\): Availability, Quality, and Market Share for ACTs in Kenya's Private Pharmacies](#)

Between 2011 and 2016, the Affordable Medicines Facility-Malaria (AMFm) subsidy program substantially increased access to WHO prequalified artemisinin combination therapies (ACTs) through Africa's private sector pharmacies and drug-sellers. While the program was rigorously and extensively evaluated, little is known about private-sector case management of malaria in the period since its discontinuation.

Daniel Rosen , [Jessica Vernon](#) , [Rachel Silverman](#) , [Elizabeth Juma](#) , [Maria Dieci](#) and [Prashant Yadav](#)

CSIS [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Reports

Report

[Central Bank Digital Currency, Design Choices, and Impacts on Currency Internationalization](#)

December 18, 2020 | [Stephanie Segal](#), [Pearl Risberg](#) Digital currencies have emerged as important innovations with potentially large impacts on the international monetary and financial system. Finding international alignment on CBDC architecture, infrastructure, and rules is critical given the rapid pace of innovation and the...

Report

[Managing Climate Change Information in the Next Administration](#)

December 17, 2020 | [James Andrew Lewis](#), [Sarah Ladislav](#) Governments, industry, and civil society require increased access to climate data and analysis to inform critical decisions. This report identifies and recommends federal action in the collection, management, and analysis of climate data to guide the next administration.

Report

[The Land of In-Between: Revitalizing America's Small and Mid-sized Cities](#)

December 16, 2020 | [William Alan Reinsch](#) Small and mid-sized cities in the United States are an integral part of the American experience. CSIS analyzes the opportunities for these smaller metro regions to flourish and proposes a few recommendations for the communities and stakeholders.

Report

[Imagine Peace: Connecting Global Solutions on Reconciliation with an Afghanistan Ready for Peace](#)

December 16, 2020 | [Earl Anthony Wayne](#) This report examines other countries' reconciliation frameworks in the context of the Afghanistan peace process. Efforts require nurturing, community building, constructive dialogue, international support, and region-specific programming.

Report

[The Latin America That Will Engage the New Administration](#)

December 14, 2020 | [Evan Ellis](#) As U.S. election challenges proceed toward resolution and President-elect Joseph Biden puts his transition team into place, Latin America and the Caribbean will demand his attention.

Report

[The Importance of Marginalized Communities in Lebanon](#)

December 14, 2020 | [Natasha Hall](#) CSIS's Natasha Hall discusses the compounding crises impacting all Lebanese, but particularly its most vulnerable, marginalized communities. Hall explains why policymakers should take note and provides recommendations to improve conditions in the near term.

Report

[Global Security Forum 2020: A New Era for U.S. Alliances](#)

December 14, 2020 | [Emma Bates](#), [Samuel Brannen](#) The 2020 Global Security Forum Report distills insights for alliance strategy from a bipartisan group of 60 experts who assessed 3 hypothetical future scenarios.

Rand [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://www.rand.org/pubs.html>

Selected Research Reports/Journal Articles

Report

[Command and Control in U.S. Naval Competition with China](#)

The authors of this report explore how command and control (C2) is exercised in the U.S. Navy and China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy, and how these C2 concepts support and challenge each nation's shift to new maritime missions.

Dec 17, 2020

Kimberly Jackson, Andrew Scobell, Stephen Webber, Logan Ma

Report

[Regional Responses to U.S.-China Competition in the Indo-Pacific: Australia and New Zealand](#)

In this report, the authors assess the perspectives of Australia and New Zealand as they implement their responses to China's more assertive foreign and security policy behavior in the Indo-Pacific and to a more competitive U.S.-China relationship.

Dec 17, 2020

Michael S. Chase, Jennifer D. P. Moroney

Report

[Analysis of a Time-in-Grade Pay Table for Military Personnel and Policy Alternatives](#)

In support of the Thirteenth Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation, the authors of this report assess the advantages and drawbacks of using a table based on time in grade, rather than time in service, to set military pay.

Dec 17, 2020

Beth J. Asch, Michael G. Mattock, Patricia K. Tong

Report

[Establishing A Research-Practice Partnership To Improve Early Care and Education Supports Within Quality Start Los Angeles: Partnership Insights and Lessons Learned](#)

This report describes a developmental evaluation of Quality Start Los Angeles, a quality rating and improvement system, and provides recommendations for research-practice partnerships looking to achieve evidence-based decisionmaking.

Dec 17, 2020

Anamarie A. Whitaker, Celia J. Gomez, Jill S. Cannon

Report

[Autonomous Vehicles and the Future of Auto Insurance](#)

RAND researchers investigated the impact that autonomous vehicles (AVs) could have on U.S. automobile insurance. They found that the existing U.S. auto insurance system should be flexible enough to accommodate the initial introduction of AVs.

Dec 17, 2020

Karlyn D. Stanley, Michelle Grisé, James M. Anderson

Research Brief

[The economic benefits of equitable global access to COVID-19 vaccines](#)

Researchers used a global macroeconomic model to examine the economic effects of vaccine nationalism. This brief highlights the cost to 30 high-income countries if low and middle-income countries miss out on initial access to COVID-19 vaccines.

Dec 17, 2020

Marco Hafner, Erez Yerushalmi, Clement Fays, Eliane Dufresne, Christian Van Stolk

Report

[Heading into the Holidays, Americans' Financial Difficulties Continue](#)

In this report, the authors describe results from several waves of a survey fielded through the RAND Corporation's American Life Panel to assess the continuing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on households' financial well-being.

Dec 17, 2020

Katherine Grace Carman, Shanthi Nataraj

Research Brief

[Designing and Sustaining Innovative High Schools: Successes, Challenges, and Student Outcomes](#)

In a five-year study, high schools adopted a set of design principles intended to prepare students for college and careers.

Dec 17, 2020

Elizabeth D. Steiner, Laura S. Hamilton, John F. Pane, Jonathan Schweig, Laura Stelitano, Joseph D. Pane, Sophie Meyers

Report

[Every Summer Counts: A Longitudinal Analysis of Outcomes from the National Summer Learning Project](#)

This seventh report in a series presents longitudinal findings on the effectiveness of voluntary summer learning programs in five school districts. The authors also offer implications for policy on narrowing the achievement gap between students.

Dec 17, 2020

Jennifer Sloan McCombs, Catherine H. Augustine, John F. Pane, Jonathan Schweig

Journal Article

[Effectiveness of Nonpublic Report Cards for Reducing Trauma Mortality](#)

Nonpublic reporting of hospital risk-adjusted mortality rates does not lead to improved in-hospital mortality outcomes in trauma patients.

Dec 17, 2020

Laurent G. Glance, Turner M. Osler, Dana B. Mukamel, J. Wayne Meredith, Andrew W. Dick

Journal Article

[Research in Mathematics and Public Policy](#)

This volume features a variety of research projects at the intersection of mathematics and public policy. The topics included here fall in the areas of cybersecurity and climate change.

Dec 17, 2020

Mary Lee, Aisha Najera Chesler

Tool

[Entry-Level Health Care Workforce: Information and Programs Visualization Tool](#)

This tool provides a visualization of the concepts in "Strengthening the Entry-Level Health Care Workforce: Finding a Path" which reviews strategies, strengthens and expands the entry-level health care workforce, and identifies opportunities for stakeholders.

Dec 17, 2020

Shira H. Fischer, Ryan K. McBain, Laura J. Faherty, Jessica L. Sousa, Vishnupriya Kareddy, Allyson D. Gittens, Grant R. Martsof

Journal Article

Communication Missteps During COVID-19 Hurt Those Already Most at Risk

Emergency risk communication is a crucial part responding to crises, but it's also a critical part of preventing negative outcomes from communication missteps.

Dec 17, 2020

Aaron Clark-Ginsberg, Elizabeth L. Petrun Sayers

Report

Building and Sustaining Innovative High Schools: Findings from the Opportunity by Design Study

The Opportunity by Design initiative gave support to small schools of choice to adopt a set of design principles intended to prepare students for college and careers. This final report describes the methods and findings of the five-year study.

Dec 17, 2020

Elizabeth D. Steiner, Laura S. Hamilton, John F. Pane, Jonathan Schweig, Laura Stelitano, Joseph D. Pane, Sophie Meyers

Report

Setting the Level and Annual Adjustment of Military Pay

In support of the Thirteenth Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation, this report provides analysis and recommendations on setting the level of military pay and the annual adjustment to military pay.

Dec 17, 2020

Beth J. Asch, Michael G. Mattock, Troy D. Smith, Jason M. Ward

Journal Article

Satisfaction With Massachusetts Nursing Home Care Was Generally High During 2005–09, With Some Variability Across Facilities

Satisfaction with care in Massachusetts nursing homes is high, but family members are less satisfied with the physical and social activities available to residents.

Dec 17, 2020

Yue Li, Xueya Cai, Zhiqiu Ye, Laurent G. Glance, Charlene Harrington, Dana B. Mukamel

Tool

Mid-Atlantic Regional Climate Impacts Summary and Outlook: Fall 2020

This climate summary aims to inform Mid-Atlantic policymakers and practitioners about fall 2020 weather, regional climate trends, and the upcoming winter season. A tool shows historic tropical cyclone tracks in the Mid-Atlantic from 1980 to 2020.

Dec 16, 2020

Michelle E. Miro, Krista Romita Grocholski, Samantha Borisoff, Art Degaetano, Jordan R. Fischbach

Research Brief

How could technological developments influence the future of cybercrime?

How could technological developments influence the future of cybercrime? RAND Europe investigated this policy question and identified possible approaches to prevent future technologies from being exploited for criminal purposes.

Dec 16, 2020

Jacopo Bellasio, Erik Silfversten, Eireann Leverett, Anna Knack, Fiona Quimbre, Emma Louise Blondes, Marina Favaro, Giacomo Persi Paoli

Journal Article

Racial and Ethnic Differences in Outcomes in Older Patients With Acute Ischemic Stroke

Long-term outcomes of acute ischemic stroke vary by race/ethnicity among older patients with AIS.
Dec 16, 2020

Feng Qian, Gregg C. Fonarow, Eric E. Smith, Ying Xian, Wenqin Pan, Edward L. Hannan, Benjamin A. Shaw, Laurent G. Glance, Eric D. Peterson, Zubin J. Eapen, Adrian F. Hernandez, Lee H. Schwamm, Deepak L. Bhatt

Report

Proposed Analytical Products for the Air Force Warfighting Integration Capability: Developing and Presenting Options for Future Force Design and Capability Development

RAND Project Air Force assisted the Air Force Warfighting Integration Capability (AFWIC) in conceptualizing analytical and other products to support concept development, options for future force design, and capability development planning.

Dec 16, 2020

Debra Knopman, Don Snyder, Irv Blickstein, David E. Thaler, James A. Leftwich, Colby Peyton Steiner, Quentin E. Hodgson, Elaine Simmons, Krista Romita Grocholski, Yvonne K. Crane

RoRI [Research on Research Institute] [to 19 Dec 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.

Alan Turing Institute

<https://www.turing.ac.uk/news>

News, Research, Events

The Turing harnesses global expertise with International Advisory Board for Trustworthy Digital Identity

A global effort to advance recognition for identity as a human right.

Wednesday 09 Dec 2020

The Alan Turing Institute is pleased to announce its International Advisory Board for Trustworthy Digital Infrastructure for Identity Systems. This initiative brings together leaders in the global effort to advance recognition for identity as a human right with trailblazers in government that are driving new opportunities with digital identity, playing a pivotal role in the Turing's effort to apply the rigour of academic research to current developments in digital identity systems.

"This Advisory Board is a unique forum set up to enrich understanding of our growing reliance on digital identity systems and the robust considerations needed to avoid harm, address inequalities and protect the citizens these systems are being set up to serve," says Mark Briers, Programme Director for defence and security, The Alan Turing Institute. "Today numerous approaches to digital identity are supported by complex ecosystems of data stores, networks and interfaces with services. Data science techniques are creating strong opportunities to underpin the trust assumptions required of governments, service providers, and the many businesses and organisations that rely on these systems."...

Unitaid [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://unitaid.org/>

Featured News

16 December 2020

Unitaid welcomes contribution from Canada

Geneva – Unitaid welcomes contribution of C\$15 million (US\$11.7 million) from Canada to its ongoing work on COVID-19 therapeutics and diagnostics under the global Access to Covid-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator.

The funding, which forms part of a C\$255 million overall package of support to the ACT-Accelerator, has been allocated to Unitaid to support equitable access to promising COVID-19 treatments and tests...

14 December 2020

Japan joins Unitaid's Executive Board

Geneva – On the occasion of the 37th meeting of the Unitaid Executive Board on December 9th-10th 2020, members voted unanimously to welcome Japan to join them.

As a key country of innovation, promoter of universal access to quality health coverage and a major player in the fight against infectious diseases, Japan becomes a member of the Executive Board, alongside delegations from African Countries, Brazil, Chile, Communities Living with the Diseases, Foundations, France, NGOs, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, the United Kingdom and WHO...

Urban Institute [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Publications

Increasing Rental Counseling Capacity and Awareness as a Prescription for COVID-19

A potential eviction crisis threatens America's 43.8 million renter households, who were hit harder by the pandemic but received less housing relief than homeowners. This brief examines the evolving state of renters' housing and financial security, the landscape of rental housing counseling, and the potential for counseling to help renters maintain housing through the pandemic. Based on lessons learned from the

[John Walsh](#), [Gideon Berger](#), [Janneke Ratcliffe](#), [Sarah Gerecke](#)

December 18, 2020

Brief

VictimConnect Implementation Evaluation Plan

This brief is the fourth of seven toolkit resources resulting from the Urban Institute's formative evaluation of the VictimConnect Resource Center, a nationwide victims' helpline operated by the National Center for Victims of Crime. The evaluation was conducted in 2019 and 2020 with funding from the National Institute of Justice. In this brief, we describe the goals of Urban's proposed implementation evaluation

[Malore Dusenbery](#), [Jennifer Yahner](#), [Sara Bastomski](#)

December 18, 2020

Brief

Refining the VictimConnect Logic Model

This brief is the second of seven toolkit resources resulting from the Urban Institute's formative evaluation of the VictimConnect Resource Center, a nationwide victims' helpline operated by the National Center for Victims of Crime. The evaluation was conducted from 2019 to 2020 with funding from the National Institute of Justice. In this brief, we explain the value of developing logic models in general and why

[Malore Dusenbery](#)

December 18, 2020

Brief

[VictimConnect Foundational Theory and Literature](#)

This brief is the first of seven toolkit resources resulting from the Urban Institute's formative evaluation of the VictimConnect Resource Center, a nationwide victims' helpline operated by the National Center for Victims of Crime. The evaluation was conducted from 2019 to 2020 with funding from the National Institute of Justice. In this brief, we describe the foundational theory and literature relevant to

[Krista White](#), [Malore Dusenbery](#), [Sara Bastomski](#)

December 18, 2020

Brief

[Extending the Earned Income Tax Credit to Students: A Comparison of Aid Policies](#)

Postsecondary education can be a critical step on the path toward economic independence, but many low-income students who are independent for tax purposes face tremendous financial difficulties when trying to complete postsecondary school. Extending the Economic Security Project's cost-of-living refund would provide \$41 billion in benefits annually to postsecondary undergraduate and graduate students. Extending

[Elaine Maag](#), [Nikhita Airi](#), [Sandy Baum](#), [Kim S. Rueben](#)

December 17, 2020

Brief

[National Paid Sick Leave: Achieving Universal Worker Coverage](#)

A growing number of states and localities are adopting paid sick leave laws, a trend that has accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, proposals to enact permanent federal paid sick leave often run into concerns over costs to small businesses and staffing disruptions. As a result, many existing laws and proposals exempt small employers, leaving out 20 percent or more of the workforce. However, research

[Jack Smalligan](#), [Chantel Boyens](#)

December 17, 2020

Brief

[Evaluation Guide for Public Service Program Managers](#)

Managers of nonprofit organizations and state and local human services agencies make dozens of program decisions each year. To help them, they need varied information, especially evidence on how effective and efficient their services have been. The goal of this report is to help program managers strengthen their decisionmaking using evaluation information. The report describes how managers can get evaluation

[Harry P. Hatry](#)

December 16, 2020

Research Report

Should the Federal Government Fund Short-Term Postsecondary Certificate Programs?

The federal student aid system has emerged as the primary source of funding for students pursuing a wide range of subbaccalaureate credentials. But the eligibility rules for federal student aid, offered under Title IV of the Higher Education Act, require a minimum program length of 600 hours for Pell grants, despite little evidence showing that short programs meeting the current benchmark produce better labor-

[Sandy Baum](#), [Harry Holzer](#), [Grace Luetmer](#)

December 15, 2020

Research Report

The MicroMortgage Marketplace Demonstration Project

Small-dollar mortgages are scarce, making the transition to sustainable homeownership difficult for low-and moderate-income households in low-cost markets across the country. Urban Institute researchers served as the research partner for the MicroMortgage Marketplace (MMM), a demonstration project to explore the viability of a -small-dollar mortgage product in Louisville, Kentucky and Southern Indiana. The

[Alanna McCargo](#), [Linna Zhu](#), [Sarah Storchak](#), [Rita Ballesteros](#)

December 15, 2020

Brief

The Effects of Medicare Buy-In Policies for Older Adults on Health Insurance Coverage and Health Care Spending

A Medicare buy-in program would allow qualifying individuals currently ineligible for Medicare to purchase a Medicare-like health insurance plan. In this report, using the Urban Institute's Health Insurance Policy Simulation Model, we estimate the coverage and health care spending implications of a Medicare buy-in policy targeting adults ages 50 to 64, similar to proposed legislation. In the base buy-in policy

[Bowen Garrett](#), [Jessica Banthin](#), [Anuj Gangopadhyaya](#), [Matthew Buettgens](#), [Adele Shartzter](#), [John Holahan](#), [Diane Arnos](#)

December 14, 2020

Research Report

The Wistar Institute [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

World Economic Forum [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Media

Aruba First Government to Join the CommonTrust Network

News 17 Dec 2020

Few Economies Are Ready for Long-term Prosperity through Improved Public Services, Green Investments and Digitization, Study Finds

News 16 Dec 2020

Blockchain Can Trace Carbon Emissions for Mining, Metals Companies, Proof of Concept Released

News 15 Dec 2020

World Economic Forum Launches Tested Toolkit and Certification Framework for Responsible Use of Facial Recognition

News 14 Dec 2020

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:: Foundation/Major Donor Watch

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

Paul G. Allen Frontiers Group [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

BMGF - Gates Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases and Statements

No new digest content identified.

Blue Meridian Partners [to 19 Dec 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 19 Dec 2020]

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

Newsroom

New Report Finds Many Families with Children Are Depressed, Uninsured, Hungry and at Risk of Foreclosure or Eviction

Posted December 14, 2020

Families require an immediate policy response to meet the needs of children during the COVID-19 pandemic, which — according to a new policy report from the Annie E. Casey Foundation — has left millions struggling with finances, school, work and mental health.

Clinton Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

December 17, 2020

Curaçao to continue transition to low-carbon economy under new partnership with Fundashon Desaroyo Deportivo Kòrsou and the Clinton Foundation

Press Release

December 16, 2020

Clinton Foundation's Too Small to Fail initiative announces new partnerships and resources to promote early learning and support families this holiday season

Co Impact [to 19 Dec 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 19 Dec 2020]

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

The Latest

16 December 2020

Families and Workers Fund Raises Nearly \$30 Million for Workers Hardest Hit by COVID-19

NEW YORK — The Families and Workers Fund, a collaborative philanthropic effort designed to support and empower workers, families, and communities devastated by the health and economic crisis caused by COVID-19, is proud to announce a significant increase in new funding and grantmaking partners to advance its mission...

J. Paul Getty Trust [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News

No new digest content identified.

GHIT Fund [to 19 Dec 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 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest Updates

Seven things the Women's Funds Collaborative taught me about feminist philanthropy

Global Development and Population

By Alfonsina Peñaloza

December 16, 2020

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

IKEA Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Stories

No new digest content identified.

HHMI - Howard Hughes Medical Institute [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Room

No new digest content identified.

Kaiser Family Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

December 18, 2020 *News Release*

Federal Rules Protect People from Bills for the COVID-19 Vaccine

As the first doses of the new COVID-19 vaccine are delivered to health care workers and other early recipients, many Americans are eager to know not only when the vaccine will be available to them but also whether they will be able to get it at no cost. The answer...

December 18, 2020 *News Release*

Poll: Large Majorities Now Say They Wear Masks Regularly and Can Continue Social Distancing for At Least Six Months if Needed, though Republicans Remain Less Likely to Take Such Precautions

As winter sets in and COVID-19 cases and deaths reach records in most parts of the country, more Americans say they wear masks every time they leave home now (73%) than said so in May (52%), a new KFF Health Tracking Poll finds. A small minority (11%) say they wear...

December 16, 2020 *News Release*

How are States Prioritizing Who Will Get the COVID-19 Vaccine First?

The first Americans were vaccinated today as COVID-19 vaccines are being distributed across the country. A new KFF review of states' releases and statements about their vaccination priorities finds that most states are following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommendations for the...

December 15, 2020 *News Release*

[KFF Launches New COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor to Track the Public's Confidence in the Vaccine and Experiences for the Duration of the Pandemic](#)

Republicans and Black Americans are More Likely to Be Hesitant but Even Among These Groups Reasons Vary KFF has launched a new COVID-19 Vaccine Monitor to dive deeply into the public's views about the vaccine and experiences getting it for as long as the pandemic lasts. First results released today...

Kellogg Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Selected Announcements

No new digest content identified.

Aga Khan Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

18 December 2020

[AKTC receives two awards, for Sustainable Development and Excellence, from UNESCO](#)

17 December 2020

[AKTC completes conservation works on Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan's Mausoleum in Delhi](#)

MacArthur Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News, Events, What We're Learning

[Policy Proposals to Reduce Nuclear Risk](#)

December 18, 2020

Grantee Research

[Reshaping Criminal Justice After COVID-19](#)

December 18, 2020

Grantee Research

[Sharing Midwifery Resources in Mexico](#)

December 14, 2020

Grantee Research

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

<https://mellon.org/>

Mellon News, Press Releases

Maria Sachiko Cecire Joins Mellon Foundation as Program Officer in Higher Learning

NEW YORK, NY, December 17, 2020 – The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation announced that Maria Sachiko Cecire will join the Foundation as program officer in Higher Learning effective January 11, 2021.

As program officer, Cecire will participate in grantmaking that generates more complete, and accurate, cultural and historical narratives; broadens access to humanities education; elevates ideas and knowledge that illuminate our shared human experience; and accelerates the demographic transformation of faculties and leadership in the US academy...

As Thousands of Smaller Museums Face Risk of Permanent Closure Due to COVID-19, Mellon Announces Second Round of Art Museum Futures Fund Grants

December 14, 2020

:: Mellon Will Provide \$3 Million in Additional Support to More than a Dozen Small Arts and Cultural Institutions Nationwide Through the Art Museum Futures Fund

:: Latest Funding Brings Mellon's Art Museum Futures Fund's Grantmaking Total to \$27 Million

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

Perspective: We are of the same stardust

December 17, 2020

The Universe, we scientists believe, started with the Big Bang around 13 billion years ago. Hot plasma spewed forth. Matter came into being. Hydrogen and Helium emerged. Light traveled free. And over billions of years, swirling gas formed galaxies. Here, stars gestated for millions of years, ignited, brewed lighter elements in their furnace, and exploded out silver-gold star dust in their death throes. So it was that our Sun received its embryonic matter — cosmic gas and remnants of dead stars — harbored protoplanets, and nurtured Life on at least one of these globes — our beloved planet Earth...

Open Society Foundations [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Newsroom

Press release December 18, 2020

Open Society Foundations Announce 2020 Soros Justice Fellows

The 19 fellows, who hail from eight different states, Puerto Rico, and Washington, D.C., will receive a stipend for full-time projects to create a more just and equitable society.

Press release December 16, 2020

Open Society Foundations Welcome European Climate Pact, Call for Greater Inclusion of Civil Society

The European Commission today launches the European Climate Pact, the nonlegislative, public-facing aspect of the European Green Deal

David and Lucile Packard Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

No new digest content identified.

Pew Charitable Trusts [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases & Statements

Opinion December 16, 2020

[A National Solution to the Digital Divide Starts With States](#)

Press Releases & Statements December 15, 2020

[Pew: WTO Misses Opportunity This Year to Reduce Harmful Fisheries Subsidies](#)

Rockefeller Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

Dec 18 2020

Press Releases

[The Rockefeller Foundation Commits to Divesting from Fossil Fuels](#)

NEW YORK | December 18, 2020 – The Rockefeller Foundation announces a commitment to divesting its \$5 billion endowment from existing fossil fuel interests while refraining from future fossil fuel ...

Dec 16 2020

Press Releases

[The Rockefeller Foundation's New Plan Provides Covid-19 Testing Strategy to Open All of America's Public Schools by March](#)

Calls for 300 million Covid-19 tests per month and \$42.5 billion in funding to protect K-12 schools NEW YORK | 16 December 2020 – As pandemic deaths and infections soar across ...

Dec 15 2020

Press Releases

[The Rockefeller Foundation Announces Final Two Cities in The Rockefeller Foundation Opportunity Collective \(ROC\)](#)

New grantees announced; Funds will provide capital, financial training, and guidance to small businesses of color impacted by Covid-19 NEW YORK | December 15, 2020 - As part of its ongoing ...

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Latest News and Highlights

No new digest content identified.

Science Philanthropy Alliance [to 19 Dec 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.

SDGFunders [to 19 Dec 2020]

<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 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Releases

No new digest content identified.

Wellcome Trust [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

News

2020 – a year of science, solutions and solidarity

15 December 2020

In a tumultuous year, Wellcome has been at the heart of the global scientific response to the Covid-19 pandemic, while maintaining support for our broad portfolio of research. [Our 2019/20 annual report](#), published today, reveals Wellcome spent £1.1 billion on research, innovation and advocacy.

A year of Covid-19 – and a year of extraordinary science

15 December 2020

The best of humanity has shone through the gloom of 2020. The dedication of scientists across the globe has been remarkable, not just for producing a string of lifesaving breakthroughs but for doing so at an unprecedented pace. Everyone who has supported the research response to Covid-19 can be proud. But the job isn't finished yet, so we must redouble our commitments to put an end to the pandemic. Here is a selection of key moments in this great scientific success story.

.....

Candid [formerly Foundation Center and GuideStar] [to 19 Dec 2020]

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

Press Room

December 12, 2020

Donations Soar but Nonprofits Still Struggle With Pandemic

Source: Associated Press

Council on Foundations [to 19 Dec 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>

[Reviewed earlier]

AMA Journal of Ethics

Volume 22, Number 12: E981-1070

<https://journalofethics.ama-assn.org/issue/socially-situated-brain-death>

Socially Situated Brain Death

In 1980, the Uniform Determination of Death Act (UDDA) defined death as “(1) irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions, or (2) irreversible cessation of all functions of the entire brain, including the brain stem ... in accordance with accepted medical standards.” Interpreting the UDDA definition and applying neurological criteria for diagnosing brain death sound straightforward. Brain death is, however, socially situated, not observer independent, and fraught with uncertainty and ambiguity. This issue investigates some of the ethical, cultural, and legal complexities of one of medicine’s most critical tasks: being sharp and sure about who is alive and who is dead.

[Full Issue PDF.](#)

American Journal of Infection Control

December 2020 Volume 48 Issue 12 p1415-1570

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Preventive Medicine

December 2020 Volume 59 Issue 6 p773-914

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

Research Articles

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Public Health

December 2020 110(12)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

Volume 103, Issue 6, December 2020

<http://www.ajtmh.org/content/journals/14761645/103/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Annals of Internal Medicine

1 December 2020 Volume 173, Issue 11

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Antiquity – A Review of World Archeology

Latest Issue: Issue 378 - December 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Artificial Intelligence – An International Journal

Volume 289, December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/artificial-intelligence/vol/289/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Cost Effectiveness and Resource Allocation

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Global Health

December 2020 - Volume 5 - 12

<https://gh.bmj.com/content/5/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

BMC Health Services Research

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Infectious Diseases

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medical Ethics

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Medicine

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[Early detection of cholera epidemics to support control in fragile states: estimation of delays and potential epidemic sizes](#)

Cholera epidemics continue to challenge disease control, particularly in fragile and conflict-affected states. Rapid detection and response to small cholera clusters is key for efficient control before an epidemic propagates. To understand the capacity for early response in fragile states, we investigated delays in outbreak detection, investigation, response, and laboratory confirmation, and we estimated epidemic sizes. We assessed predictors of delays, and annual changes in response time.

Authors: Ruwan Ratnayake, Flavio Finger, W. John Edmunds and Francesco Checchi

Citation: BMC Medicine 2020 18:397

Content type: Research article

Published on: 15 December 2020

BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMC Public Health

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

Research

[Lessons learned from the polio eradication initiative in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia: analysis of implementation barriers and strategies](#)

Since its inception in 1988, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) has partnered with 200 countries to vaccinate over 2.5 billion children against poliomyelitis. The polio eradication approach has ada...

Authors: Wakgari Deressa, Patrick Kayembe, Abigail H. Neel, Eric Mafuta, Assefa Seme and Olakunle Alonge

Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20(Suppl 4):1807

Content type: Research
Published on: 18 December 2020

A multi-pronged scoping review approach to understanding the evolving implementation of the Smallpox and Polio eradication programs: what can other Global Health initiatives learn?

Previous initiatives have aimed to document the history and legacy of the Smallpox Eradication Program (SEP) and the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). In this multi-pronged scoping review, we explore...

Authors: Meike Schleiff, Adetoun Olateju, Ellie Decker, Abigail H. Neel, Rasheedat Oke, Michael A. Peters, Aditi Rao and Olakunle Alonge

Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20(Suppl 4):1698

Content type: Research
Published on: 18 December 2020

Conflict, community, and collaboration: shared implementation barriers and strategies in two polio endemic countries

Afghanistan and Nigeria are two of the three remaining polio endemic countries. While these two countries have unique sociocultural characteristics, they share major polio risk factors. This paper describes th...

Authors: Eme Owoaje, Ahmad Omid Rahimi, Anna Kalbarczyk, Oluwaseun Akinyemi, Michael A. Peters and Olakunle O. Alonge

Citation: BMC Public Health 2020 20(Suppl 4):1178

Content type: Research
Published on: 18 December 2020

BMC Research Notes

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

BMJ Open

December 2020 - Volume 10 - 12

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Bulletin of the World Health Organization

Volume 98, Number 12, December 2020, 821-908

<https://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/98/12/en/>

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Care, Health and Development

Volume 47, Issue 1 Pages: 1-141 January 2021

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal

Volume 109 November 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/child-abuse-and-neglect/vol/109/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Clinical Therapeutics

December 2020 Volume 42 Issue 12 p2239-2340, e259-e274

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

Editorial

[Conversations With the Editors: Promoting Science and Combating Antiscience: A Focus on Communication Strategies](#)

Laura Lindenfeld, Ravi Jhaveri

Published online: November 21, 2020

p2242-2247

[Conversations With the Editors: Promoting Science and Combating Anti-science: The Past and Present of the Antivaccine Movement](#)

Jeffrey Baker, Ravi Jhaveri

Published online: November 30, 2020

p2248-2252

Clinical Trials

Volume 17 Issue 6, December 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Conflict and Health

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

[A graphic elicitation technique to represent patient rights](#)

Authors: Catherine R. McGowan, Nora Hellman, Louisa Baxter, Sonali Chakma, Samchun Nahar, Ahasan Ud Daula, Kelly Rowe, Josie Gilday, Patricia Kingori, Rachel Pounds and Rachael Cummings

Content type: Methodology

14 December 2020

A patient charter is an explicit declaration of the rights of patients within a particular health care setting. In early 2020 the Save the Children Emergency Health Unit deployed to Cox's Bazar Bangladesh to support the establishment of a severe acute respiratory infection isolation and treatment centre as part of the COVID-19 response. We developed a charter of patient rights and had it translated into Bangla and Burmese; however, the charter remained inaccessible to Rohingya and members of the host community with low literacy.

Contemporary Clinical Trials

Volume 99 December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/contemporary-clinical-trials/vol/99/suppl/C>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

The CRISPR Journal

Volume 3, Issue 5 / October 2020

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/crispr/3/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Genetic Medicine Reports

Volume 8, issue 4, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40142/volumes-and-issues/8-4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Opinion in Infectious Diseases

December 2020 - Volume 33 - Issue 6

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Current Protocols in Human Genetics

Volume 107, Issue 1 September 2020

<https://currentprotocols.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/19348258/2020/107/1>

[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 8, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Development Policy Review

Volume 39, Issue 1 Pages: 1-151 January 2021

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

ARTICLES

UNHCR's evolving discourse on returning refugee vulnerability in Afghanistan: The law of diminishing returns

Matthew Willner-Reid

Pages: 39-58

First Published: 23 October 2019

Development evaluation in authoritarian states: A case from Kazakhstan

Colin Knox

Pages: 121-134

First Published: 14 September 2019

Disability and Rehabilitation: Assistive Technology

Volume 15, Issue 8, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness

Volume 14 - Issue 4 - August 2020

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

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Disasters

Volume 45, Issue 1 Pages: 1-252 January 2021

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

[Reviewed earlier]

EMBO Reports

Volume 21 Issue 12 3 December 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Emerging Infectious Diseases

Volume 26, Number 12—December 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 6 Pages: 1-40 November–December 2020

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

Video-capture studies • Benefit sharing and genomics research

[Reviewed earlier]

Ethics & International Affairs

Fall 2020 (34.3) October 2020

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

The editors of *Ethics & International Affairs* are pleased to present the Fall 2020 issue of the journal! This Special Issue of the journal features a collection of essays organized and guest edited by Margaret P. Karns on the **seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations**. The collection contains contributions from David Malone and Adam Day, Sophie Harman, Ellen J. Ravndal, Ramesh Thakur, Susanna P. Campbell, Devaki Jain, Bertrand Ramcharan, Maria Ivanova, and Margaret P. Karns, Kirsten Haack, and Jean-Pierre Murray. Additionally, the issue includes an article by Jack McDonald on information, privacy, and just war theory and an essay by Anthony F. Lang, Jr. on constructing universal values. It also contains a review essay by Sarah C. Goff on freedom and justice in trade governance, and book reviews by Michael Blake, Elizabeth Kahn, Jamie Mayerfeld, and John Williams.

[Reviewed earlier]

The European Journal of Public Health

Volume 30, Issue 5, October 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/issue/30/5>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Policy

Volume 97 December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/food-policy/vol/97/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Food Security

Volume 12, issue 6, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12571/volumes-and-issues/12-6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Forced Migration Review (FMR)

FMR 65 November 2020

<https://www.fmreview.org/issue65>

Recognising refugees

FMR issue 65's main feature on Recognising refugees explores shortcomings, challenges and innovations (and their consequences for refugees/asylum seekers) in refugee status determination processes worldwide. A second feature offers reflections on lessons and good practice emerging from the 2018–20 GP20 Plan of Action for IDPs.

[Reviewed earlier]

Forum for Development Studies

Volume 47, 2020 - Issue 3

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Gates Open Research

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

Open Letter metrics AWAITING PEER REVIEW

[COVID-19 vaccine delivery: an opportunity to set up systems for the future](#)

[version 1; peer review: awaiting peer review]

Rebecca Weintraub, Stanley Plotkin, Margeret Lui, Jerome Kim, Natalie Garcon, David Bell, Dan Storisteanu, Toby Norman, Eliah Aronoff-Spencer

Peer Reviewers Invited

Funder: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

PUBLISHED 18 Dec 2020

Genome Medicine

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Geoheritage

Volume 12, issue 4, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/12371/volumes-and-issues/12-4>

[Reviewed earlier]

Global Health Action

Volume 13, Issue 1 (2020)

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/zgha20/current?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 12
<http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rqph20/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Globalization and Health

<http://www.globalizationandhealth.com/>
[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

[Cross-border COVID-19 spread amidst malaria re-emergence in Venezuela: a human rights analysis](#)

Authors: Catalina Correa-Salazar and Joseph J. Amon
Content type: Review
17 December 2020

Health Affairs

Vol. 39, No. 11 November 2020
<https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/current>
Health Spending, Medicaid & More
[Reviewed earlier]

Health and Human Rights

Volume 22, Issue 2, December 2020
<https://www.hhrjournal.org/volume-22-issue-2-december-2020/>
Special Section: Big Data, Technology, Artificial Intelligence and the Right to Health
[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 Supplement_1, November 2020
https://academic.oup.com/heapol/issue/35/Supplement_1
[Reviewed earlier]

Health Research Policy and Systems

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

[Health research system resilience: lesson learned from the COVID-19 crisis](#)

Authors: Bahareh Yazdizadeh, Reza Majdzadeh, Ayat Ahmadi and Bita Mesgarpour

Content type: Commentary

18 December 2020

Human Gene Therapy

Volume 31, Issue 23-24 / December 2020

<https://www.liebertpub.com/toc/hum/31/23-24>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Human Rights Quarterly

Volume 42, Number 4, November 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 19 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Infectious Diseases of Poverty

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

International Health

Volume 12, Issue 6, November 2020

<https://academic.oup.com/inthealth/issue/12/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Human Rights Law Review

Volume 9 (2020): Issue 2 (Oct 2020)

<https://brill.com/view/journals/hrlr/9/2/hrlr.9.issue-2.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 11 (2020) November 2020

<https://www.ijcmph.com/index.php/ijcmph/issue/view/68>

Table of Contents

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

Volume 51 December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/international-journal-of-disaster-risk-reduction/vol/51/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

International Journal of Epidemiology

Volume 49, Issue 5, October 2020

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

Editorial

COVID-19 and the 'rediscovery' of health inequities

Ichiro Kawachi

International Journal of Epidemiology, Volume 49, Issue 5, October 2020, Pages 1415–1418,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyaa159>

Effect of childhood rotavirus vaccination on community rotavirus prevalence in rural Ecuador, 2008-13

Alicia N M Kraay, Edward L Ionides, Gwentyth O Lee, William F Cevallos Trujillo, Joseph N S Eisenberg

International Journal of Epidemiology, Volume 49, Issue 5, October 2020, Pages 1691–1701,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/ije/dyaa124>

International Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 26, Issue 12, 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

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

December 2020 Volume 101p1-412

<https://www.ijidonline.com/current>

Original Reports

Integrated control of COVID-19 in resource-poor countries

Asma B. Aziz, et al

Published online: September 08, 2020 p98-101

Abstract

Low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) face many challenges in controlling COVID-19. Healthcare resources are limited and so are ICU beds. RT-PCR testing is conducted on a limited scale and treatment options are few. There is no vaccine. Therefore, what low-cost solutions remain for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of SARS-CoV-2? How should these essential health services be delivered in order to reach the most vulnerable in our societies? In this editorial we discuss several important strategies for controlling COVID-19 including: vaccination, molecular and serological diagnostics, hygiene and WaSH interventions, and low-cost therapeutics. We also discuss the delivery of such services in order to reach the most in need. The proposed integrated control strategy requires immediate action and political will in order to reduce the widening health inequalities caused by the pandemic.

International Migration Review

Volume 54 Issue 4, December 2020

[Reviewed earlier]

Intervention – Journal of Mental Health and Psychological Support in Conflict Affected Areas

July-December 2020 Volume 18 | Issue 2 Page Nos. 97-183

<http://www.interventionjournal.org/currentissue.asp?sabs=n>

[Reviewed earlier]

JAMA

December 15, 2020, Vol 324, No. 23, Pages 2347-2452

<https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/currentissue>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

JAMA Network

[COVID-19 Update December 19, 2020](#)

These articles on COVID-19 were published across the JAMA Network in the last week.

Opinion

[Behaviorally Informed Strategies for a National COVID-19 Vaccine Promotion Program](#)

Kevin G. Volpp, MD, PhD; George Loewenstein, PhD; Alison M. Bутtenheim, PhD, MBA

Opinion

[The Ethics of Continuing Placebo in SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine Trials](#)

Annette Rid, MD; Marc Lipsitch, DPhil; Franklin G. Miller, PhD

Opinion

[Evaluating SARS-CoV-2 Vaccines After Emergency Use Authorization or Licensing of Initial Candidate Vaccines](#)

Steven Joffe, MD, MPH

News & Insight

[Experts Discuss COVID-19: Vaccine Allocation, Placebo Groups, and More](#)

JAMA Network Open

Research

[US Public Attitudes Toward COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates](#)

Emily A. Largent, JD, PhD, RN; Govind Persad, JD, PhD; Samantha Sangenito, MPA; et al

JAMA Pediatrics

December 2020, Vol 174, No. 12, Pages 1130-1228

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

[Reviewed earlier]

JB1 Evidence Synthesis

November 2020 - Volume 18 - Issue 11

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Adolescent Health

December 2020 Volume 67 Issue 6 p733-880

<https://www.jahonline.org/current>

[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 6, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10900/volumes-and-issues/45-6>

Articles

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage

Volume 46 Pages 1-406 (November–December 2020)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-cultural-heritage/vol/46/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development

2020 Volume 10 Issue 4

<https://www.emerald.com/insight/publication/issn/2044-1266/vol/10/iss/4>

Table Of Contents

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Development Economics

Volume 148 January 2021

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-development-economics/vol/148/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics

Volume 15 Issue 5, December 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health

December 2020 - Volume 74 - 12

<https://jech.bmj.com/content/74/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine

Volume 13, Issue 4 Pages: 251-324 November 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 4, November 2020 Supplement

<https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/43320>

Table of Contents

[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>

Table Of Contents

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health

Volume 22, issue 6, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10903/volumes-and-issues/22-6>

[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 8 Pages: 1229-1378 November 2020

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

Research Articles

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Medical Ethics

December 2020 - Volume 46 - 12

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Operations Management

Volume 66, Issue 7-8 Pages: 751-1023 October-December 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/18731317/current>

Special Issue: Innovation in Supply Networks

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Patient-Centered Research and Reviews

Volume 7, Issue 4 (2020)

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pediatrics

December 2020 Volume 227p1-330

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Journal of Public Health Management & Practice

November/December 2020 - Volume 26 - Issue 6
<https://journals.lww.com/jphmp/pages/currenttoc.aspx>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Public Health Policy

Volume 41, issue 4, December 2020
<https://link.springer.com/journal/41271/volumes-and-issues/41-4>
[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

December 2020 Volume 17 Issue 173
<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rsif/current>
[Reviewed earlier]

Journal of Travel Medicine

Volume 27, Issue 7, October 2020
<https://academic.oup.com/jtm/issue/27/7>
[Reviewed earlier]

The Lancet

Dec 19, 2020 Volume 396 Number 10267 p1941-2084
<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/issue/current>
Editorial

[Science during COVID-19: where do we go from here?](#)

The Lancet

The emergence of COVID-19 has indelibly marked science and medicine this year. Advances in epidemiology, clinical care, prevention, treatment, and the speed of vaccine development have been unprecedented, driven by global collaboration and data sharing. None of that would have been possible without the tireless work, sacrifice, dedication, and insight of scientists and researchers worldwide, from those working in laboratories to the principal investigators of clinical trials and everyone in between. But those scientific advances have also amplified deficiencies in the scientific research environment and provide important lessons for the future.

Research into topics unrelated to COVID-19 has suffered: Michael Lauer of the US National Institutes of Health has estimated that 80% of clinical trials were stopped or interrupted. Resources have been shifted to the pandemic, and many researchers were forced to suspend their own research to focus on patient care in overwhelmed hospital systems. Long-planned trials on HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, for example, were halted as researchers switched to studying COVID-19. It will be years before we know the true cost of these rapid changes in research priorities. There is a need to ensure that research systems have the capacity, and resilience, to adjust to new priorities while limiting the disturbance to ongoing research.

COVID-19 did not create the conditions that make life difficult for researchers early in their careers or for researchers who are women, people with families, or Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC). But it has exacerbated and highlighted those conditions. Health research systems have a history of undervaluing the contributions of these groups and a resistance to confronting issues of lower pay, systemic racism, and inequitable working conditions. Lockdown restrictions worldwide fell heavily on women (including researchers) who were forced to juggle working from home and child care, and BIPOC researchers face institutional racism and come from communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19. The pandemic has already led to a fall in the number of women authors on research papers and could have a long-term effect on careers in science.

The decades-old system that measures success in terms of publications and author order also needs revision. The pandemic has proven that institutions are willing and able to change incentive structures, whether by delaying or extending tenure clocks or extending or modifying research grants. Changes in incentive structures and forms of recognition are necessary, from taking preprint and other forms of research into account, to crediting data analysts, post-doctoral researchers, and other under-recognised contributors whose work is essential to the research enterprise. Scientific progress is made by the combined work of many groups, but too often it is only those at the end of the process who get the credit for the work of many. Science must develop a more thoughtful way of considering how we assess scientific activity that encompasses the whole spectrum of contributors beyond a bare handful of measures.

Open data sharing and collaborations between groups show a potential way to help eliminate the waste, burdensome bureaucracy, and duplicated effort that have been seen in COVID-19 research. It is understandable that clinician–researchers rush to gather what data they can during a pandemic. But a search of ClinicalTrials.gov shows hundreds of small underpowered trials of COVID-19 treatments, and huge numbers of retrospective studies that have attempted to answer similar questions. In the USA, fractured research and health-care systems encourage smaller trials, whereas the RECOVERY treatment trial in the UK leveraged the central administration of the National Health Service. The pandemic has demonstrated the use of data sharing and telemedicine systems to allow research to continue, and those lessons should guide researchers towards a more collaborative and digital future.

The pandemic has stimulated strong public interest in and enthusiasm for science. The advances seen this year could inspire the next generation of scientists, who have seen the potential and promise of research. Fundamentally, science is a collaborative, iterative, and incremental endeavour. It is the responsibility of all of us to ensure that we build on the lessons of 2020 so that the next generation of scientists work in an environment that is fair, conducive to success, and properly incentivised and rewarded.

Comment

Age and frailty in COVID-19 vaccine development

Melissa K Andrew, Janet E McElhaney

Offline: The lessons of smallpox eradication for COVID-19

Richard Horton

Articles

Safety and immunogenicity of ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 vaccine administered in a prime-boost regimen in young and old adults (COV002): a single-blind, randomised, controlled, phase 2/3 trial

Maheshi N Ramasamy, et al, and the Oxford COVID Vaccine Trial Group

Open Access

Older adults (aged ≥ 70 years) are at increased risk of severe disease and death if they develop COVID-19 and are therefore a priority for immunisation should an efficacious vaccine be developed. Immunogenicity of vaccines is often worse in older adults as a result of immunosenescence. We have reported the immunogenicity of a novel chimpanzee adenovirus-vectored vaccine, ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (AZD1222), in young adults, and now describe the safety and immunogenicity of this vaccine in a wider range of participants, including adults aged 70 years and older.

Global estimates of the need for rehabilitation based on the Global Burden of Disease study 2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019

Alarcos Cieza, Kate Causey, Kaloyan Kamenov, Sarah Wulf Hanson, Somnath Chatterji, Theo Vos

Open Access

Rehabilitation has often been seen as a disability-specific service needed by only few of the population. Despite its individual and societal benefits, rehabilitation has not been prioritised in countries and is under-resourced. We present global, regional, and country data for the number of people who would benefit from rehabilitation at least once during the course of their disabling illness or injury.

The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health

Dec 2020 Volume 4 Number 12 p853-908

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Digital Health

Dec 2020 Volume 2 Number 12 e629-e680

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landig/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Global Health

Dec 2020 Volume 8 Number 12 e1444-e1564

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Infectious Diseases

Dec 2020 Volume 20 Number 12 p1349-1482, e298-e311

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Public Health

Dec 2020 Volume 5 Number 12 e628-e691

<https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/issue/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

Lancet Respiratory Medicine

Dec 2020 Volume 8 Number 12 p1159-1244, e87-e98

[Reviewed earlier]

Maternal and Child Health Journal

Volume 24, issue 12, December 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/10995/volumes-and-issues/24-12>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

Volume 40 Issue 8, November 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 588 Issue 7838, 17 December 2020

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

Article | 09 December 2020

[**Global human-made mass exceeds all living biomass**](#)

Emily Elhacham, Liad Ben-Uri[...] & Ron Milo

[See Week in Review above for detail]

Nature Biotechnology

Volume 38 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nbt/volumes/38/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Communications

<https://www.nature.com/subjects/health-sciences/ncomms>

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

Nature Genetics

Volume 52 Issue 12, December 2020

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Human Behaviour

Volume 4 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nathumbehav/volumes/4/issues/12>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Nature Medicine

Volume 26 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nm/volumes/26/issues/12>

News Feature | 07 December 2020

[2021: research and medical trends in a post-pandemic world](#)

Goodbye 2020, a year of arguably too many challenges for the world. As tempting as it is to leave this year behind, the biomedical community is forever changed by the pandemic, while business as usual needs to carry on. Looking forward to a new year, experts share six trends for the biomedical community in 2021.

Mike May

Nature Reviews Genetics

Volume 21 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrg/volumes/21/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Immunology

Volume 20 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nri/volumes/20/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Volume 19 Issue 12, December 2020

<https://www.nature.com/nrd/volumes/19/issues/12>

[Reviewed earlier]

New England Journal of Medicine

December 17, 2020 Vol. 383 No. 25
<http://www.nejm.org/toc/nejm/medical-journal>

Original Article

[Safety and Immunogenicity of SARS-CoV-2 mRNA-1273 Vaccine in Older Adults](#) *E.J. Anderson and Others*

Conclusions

In this small study involving older adults, adverse events associated with the mRNA-1273 vaccine were mainly mild or moderate. The 100- μ g dose induced higher binding- and neutralizing-antibody titers than the 25- μ g dose, which supports the use of the 100- μ g dose in a phase 3 vaccine trial. (Funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and others; mRNA-1273 Study ClinicalTrials.gov number, [NCT04283461](#). opens in new tab.)

[Safety and Immunogenicity of Two RNA-Based Covid-19 Vaccine Candidates](#) *E.E. Walsh and Others*

Conclusions

The safety and immunogenicity data from this U.S. phase 1 trial of two vaccine candidates in younger and older adults, added to earlier interim safety and immunogenicity data regarding BNT162b1 in younger adults from trials in Germany and the United States, support the selection of BNT162b2 for advancement to a pivotal phase 2–3 safety and efficacy evaluation. (Funded by BioNTech and Pfizer; ClinicalTrials.gov number, [NCT04368728](#). opens in new tab.)

Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly

Volume 49 Issue 6, December 2020

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

Article

[Civil Society and COVID in China: Responses in an Authoritarian Society](#)

Ming Hu, Mark Sidel

First Published October 21, 2020; pp. 1173–1181

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0899764020964582>

Pediatrics

Vol. 146, Issue 6 1 Dec 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 11, November 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/40273/volumes-and-issues/38-11>

[Reviewed earlier]

PLoS Genetics

<https://journals.plos.org/plosgenetics/>

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Medicine

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

[No new digest content identified]

PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases

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

(Accessed 19 Dec 2020)

Editorial

[COVID-19 in the Americas and the erosion of human rights for the poor](#)

Peter J. Hotez, Jorge A. Huete-Perez, Maria Elena Bottazzi

| published 18 Dec 2020 PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0008954>

Conclusions

COVID-19 in the Western Hemisphere has acquired a huge and ominous human rights dimension, especially among the poor and underserved populations living in the US, Mexico, and Central and South America. Populations living in poverty, especially indigenous people, have been placed at increased risk to COVID-19 compared to others, and there are grave concerns that such groups will also be denied access to preventative vaccines and medicines. Furthermore, as COVID-19 emerges as the newest serious NTD in the region leading to long-term morbidities, there is now an urgent need to convene the leadership of the Latin American nations. Near-term and long-term strategies must be shaped, and these can only be achieved with the direct involvement and support from the Organization of American States and PAHO-WHO, together with the Interamerican Development Bank, other regional banks, and the private sector. We are now at 625,000 deaths and counting in the region, but so far, an international response remains missing in action.

PLoS One

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

Research Article

[The adverse health effects of punitive immigrant policies in the United States: A systematic review](#)

Nicholas A. Vernice, Nicola M. Pereira, Anson Wang, Michelle Demetres, Lisa V. Adams

Research Article | published 16 Dec 2020 PLOS ONE

<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0244054>

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

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]
[No new digest content identified]

Prehospital & Disaster Medicine

Volume 35 - Issue 6 - December 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Preventive Medicine

Volume 141 December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/preventive-medicine/vol/141/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Proceedings of the Royal Society B

09 December 2020 Volume 287 Issue 1940

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/toc/rspb/current>

[No new digest content identified]

Public Health

Volume 188 Pages A1-A2, 1-54 (November 2020)

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/public-health/vol/188/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Ethics

Volume 13, Issue 2, July 2020

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

[Reviewed earlier]

Public Health Reports

Volume 135 Issue 6, November/December 2020

<https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/phrg/135/6>

[Reviewed earlier]

Qualitative Health Research

Volume 30 Issue 14, December 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 19 Dec 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 12 Pages: 2479-2695 December 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 19 Dec 2020]
[Reviewed earlier]

Science

18 December 2020 Vol 370, Issue 6523
<http://www.sciencemag.org/current.dtl>
Special Issue: 2020 Breakthrough of the Year

[Shots of hope](#)

By Jon Cohen

Science 18 Dec 2020 : 1392-1394 Full Access

Desperately needed vaccines against COVID-19, developed and tested at record speed, are 2020's breakthrough.

[Runners-up](#)

By Robert F. Service, Jocelyn Kaiser, Paul Voosen, Daniel Clery, Michael Price, Katie Langin, Jon Cohen, Robert F. Service, Elizabeth Pennisi

Science18 Dec 2020 : 1402-1407 Full Access

Science has named nine scientific advances as runners-up for the 2020 Breakthrough of the Year.

Summary

The runners-up for Science's 2020 Breakthrough of the Year include the world's first potential CRISPR-based cures for beta-thalassemia and sickle cell anemia, a tighter range for global warming forecasts, the discovery of the elusive source of fast radio bursts, avian intelligence, and an artificial intelligence program that has solved one of biology's biggest challenges: predicting the precise 3D shape a string of amino acids will fold into as it becomes a working protein. Other advances include understanding how "elite controllers" keep HIV at bay; achieving, for the first time, room temperature superconductivity; standing up to support Black scientists; and finding the world's oldest figurative art—a hunting scene deep inside an Indonesian cave.

Letters

Transparency is key to ethical vaccine research

By Preston W. Estep, George M. Church

Science18 Dec 2020 : 1422-1423 Full Access

Transparency is key to ethical vaccine research—Response

By Christi J. Guerrini, Jacob S. Sherkow, Michelle N. Meyer, Patricia J. Zettler

Science18 Dec 2020 : 1423 Full Access

Transparency is key to ethical vaccine research—Response

By Arthur Caplan, Alison Bateman-House

Science18 Dec 2020 : 1423-1424

Policy Forum

Core commitments for field trials of gene drive organisms

By Kanya C. Long, Luke Alphey, George J. Annas, Cinnamon S. Bloss, Karl J. Campbell, Jackson Champer, Chun-Hong Chen, Amit Choudhary, George M. Church, James P. Collins, Kimberly L. Cooper, Jason A. Delborne, Owain R. Edwards, Claudia I. Emerson, Kevin Esvelt, Sam Weiss Evans, Robert M. Friedman, Valentino M. Gantz, Fred Gould, Sarah Hartley, Elizabeth Heitman, Janet Hemingway, Hirotaka Kanuka, Jennifer Kuzma, James V. Lavery, Yoosook Lee, Marce Lorenzen, Jeantine E. Lunshof, John M. Marshall, Philipp W. Messer, Craig Montell, Kenneth A. Oye, Megan J. Palmer, Philippos Aris Papathanos, Prasad N. Paradkar, Antoinette J. Piaggio, Jason L. Rasgon, Gordana Rašić, Larisa Rudenko, J. Royden Saah, Maxwell J. Scott, Jolene T. Sutton, Adam E. Vorsino, Omar S. Akbari

Science18 Dec 2020 : 1417-1419 Full Access

We must ensure that trials are scientifically, politically, and socially robust, publicly accountable, and widely transparent

Summary

Gene drive organisms (GDOs), whose genomes have been genetically engineered to spread a desired allele through a population, have the potential to transform the way societies address a wide range of daunting public health and environmental challenges. The development, testing, and release of GDOs, however, are complex and often controversial. A key challenge is to clarify the appropriate roles of developers and others actively engaged in work with GDOs in decision-making processes, and, in particular, how to establish partnerships with relevant authorities and other stakeholders. Several members of the gene drive community previously proposed safeguards for laboratory experiments with GDOs (1) that, in the absence of national or international guidelines, were considered essential for responsible laboratory work to proceed. Now, with GDO development advancing in laboratories (2–5),

we envision similar safeguards for the potential next step: ecologically and/or genetically confined field trials to further assess the performance of GDOs. A GDO's propensity to spread necessitates well-developed criteria for field trials to assess its potential impacts (6). We, as a multidisciplinary group of GDO developers, ecologists, conservation biologists, and experts in social science, ethics, and policy, outline commitments below that we deem critical for responsible conduct of a field trial and to ensure that these technologies, if they are introduced, serve the public interest.

Science Translational Medicine

16 December 2020 Vol 12, Issue 574

<https://stm.sciencemag.org/>

[New issue; No digest content identified]

Social Science & Medicine

Volume 265 November 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/social-science-and-medicine/vol/264/suppl/C>

[Reviewed earlier]

Stability: International Journal of Security & Development

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

[No new digest content identified]

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Winter 2021 Volume 19, Number 1

https://ssir.org/issue/winter_2021#

Read about how workers are using digital tools and online engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic to achieve real benefits, how win-win strategies promoted by academics and business leaders are unproven and counterproductive, how human-centered design for social innovation has become more collaborative and focused on systems change, how employees are fighting to make their companies better corporate citizens, and other topics in the Winter 2021 issue of Stanford Social Innovation Review.

Systematic Reviews

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

[Accessed 19 Dec 2020]

<https://stm.sciencemag.org/>

[No new digest content identified]

Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics

Volume 41, issue 2-3, June 2020

<https://link.springer.com/journal/11017/volumes-and-issues/41-2>

[Reviewed earlier]

Torture Journal

2020 Volume 30 - No. 2

<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 38 November–December 2020

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/travel-medicine-and-infectious-disease/vol/38/suppl/C>

Review article Open access

[Reprint of: Air travel and COVID-19 prevention in the pandemic and peri-pandemic period: A narrative review](#)

Michel Bielecki, Dipti Patel, Jochen Hinkelbein, Matthieu Komorowski, ... Patricia Schlagenhauf
Article 101939

Tropical Medicine & International Health

Volume 25, Issue 12 Pages: i-iv, 1431-1567 December 2020

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/toc/13653156/current>

[Reviewed earlier]

UN Chronicle

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

Article

[Reimagining Human Mobility in a Post-COVID-19 World](#)

Renate Held

No phenomenon has been as affected by humanity's reaction to COVID-19 as migration. Simply put, humans are the main vector for the transmission of the virus, so the mobility aspects of our response had to be factored in from day one.

Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies

An International Interdisciplinary Journal for Research, Policy and Care

Volume 15, Issue 4, 2020

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

[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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