

PUBLICATIONS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON PUBLIC HEALTH

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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)

FAO's work on climate change - Fisheries and aquaculture 2020. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 2021; 79 p. ISBN 978-92-5-133989-3. This publication presents FAO's work on climate change and fisheries and aquaculture. It includes examples of FAO's support to countries so that they are better able to adapt to the impact of climate change in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors. It also brings together FAO's most up-to-date knowledge on climate change, including a portfolio of adaptation tools and measures used to support countries' climate commitments and action plans.

The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020. Transforming food systems for affordable healthy diets. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations 2020; 320 p. ISBN 978-92-5-132901-6. The report shows that the number of people affected by hunger globally has been slowly on the rise since 2014 and that the burden of malnutrition in all its forms continues to be a challenge. There has been some progress for child stunting, low birthweight and exclusive breastfeeding, but at a pace that is still too slow. Childhood overweight is not improving and adult obesity is on the rise in all regions. The report complements the usual assessment of food security and nutrition with projections of what the world may look like in 2030, if trends of the last decade continue. Projections show that the world is not on track to achieve Zero Hunger by 2030 and, despite some progress, most indicators are also not on track to meet global nutrition targets. The food security and nutritional status of the most vulnerable population groups is likely to deteriorate further due to the health and socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report puts a spotlight on diet quality as a critical link between food security and nutrition and also introduces new analysis of the cost and affordability of healthy diets around the world, by region and in different development contexts. It presents valuations of the health and climate-change costs associated with current food consumption patterns, as well as the potential cost savings if food consumption patterns were to shift towards healthy diets that include sustainability considerations. The report then concludes with a discussion of the policies and strategies to transform food systems to ensure affordable healthy diets, as part of the required efforts to end both hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

Microbiological Risk Assessment – Guidance for food. Microbiological Risk Assessment Series No. 36. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – World Health Organization 2021; 288 p. ISBN 978-92-5-134518-4. Microbiological Risk Assessment – Guidance for food (MRA 36) provides a structured framework for assessing the risk of microbiological hazards in food. It updates three previous FAO and WHO guidance documents (MRA 3, MRA 7, and MRA 17) and brings them into a single volume, providing an overall umbrella for microbiological risk assessment. In doing so it captures the growth and experience in this field, which continues to evolve in line with science and risk management demands. This document provides guidance on undertaking risk assessment of all microbial hazards which may adversely affect human health in foods along a food supply chain. This document is also intended to provide practical guidance on a structured framework for carrying out risk assessment of microbiological hazards in foods, focussing on the four components including hazard identification, hazard characterization, exposure assessment and risk characterization. These guidelines therefore represent the best practice at the time of their preparation, and it is hoped that they will help stimulate further developments and disseminate the current knowledge. The overarching objectives of these guidelines are to help the reader to: identify the key issues and features of a microbiological risk, recognize the properties of a best-practice risk assessment, avoid some common pitfalls of risk assessment, and perform risk assessments that are responsive to the needs of risk managers.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)

UNESCO Science Report: the race against time for smarter development. Paris: UNESCO Publishing 2021; 739 p. ISBN 978-92-3-100450-6. The UNESCO Science Report – the race against time for smarter development – focuses on the global shift towards economies that are greener, knowledge-based and make the best use of digital technologies. This seventh edition in the series arrives at a crucial juncture, as countries approach the halfway mark for delivering on their Sustainable Development Goals. The report finds that sustainability science is not yet mainstream in academic publishing at the global level and that it is developing countries which are publishing most, proportionately, on related topics. This trend, combined with greater

government support for start-ups and small businesses in many countries, suggests that the current knowledge gap could narrow in the coming years, as long as the challenge of chronic underfunding can be overcome as four out of five countries still spend less than 1% of GDP on research and development. The UNESCO Science Report series targets policy-makers, academics, the intergovernmental and non-governmental communities, the media and other groups interested in understanding how science governance is shaping countries' development agendas.

JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Preventing HIV infections at the time of a new pandemic. A synthesis report on programme disruptions and adaptations during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Geneva: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS 2021; 54 p. This report is primarily directed to key partners and decision-makers in the global HIV and COVID-19 response. The lessons from successful HIV responses in countries and communities are identified and shared with a view to promote and sustain resilience strategies and programme improvements – even under the circumstances required to prevent the ongoing transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and address its consequences. The report is intended to serve as a basis for decision-making in the next year or two, as countries step up their efforts to control both epidemics. Relevant and illustrative experiences from all countries from the Global South served by UNAIDS have been considered, if available since efforts to collect data comprehensively and systematically on this topic have not yet been put into place. An attempt has been made, however, to include country experiences across all regions and all main types of HIV epidemics.

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

Brick by Brick: Building Better Housing Policies. Paris: OECD Publishing 2021; 164 p. ISBN 9789264739871 (PDF) ISBN 9789264551183 (Epub). This report brings together evidence, international experience and policy insights for the design of housing policies. Emphasis is placed on three broad aspects: inclusiveness, efficiency and sustainability. Inclusive access to housing has become increasingly challenging in many OECD countries due to a large extent to rising housing costs, which reflects the failure of housing supply to meet demand, particularly in jobs-rich urban areas. Geographical constraints play a role, but in many cities regulations, including on land-use and zoning provisions, also constrain supply. At the same time, some regulations on tenant-landlord relations can discourage the development of rental markets, pushing up rents. Moreover, the transition to a low-carbon economy poses challenges for a sector that accounts for

17% of CO₂ emissions and 37% of fine particulate matter emissions globally. Almost two-thirds of countries worldwide still lack mandatory building energy codes. Frontloading efforts is critical as dwellings have a very long lifespan. The report lays out evidence-based options for concerted policy action to address these challenges, while recognising complementarities and trade-offs among the different objectives of housing policies. The report is part of the OECD Housing Toolkit, which includes an interactive online dashboard of housing indicators and country snapshots.

Strengthening Climate Resilience. Guidance for Governments and Development Co-operation. Paris: OECD Publishing 2021; 187 p. ISBN 9789264415133 (PDF) ISBN 9789264388758 (Epub). This guidance provides a tool governments and development co-operation can draw on in their efforts to strengthen the resilience of human and natural systems to the impacts of climate change. It highlights three aspirations to consider when planning and implementing action to build climate resilience (country ownership; inclusiveness; and environmental and social sustainability). The guidance also outlines four mechanisms (governance; sector-level approaches; finance; and monitoring, evaluation and learning) and three enablers (data and information; capacity; and technologies) in support of climate resilience, proposing concrete actions in the form of checklists.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2021. Geneva: International Labour Office 2021; 164 p. ISBN 978-92-2-031958-1 (print) ISBN 978-92-2-031959-8 (web PDF). This year's World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends examines global and regional trends in employment, unemployment, labour force participation and productivity, as well as dimensions of job quality such as employment status, informal employment and working poverty. It also provides extensive analysis of the crisis's varied impact on enterprises and workers. The report forecasts that employment recovery, though strong, will be insufficient to close the gaps. Workers whose labour market position was disadvantageous prior to the crisis – women, young people, migrants, informal workers and workers in lower-skilled occupations – suffered disproportionately. The report proposes a human-centred recovery strategy to avoid scarring of global labour markets for the years to come.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Estimating the burden of foodborne diseases: A practical handbook for countries. A guide for planning, implementing and reporting country-level burden of foodborne disease. Geneva: World Health Organization 2021; 72 p. ISBN 978-92-4-

001226-4 (electronic version) ISBN 978-92-4-001227-1 (print version). This handbook provides detailed guidance on assessing the burden of diseases caused by microbiological agents commonly transmitted through foods. It is particularly intended for use at national level, and gives a complete picture of the requirements, enabling factors, challenges and opportunities involved, and the steps in the process. It also aims to foster harmonization of methodologies for estimating foodborne disease burden across countries. The goal of a national burden of foodborne disease study is to rank and prioritize foodborne diseases based on their overall public health impact in the population. The objectives of such a study are to: estimate the burden of disease for selected foodborne hazards, develop a framework for routine updating of estimates and evaluation of trends, and provide a baseline against which food safety interventions can be evaluated.

Helping Adolescents Thrive Toolkit. Strategies to promote and protect adolescent mental health and reduce self-harm and other risk behaviours.

Geneva: World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 2021; 172 p. ISBN (WHO) 978-92-4-002555-4 (electronic version) ISBN (WHO) 978-92-4-002556-1 (print version) ISBN (UNICEF) 978-92-806-5221-5. The Helping Adolescents Thrive (HAT) programme, jointly conceived by the World Health Organization and UNICEF, focuses on the promotion of mental well-being among adolescents and the prevention of mental health conditions. The Helping Adolescents Thrive toolkit, the latest material of the programme to be released, provides programmatic guidance for people working in the health, social services, education and justice sectors on how to implement mental health promotive and preventive interventions that are appropriate to local needs and the con-

texts where adolescents live. The toolkit covers the legal foundations required for such programmes to succeed, the features of environments that are conducive to the well-being of adolescents, what support should be provided to parents and other caregivers, and psychosocial interventions that work. The complementary Teacher's Guide and Comic Book can be used in schools as part of mental health promotion programmes to facilitate understanding and discussion of mental health issues.

Ethics and governance of artificial intelligence for health.

Geneva: World Health Organization 2021; 150 p. ISBN 978-92-4-002920-0 (electronic version) ISBN 978-92-4-002921-7 (print version). The WHO guidance on Ethics & Governance of Artificial Intelligence for Health is the product of eighteen months of deliberation amongst leading experts in ethics, digital technology, law, human rights, as well as experts from Ministries of Health. While new technologies that use artificial intelligence hold great promise to improve diagnosis, treatment, health research and drug development and to support governments carrying out public health functions, including surveillance and outbreak response, such technologies, according to the report, must put ethics and human rights at the heart of its design, deployment, and use. The report identifies the ethical challenges and risks with the use of artificial intelligence of health, six consensus principles to ensure artificial intelligence (AI) works to the public benefit of all countries. It also contains a set of recommendations that can ensure the governance of artificial intelligence for health maximizes the promise of the technology and holds all stakeholders – in the public and private sector – accountable and responsive to the healthcare workers who will rely on these technologies and the communities and individuals whose health will be affected by its use.