

PUBLICATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON PUBLIC HEALTH

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

2015-2016 El Niño early action and response for agriculture, food security and nutrition. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2016; 44 p. Job Number: I5855 The publication provides an overview of the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon on agriculture and food security. El Niño is the warming of sea surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific, which occurs roughly every two to seven years, lasting from six to 24 months. While the main threat to food production is reduced rainfall and drought in some regions, El Niño can also cause heavy rains and flooding in other regions. Current consequences at global, regional and country level are highlighted (including data on: crop production; livestock production; number of food insecure people) as well as FAO actions and funding requirements.

The last hurdles towards rift valley fever control. Report on the Ad hoc workshop on the current state of Rift Valley fever vaccine and diagnostics development. Rome, 5-7 March 2014. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2015; 60 p. (*FAO Animal Production and Health Report*) Job Number: I4466 In the last ten years, tremendous progress has been made in the development of Rift Valley fever (RVF) vaccines, and several next-generation vaccines are currently being evaluated in registration trials. However, due to the sporadic, yet explosive nature of outbreaks of the fever, the challenge remains to have these vaccines available at the right time and place. Innovative, appropriate diagnostics will aid in the selection of vaccines and will help to determine when to vaccinate animals. To address these issues, FAO organized a technical workshop in March 2014. Issues related to the application of classical vaccines in endemic areas were discussed, as well as novel vaccines that are already used in the field or are currently being evaluated in registration trials. These vaccines are expected to fulfil the features related to safety and efficacy recommended in the previous FAO meeting, held in Rome in January 2011.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE (ICSU)

Nilsson M, Griggs D, Visbeck M, *et al.* **Working paper - a draft framework for understanding SDG**

interactions. Paris: International Council for Science (ICSU). June 2016; 8 p. One of the biggest challenges to the successful implementation of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is the vast array of interdependencies between the goals and the 169 targets. This paper presents a conceptual tool to start understanding these interlinkages across the SDGs and invite scientists, policymakers and practitioners to jointly explore how the SDGs puzzle fits together and how it can be implemented. It was developed as part of a project led by the Council to explore an integrated and strategic approach to implementation of the SDGs. The framework is a starting point for building an evidence base to characterize the goal interactions in specific local, national or regional contexts. The Council is currently convening research teams to develop thematic case studies, starting with the SDGs for health, energy, and food and agriculture. The case studies will be compiled into a report, expected to be published at the end of 2016.

Annual report 2015. Paris: International Council for Science (ICSU). 2015; 48 p. 2015 was a watershed year as the world's governments agreed three landmark frameworks on climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development. Starting with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) that was agreed in March 2015, the ICSU-led scientific community secured prominent recognition for science to support the understanding of disaster risk and promote risk-informed decisions and risk-sensitive planning from local to global levels. ICSU will continue to play a role in the implementation phase of this framework, starting with a conference in early 2016 co-organized with UNISDR on a new Science and Technology Partnership for disaster risk reduction. During 2015, the ICSU Executive Board, with the support of National Members and Unions, agreed on a series of actions that specify how ICSU will respond to these challenges. ICSU convened Science International, a new activity which, in December 2015, brought together the International Social Science Council (ISSC), The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) and ICSU to agree on an international accord on Open Data in a Big Data World. The accord outlines guiding principles for the practice of open data, and the partner organizations will reach out in 2016 to solicit endorsements from their members and other influential science organizations. In advance of COP21, ICSU was a co-organizer of the "Our Common Future under Climate Change" conference held in Paris in July 2015. The conference developed an outcome statement

which staked out the position of scientists ahead of the climate negotiations in December, identifying climate change as a defining challenge of the 21st century.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

Women at work. Trends 2016. Geneva: ILO March 2016; 150 p. Sw.fr.25.00/US\$25.00 ISBN 978 92 213 0795 2 This report provides a picture of where women stand today in the world of work and how they have progressed over the past 20 years. It examines the global and regional labour market trends and gaps, presents an in-depth analysis of the gender gaps in the quality of work and explores the key policy drivers for gender transformative change. The discussions and related recommendations focus on three main dimensions: sectoral and occupational segregation, the gender wage gap, and gaps in the policy framework for work and family integration. The report also examines the link between wage inequality and inequality at the household level, analysing the role of wage policies and the social partners.

Crisis responses, competitiveness and jobs. Geneva: ILO June 2015; xvi + 165 pp. Sw.fr.30.00/US\$30.00 ISBN 978 92 212 9317 0 A lack of competitiveness has been identified by many as the underlying factor behind weak economic growth and high unemployment in Europe. The purpose of this report is to assess the issue of competitiveness in the EU and other advanced and emerging economies and to promote a clearer understanding of its relationship to the crisis and to long-term labour market and social outcomes. Its policy recommendations, which include investments in new technologies, building a skilled productive workforce and improving credit systems, are important for reinforcing competitiveness while maintaining social cohesion in the EU.

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

Antimicrobial resistance in G7 countries and beyond. Paris: OECD. September 2015; 75 p. The findings presented in the report show that there is a strong case for G7 action in the area of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The G7 has consistently committed itself to tackling global health challenges, including the fight against infectious diseases, and positioned itself as a leading partner in reaching health-related Millennium Development Goals, by initiating and supporting many global instruments of response to threats posed by infectious diseases. The strong political will of G7 countries would offer the opportunity for moving forward in achieving the goals stated both in the 2014 resolution against AMR issued by the World Health Assembly and in the 2012 EC roadmap against AMR. G7 countries, in particular, can create significant added value and

change the architecture of the international response to AMR in three main areas: rationalising use of antimicrobials in animals and humans; incentivising research and development of new AMTs; and addressing the potential economic consequences of AMR.

Public-private partnerships in biomedical research and health innovation for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Paris: OECD. 2015; 52 p. (OECD Science, Technology and Industry Policy Papers;20) doi:10.1787/5js36rc8wwbt-en The ageing of populations is coupled with an increase in dementia cases worldwide creating enormous medical, societal and economic challenges for governments and their public health systems. Epidemiological projections indicate that there will be a rapidly expanding number of cases of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias during the coming years. Alzheimer's is a complex, chronic neurodegenerative disease and represents the most common form of dementia. There is as yet no effective treatment for Alzheimer's disease. Stakeholders are joining forces to overcome medical scientific, regulatory, organisational and financial barriers in research and health innovation to accelerate the development of disease-modifying therapies and diagnostics for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The OECD Working Party on Biotechnology (WPB) undertook a project on healthy ageing and the governance of biomedical research and health innovation. This report is the result of efforts to obtain evidence on how governments and other stakeholders can jointly support innovative approaches to address the key challenges of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias through multi-stakeholder collaborations. This report looks at the roles and options of stakeholders (governments, regulatory agencies, academia, small and mid-size biotech companies, the pharmaceutical industry, and patient organisations) in public-private partnerships for product development in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Looi C, Thompson J, Krausel B, *et al.* **The neuroscience of mathematical cognition and learning.** Paris: OECD. June 2016; 69 p. (OECD Education Working Papers;136) doi:10.1787/5jlwmn3ntbr7-en The synergistic potential of cognitive neuroscience and education for efficient learning has attracted considerable interest from the general public, teachers, parents, academics and policymakers alike. This review is aimed at providing 1) an accessible and general overview of the research progress made in cognitive neuroscience research in understanding mathematical learning and cognition, and 2) understanding whether there is sufficient evidence to suggest that neuroscience can inform mathematics education at this point. Outstanding questions are also outlighted with implications for education that remain to be explored in cognitive neuroscience. The field of cognitive neuroscience is growing rapidly. The findings described in this review should be evaluated critically to guide research communities, governments and funding bodies to optimise resources and address questions that will provide practical directions for short- and long-term impact on the education of future generations.

The economic consequences of outdoor air pollution. Paris: OECD. June 2016; 116 p. ISBN 978 92 6425 7467 doi:10.1787/9789264257474-en This report provides a comprehensive assessment of the economic consequences of outdoor air pollution in the coming decades, focusing on the impacts on mortality, morbidity, and changes in crop yields as caused by high concentrations of pollutants. Unless more stringent policies are adopted, findings point to a significant increase in global emissions and concentrations of air pollutants, with severe impacts on human health and the environment. The market impacts of outdoor air pollution are projected to lead to significant economic costs, which are illustrated at the regional and sectoral levels, and to substantial annual global welfare costs.

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)**

Fund for the elimination of doping in sport: handbook. Paris: UNESCO. 2016; 48 p. The International Convention against Doping in Sport is a vital mechanism in global efforts to eliminate drug use in sports. Since its entry into force in 2007, more than 160 countries have aligned their legislation and policies with the Convention, helping governments the world over to act in concert with one another, and with the Sports Movement, to bring an end to doping. The Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport (the Fund) has been designed to ensure that all governments are able to play an active role in stamping out doping in sport. The Convention makes two significant contributions to the world of sport. It provides a mechanism which binds governments to the fight against doping in sport, complementary to the World Anti-Doping Code and the actions being undertaken by WADA and the Sport Movement. The Convention also provides much-needed financial resources to achieve its overarching objective – to promote the prevention of and the fight against doping in sport, with a view to its elimination. This document sets out the manner in which the resources of the Fund will be allocated in accordance with the decisions taken by the four sessions of the Conference of Parties. It seeks to clarify in particular the application process by States Parties. The primary purpose of the Fund is to help States Parties to meet their obligations under the Convention. As set forth in Article 18, resources under the Fund will be allocated to assist States Parties to develop and implement anti-doping programmes in accordance with the Convention. Broadly this means programmes which enhance: (1) anti-doping activities at the national level; (2) international cooperation; (3) education and training; and (4) research.

Stabback P. **What makes a quality curriculum?** Geneva: International Bureau of Education (IBE) UNESCO. 2016; 41 p. (*Current and critical issues in the curriculum and learning Series*) Catalog No: 243975 Sustainable Development Goal Four (SDG4) has to do with education in the post-2015 development agen-

da. It aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”. Given the essential role of curriculum in enabling quality learning and in articulating and supporting education that is relevant to holistic development, this paper aims to identify what makes a quality curriculum, so as to support curricular innovation in UNESCO Member States to the end of the realization of SDG4. It is the curriculum that determines to a large extent whether education is inclusive, thus playing a significant role in ensuring that provision is equitable. It is the curriculum that provides the structure for the provision of quality learning, especially where teachers might be under-qualified and inexperienced, their classrooms under-resourced, and their students lacking the prior frameworks within which to situate their learning. And it is the curriculum that articulates both the competencies necessary for lifelong learning and the competencies needed for holistic development. Curriculum development needs to take into account where any country is in terms of the current breadth and depth of curriculum; attainment levels; the quality of teachers; the range and effectiveness of teaching, learning and assessment practices; the quality of the infrastructure at local education authority level and at national level; and the like. The intended reader group of the paper would include curriculum policy makers at various levels, and curriculum developers. The IBE and its partners stand ready to work with Member States to respond innovatively to the challenges associated with the effective realization of SDG 4.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Inchley J, Currie D, Young, T, *et al.* **Growing up unequal: gender and socioeconomic differences in young people’s health and well-being. Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study. International report from the 2013/2014 survey.** Geneva: World Health Organization. 2016; 290 p. (*Health Policy for Children and Adolescents*; 7) Sw.fr.60.00/US\$ 72.00 ISBN 978 92 8905 136 1 Order no. 13400170 This book is the latest addition to a series of reports on young people’s health from the Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) study: a WHO collaborative cross-national study that has provided information about the health, well-being, social environment and health behaviour of 11-, 13- and 15-year-old boys and girls for over 30 years. This book presents findings from the 2013/2014 survey on the demographic and social influences on the health of almost 220,000 young people in 42 countries and regions in the WHO European Region and North America. Responding to the survey, the young people described their social context (relations with family, peers and school), health outcomes (subjective health, injuries, obesity and mental health), health behaviour (patterns of eating, tooth brushing and physical activity) and risk behaviours (use of tobacco, alcohol and cannabis, sexual behaviour, fighting and bullying). For the first time, the report also includes items on family and peer support, migration,



cyberbullying and serious injuries. Statistical analyses were made to identify meaningful differences in the prevalence of health and social indicators by gender, age group and levels of family affluence. The findings highlight important health inequalities and contribute to a better understanding of the social determinants of health and well-being among young people.

Clinical management of patients with viral haemorrhagic fever. A pocket guide for front-line health workers. Interim emergency guidance for country adaption. Geneva: World Health Organization. 2016; 203 p. Sw.fr.20.00/US\$24.00 ISBN 978 92 4154 960 8 Order no. 11500912 This second, updated version of pocket guide seeks to provide clear guidance on current best practices for viral haemorrhagic fever (VHF), including both clinical management and infection prevention and control. Throughout, guidance is provided for the front-line health worker, focusing on triage and case definition, early and ongoing case management, infection control and subsequent hospital discharge. Recommendations come predominantly from published VHF guidelines (primarily consensus-based), and also are drawn from algorithms for diarrhoeal di-

seases, sepsis and vaginal bleeding management from the WHO Integrated Management of Adolescent and Adult Illness (IMAI) and Childhood Illness (IMCI) guidelines and other current WHO normative guidelines. In addition, this book provides guidance on infection prevention and control to minimize nosocomial transmission and on the common clinical manifestations of VHF to help the front-line health worker increase his or her level of suspicion for VHF, particularly before an epidemic is recognized in the community. Separate notes have been added on the care of children and pregnant women. Importantly, this document does not cover how to create a VHF treatment unit (that is, an isolation ward), and it also does not address community interventions to control transmission or respond to disease outbreaks. Although these guidelines concentrate on Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), referred to throughout this guide as Ebola, they also address Lassa fever, which is an endemic problem in Sierra Leone and also occurs in Liberia, Guinea and Nigeria, as well as two other viral haemorrhagic fevers that are transmitted person-to-person, Marburg and Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever. Country adaptation should address which VHFs are included in this pocket guide.