New UN websites & publications

UN in General

70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – new website
http://www.standup4humanrights.org/
The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is a milestone document, which underpins all international human rights law and inspires us to continue to work to ensure all people can gain freedom, equality and dignity. And in 2018, the UDHR turns 70.
The UN Human Rights Office kicks off the celebration of Declaration with the launch of website that gives access to information about the UDHR and actions and events at the click of a mouse.

Statistical Yearbooks – Digital versions
https://library.un.org/library-news-by-blog
From A as in Acid to Z as in Zinc, the complete series of historical Statistical Yearbooks has been digitized and is now freely available online. The project comprised a joint effort between the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
To mark the launch of the Statistical Yearbook 2017, the Library's Digitization Unit scanned 55 volumes of past issues referencing statistics of countries and regions dating back to 1948. Currently all historical yearbooks are accessible through the website of the Statistics Division; the yearbooks will also be accessible in the UN Digital Library.

United Nations Regional Information Centre (UNRIC)
Residence Palace · Block C2 (7th & 8th floor) · Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 155 · 1040 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 (0) 788 8484 · Fax: +32 (0) 788 8485 · E-mail: info@unric.org · Website: www.unric.org

UNRIC

Economic Growth and Sustainable Development

2018 Global Report: Re-Shaping Cultural policies (UNESCO)
English: http://en.unesco.org/creativity/global-report-2018
French: http://fr.unesco.org/creativity/global-report-2018
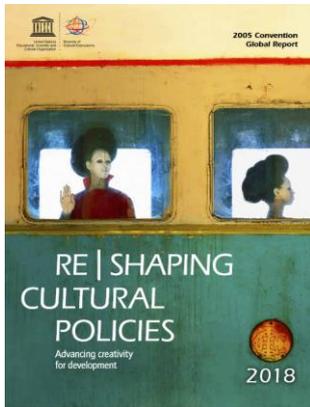
The Global Report assesses the impact of the most recent policies and measures taken around the world to implement the UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, now ratified by 145 States and the European Union. Specifically, it tracks progress on the following four main goals related to the Convention: support sustainable systems of governance for culture; achieve a balanced flow of cultural goods and services and increase mobility of artists and cultural professionals; integrate culture in sustainable development frameworks; promote human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Report examines how the 2005 Convention has inspired policy change at the global and country level in ten areas of monitoring. It puts forward a set of policy recommendations for the future and produces new evidence to inform cultural policy making and advance creativity for development.

AIDmonitor (FAO)
English: http://www.fao.org/aid-monitor/en/
French: http://www.fao.org/agricultural-development-assistance-mapping/fr/
Spanish: http://www.fao.org/agricultural-development-assistance-mapping/es/

A new FAO online data tool launched on 23 November 2017 will improve understanding of Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding flows in food and agriculture-related sectors – including thematic areas as diverse as the environment, education and women's equality. AIDmonitor is the first tool to paint a complete picture of ODA funding flows for all development sectors, and the only tool to analyse funding flows with an FAO lens - focused on agriculture, food security, nutrition, and rural development activities. The tool extracts raw data from the most detailed source of information on ODA flows — the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Creditor Reporting System — and aggregates the data to reflect the over 50 FAO-related subsectors, which range from agriculture to fishery or rural development. AIDmonitor is project-based and this guarantees a high granularity of information.

Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS)
English: http://www.fao.org/dad-is/en/
French: http://www.fao.org/dad-is/fr/
Spanish: http://www.fao.org/dad-is/es/

A new FAO database launched on 29 November 2017 will help countries to better monitor, survey and effectively manage their animal genetic resources, allowing for early warning of the threat of extinction. DAD-IS is the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System maintained and developed by FAO. It provides you with access to searchable databases of breed-related information and photos and links to other online resources on livestock diversity. Furthermore, you can find the contact information of all National Coordinators for the Management of Animal Genetic Resources. It allows you to analyse the diversity of livestock breeds on national, regional and global levels including the status of breeds regarding their risk of extinction.

The Global E-Waste Monitor 2017
Report & Executive Summary:
https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Climate-Change/Pages/Global-E-waste-Monitor-2017.aspx
The growing volume of electronic waste, including discarded products with a battery or plug, such as mobile phones, laptops, televisions, refrigerators and electrical toys, poses a major threat to the environment and human health, the United Nations warned on 13 December 2017. The Global E-Waste Monitor 2017, released by ITU, the UN University (UNU) and the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), highlights increasing levels of e-waste and its improper and unsafe treatment and disposal through burning or at dumpsites.

The Least Developed Countries Report 2017: Transformational Energy Access (UNCTAD)
Report in English, Overview in English & French:
http://unctad.org/en/pages/PublicationWebflyer.aspx?publicationid=1902
Energy is key to global development, but the world's poorest and most vulnerable nations fare up to six times worse than their more industrialized counterparts when it comes to accessing the vital resource, the United Nations warned on 22 November 2017. In its 2017 report on the world's 47 Least Developed Countries (LDCs), focused on Transformational Energy Access the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said that only four of them were on course to achieve internationally agreed targets on energy distribution by 2030.
While they have made great strides in recent years, achieving the global goal of universal access to energy by 2030, the finish line for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), will require a 350 per cent increase in their annual rate of electrification, said UNCTAD.

State of the World's Children 2017: Children in a Digital World (UNICEF)
Report in English: https://www.unicef.org/sowc2017/
French and Spanish versions will be available soon.
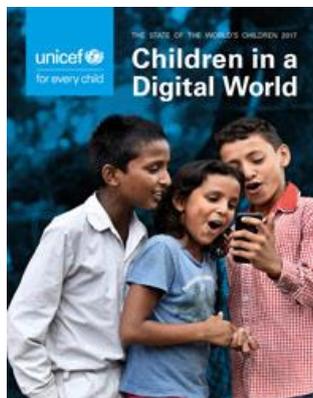
Governments and the private sector have not kept up with the game-changing pace of digital technologies, exposing children to new risks and harms – both on and offline – and leaving millions of the most disadvantaged behind, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said on 11 December 2017 in a new report. Pointing out that one in three Internet users worldwide is a child, the agency in its "State of the World's Children 2017: Children in a Digital World" report, highlights digital divides and explores current debates about the impact of the Internet and social media on children's safety and well-being. The report presents UNICEF's first comprehensive look at the various ways in which digital technology is affecting children's lives and life chances – identifying dangers as well as opportunities.

UN DESA's Capacity Development Office
https://www.un.org/development/desa/capacity-development/
UN DESA partners on capacity development to support Member States in building integrated, evidence-based, inclusive and well-funded national strategies and plans to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring that no one is left behind. How exactly does the department do that, and how is it able to extend its assistance to more than 75 countries? Find out by exploring the new website of UN DESA's Capacity Development Office.

World Economic Situation and Prospects 2018 (DESA)
Report in English, Executive Summary in English, French & Spanish:
https://un4.me/2ywHfto
The world economy has strengthened as lingering fragilities related to the global financial crisis subside. In 2017, global economic growth reached 3 per cent—the highest growth rate since 2011—and growth is expected to remain steady for the coming year. The improved global economic situation provides an opportunity for countries to focus policy towards longer-term issues such as low carbon economic growth, reducing inequalities, economic diversification and eliminating deep-rooted barriers that hinder development.

World Social Protection Report 2017/19: Universal social protection to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (ILO)
Report in English, Summary in French & Spanish:
http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_604882/lang--en/index.htm
Despite significant progress in the extension of social protection in many parts of the world, the human right to social security is not yet a reality for a majority of the world's population, says a new flagship report from the International Labour Organization (ILO). According to new data presented on 29 November 2017, only 45 per cent of the global population is effectively covered by at least one social benefit, while the remaining 55 per cent– 4 billion people – are left unprotected. The new research also shows that only 29 per cent of the global population enjoys access to comprehensive social security – a small increase compared to 27 per cent in 2014-2015 – while the other 71 per cent, or 5.2 billion people, are not, or only partially, protected.

International Peace and Security

Concept note for the Security Council briefing on the theme "Non-proliferation/ Democratic People's Republic of Korea: "threats and challenges posed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to international peace and security"
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2017/1038
The Security Council held a briefing on 15 December 2017 on threats and challenges posed by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to international peace and security under the item "Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea". The Security Council President for December, Japan, has prepared a concept paper for this debate.

Concept note for the Security Council open debate on "Maintenance of international peace and security: addressing complex contemporary challenges to international peace and security"
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/S/2017/1016
The Security Council plans to hold an open debate on 20 December 2017 on addressing complex contemporary challenges to international peace and security under the item "Maintenance of international peace and security". The Security Council President for December, Japan, has prepared a concept paper for this debate.

A world against violence and violent extremism: Report of the Secretary-General (A/72/621, 1 December 2017)
English, French & Spanish: http://undocs.org/A/72/621
The present report is being issued in response to General Assembly resolution 70/109, entitled "A world against violence and violent extremism", in which the Assembly called on Member States to unite against violent extremism in all its forms and manifestations. The Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the resolution and to recommend ways and means by which the United Nations system and the Secretariat could assist Member States, upon their request and within existing resources, in generating public awareness about the dangers of intolerance, as well as in fostering understanding and non-violence.

Development of Africa

Step Up the Pace: Towards an AIDS-free generation in West and Central Africa (UNAIDS / UNICEF)

English:
https://www.unicef.org/publications/files/Step_Up_the_Pace_West_and_Central_Africa.pdf
French version will be available soon: https://www.unicef.org/publications/index_101480.html
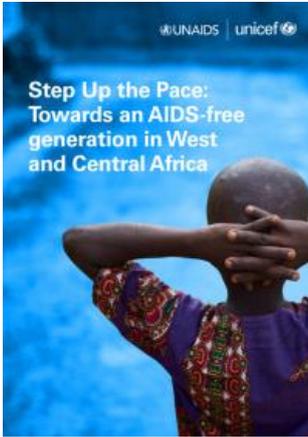
More than four decades into the HIV epidemic, four in five children living with HIV in West and Central Africa are still not receiving life-saving antiretroviral therapy, and AIDS-related deaths among adolescents aged 15-19 are on the rise, according to a new report released on 5 December 2017.

While acknowledging progress in several areas, the report Step Up the Pace: Towards an AIDS-free generation in West and Central Africa, jointly published by UNICEF and UNAIDS, shows that West and Central Africa is lagging behind on nearly every measure of HIV prevention, treatment and care programmes for children and adolescents. In 2016, an estimated 60,000 children were newly infected with HIV in West and Central Africa.

Human Rights

Protection of Civilians: Building the Foundation for Peace, Security and Human Rights in Somalia (UNSOM / OHCHR)

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/SO/ReportProtectionofCivilians.pdf

Armed conflict in Somalia continues to exact a heavy toll on civilians, damaging infrastructure and livelihoods, displacing millions of people, and impeding access to humanitarian relief for communities in need, a UN report published on 10 December 2017 said. The report by the UN Human Rights Office and the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) covers the period from 1 January 2016 to 14 October 2017. During this period, UNSOM documented a total of 2,078 civilian deaths and 2,507 injuries. More than half the casualties (60 per cent) were attributed to Al Shabaab militants, 13 per cent to clan militias, 11 per cent to State actors, including the army and the police, four per cent to the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM), and 12 per cent to unidentified or undetermined attackers.

Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine, 16 August to 15 November 2017 (OHCHR)

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/UA/UAReport20th_EN.pdf

Armed hostilities are on the rise again, a UN report published today warns. The return to increased fighting has resulted in more deaths and new damages to critical water infrastructure storing dangerous chemicals which pose a grave threat to human life and the environment. Daily ceasefire violations coupled with falling temperatures further aggravated a dire human rights and humanitarian situation on both sides of the contact line. The United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine recorded 15 conflict-related civilian deaths and 72 injuries from 16 August to 15 November 2017.

"We keep it in our heart": Sexual violence against men and boys in the Syria Crisis (UNHCR)

https://data2.unhcr.org/es/documents/download/60864

A study carried out by the United Nations refugee agency has revealed disturbing details about a little-known side to the Syrian conflict: sexual violence against boys and men. The report, published on 6 December 2017 by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), compiles interviews with dozens of victims in Iraq, Lebanon and Jordan. Interviews with 73 humanitarian personnel from 34 agencies were conducted, as well as 21 focus group discussions with 196 refugees. According to UNHCR, those interviewed for the study provided shocking accounts of what they, or others known to them, had experienced. Reported forms of sexual violence included rape and mutilation of or shooting of genitals at point-blank range. Much of this was reported as occurring in detention or makeshift prisons. UNHCR researchers heard accounts of violence against boys as young as 10, and against men including those in their 80s.

The findings and recommendations presented in the report offer a starting point for unpacking and addressing a complex, under-investigated issue. Given the challenges in researching this taboo topic, sexual violence against men and boys is likely occurring under a variety of circumstances not identified in this exploratory study. Additional investigation and attention are imperative to clarify the scope of sexual violence against males, prevent this violence where possible, and effectively meet the needs of survivors.

Youth and Violent Extremism on Social Media: Mapping the Research (UNESCO)

Report in English: http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002603/260382e.pdf
Summary in English: http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002605/260532e.pdf
Summary in French: http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0026/002605/260532f.pdf

This UNESCO study provides a global mapping of research (mainly during 2012-16) into the assumed roles played by social media in violent radicalization processes, especially as they affect youth and women across all the regions of the world. Reviewing more than 550 published studies from scientific and "grey literature" covering titles in English, French, Arabic and Chinese languages, the research finds that violent extremists are indeed heavily spread throughout the Internet and that there is a growing body of knowledge about how terrorists use cyberspace. Less clear, however; is the impact of this use, and even more opaque is the extent to which counter-measures are effective. A major output of the study is a 16-point recommendation list for Member States, the private sector, Internet intermediaries, social media, civil society, and Internet users. It recommends for instance that those actors could consider to encourage the participation of youth in decision-making processes, deepen engagement between Member States, civil society organizations and local communities, promote Media and Information Literacy (MIL) strategies, support research on the subject, ensure professional and conflict-sensitive journalistic coverage, manage expressions of hate online without compromising rights to freedom of expression, or educate Internet users about ethical online behavior and privacy issues.

Humanitarian Affairs

Blind Spot: Reaching out to men and boys;
Adressing a blind spot in the response bot HIV (UNAIDS)
http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/blind_spot_en.pdf
On World AIDS Day, UNAIDS has released a new report showing that
men are less likely to take an HIV test, less likely to access
antiretroviral therapy and more likely to die of AIDS-related illnesses
than women. The "Blind spot" shows that globally less than half of
men living with HIV are on treatment, compared to 60% of women.
Studies show that men are more likely than women to start
treatment late, to interrupt treatment and to be lost to treatment
follow-up.
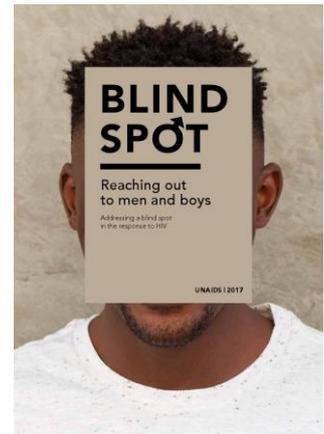
Danger in the air: How air pollution can affect brain
development in young children (UNICEF)
https://www.unicef.org/environment/files/Danger_in_the_Air.pdf
Almost 17 million babies under the age of one live in areas where air
pollution is at least six times higher than international limits, causing
them to breathe toxic air and potentially putting their brain
development at risk, according to a new UNICEF paper released on 6
December 2017. More than three-quarters of these young children –
12 million – live in South Asia. This report notes that breathing in
particulate air pollution can damage brain tissue and undermine
cognitive development – with lifelong implications and setbacks.

Desperate Journeys – July to September 2017
https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/60865
A new report released on 23 November 2017 by UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, shows
changes in the routes used by refugees and migrants to reach Europe during the third quarter
of 2017. The number of crossings from Libya to Italy has dropped, with some 21,700 people
arriving by sea to Italy between July and September, the lowest number for this period of the
past four years. According to the report, during the third quarter of the year, an increased
proportion of those arriving in Italy had departed from Tunisia, Turkey and Algeria and the top
three nationalities arriving in Europe via the Mediterranean routes were of Syrian, Moroccan and
Nigerian nationality. Greece has witnessed a rise in sea and land arrivals since the summer. In
September, some 4,800 people reached its shores, the highest number in one month since
March 2016. Some 80 per cent of sea arrivals to Greece were Syrian, Iraqi and Afghan
nationals, out of which two thirds were women and children. In parallel, Spain saw a 90 per
cent increase of land and sea arrivals during the third quarter of 2017 compared to the same
period last year. Most of these 7,700 arrivals were from Morocco, Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea, but
land arrivals were mostly the fact of Syrian nationals. The report also details crossings from
Turkey to Romania via the Black Sea over the summer – the first ones since February 2015 – as
well as a large increase in arrivals to Cyprus since the start of the year.

Disability and HIV (UNAIDS)
http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/JC2905_disability-and-HIV_en.pdf
This report highlights existing key evidence on the relationship between disability and
HIV. It discusses the concrete steps needed for a person-centred, disability-inclusive HIV
response that allows for increased participation of people with disabilities and integrates
rehabilitation within the continuum of HIV care.
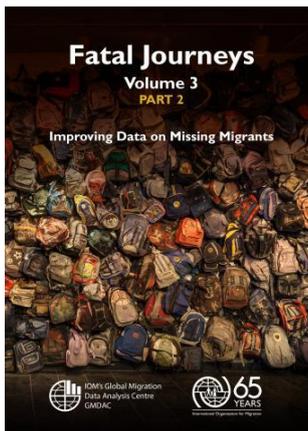
Fatal Journeys Volume 3: Improving data on Missing Migrants (IOM)
Part 1: https://un4.me/2j58SEG
Part 2: https://un4.me/2AL907y
Since 2014, the International Organization for Migration has recorded the deaths of nearly 25,000 migrants. This figure is a significant indicator of the human toll of unsafe migration, yet fails to capture the true number of people who have died or gone missing during migration. This report, the third volume in the Fatal Journeys series, focuses on improving data on migrant fatalities. It is published in two parts. Part 1 critically examines the existing and potential sources of data on missing migrants. Part 2 focuses on six key regions across the world, discussing the regional data challenges and context of migrant deaths and disappearances.

Four Decades of Cross-Mediterranean Undocumented Migration to Europe (IOM)
https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/four_decades_of_cross_mediterranean.pdf

IOM, the UN Migration Agency's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC), released a new report on 24 November 2017 reviewing the evidence of "Four Decades of Cross-Mediterranean Undocumented Migration to Europe" and concludes that Europe's Mediterranean border is "by far the world's deadliest." Relying on analysis of IOM estimates from the Missing Migrants Project, the report states that at least 33,761 migrants were reported to have died or gone missing in the Mediterranean between 2000 and 2017 (as of 30 June). Professor Philippe Fargues of the European University Institute, the report's author, notes that this number likely under-reports the actual scale of the human tragedy, even as the record number of migrant deaths may have begun to subside in 2017 due in part to cooperation between the EU and Turkey, and now Libya, to stem migrant flows.
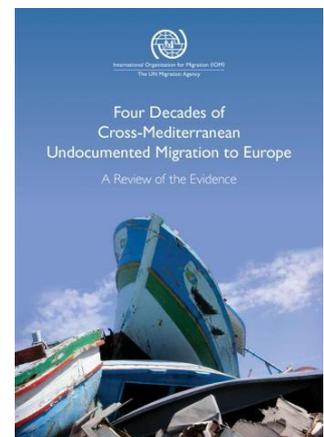
Global Dementia Observatory (WHO)
http://www.who.int/mental_health/neurology/dementia/Global_Observatory/en/
The United Nations health agency on 7 December 2017 launched the first global monitoring system for dementia, which is expected to affect 152 million people worldwide by 2050 – triple the current 50 million – amid the aging of the global population. Dementia includes Alzheimer's disease and other types of memory loss and cognitive disabilities. The Global Dementia Observatory, a web-based platform, can track progress on the provision of services for people with dementia and for those who care for them, both within countries and globally. It will also monitor the presence of national policy and plans, risk reduction measures and infrastructure for providing care and treatment.

International Migration Report 2017: Highlights (DESA)
https://un4.me/2kILTQ0
There are now an estimated 258 million people living in a country other than their country of birth — an increase of 49% since 2000 — according to new figures released by the United Nations on 18 December 2017, International Migrants Day. The "International Migration Report 2017 (Highlights)", a biennial publication of the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs, states that 3.4% of the world's inhabitants today are international migrants. This reflects a modest increase from a value of 2.8% in 2000. By contrast, the number of migrants as a fraction of the population residing in high-income countries rose from 9.6% in 2000 to 14% in 2017. The report reviews the latest migration trends, assesses the demographic contribution of migration, examines the status of ratification of relevant conventions and summarizes recent developments on migration at the United Nations. The data presented in the report are based on national statistics, obtained from population censuses as well as population registers and nationally representative surveys.

Migration Data Portal (IOM)
http://migrationdataportal.org
The Portal aims to serve as a unique access point to timely, comprehensive migration statistics and reliable information about migration data globally. The site is designed to help policy makers, national statistics officers, journalists and the general public interested in the field of migration to navigate the increasingly complex landscape of international migration data, currently scattered across different organisations and agencies. Especially in critical times, such as those faced today, it is essential to ensure that responses to migration are based on sound facts and accurate analysis. By making the evidence about migration issues accessible and easy to understand, the Portal aims to contribute to a more informed public debate. The Portal was launched in December 2017 and is managed and developed by IOM's Global Migration Data Analysis Centre (GMDAC), with the guidance of its Advisory Board, and was supported in its conception by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). The Portal is supported financially by the Governments of Germany, the United States of America and the UK Department for International Development (DFID).


Right to Health (UNAIDS)
http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/
RighttoHealthReport_Full_web%2020%20Nov.pdf
Remarkable progress is being made on HIV treatment. Ahead of World AIDS Day, UNAIDS has launched a new report showing that access to treatment has risen significantly. In 2000, just 685 000 people living with HIV had access to antiretroviral therapy. By June 2017, around 20.9 million people had access to the life-saving medicines. Such a dramatic scale-up could not have happened without the courage and determination of people living with HIV demanding and claiming their rights, backed up by steady, strong leadership and financial commitment.
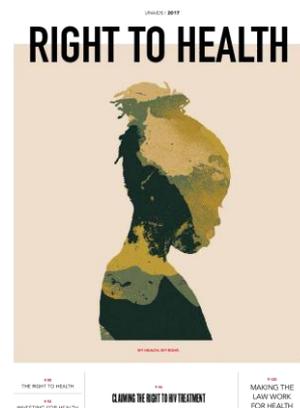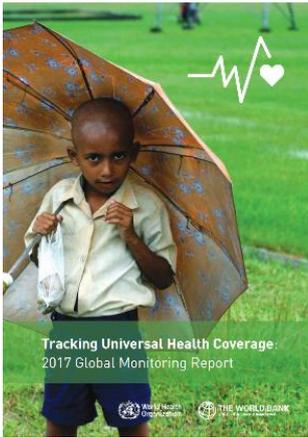
Tracking Universal Health Coverage: 2017 Global Monitoring Report (WHO / World Bank)
https://un4.me/2zegD44
At least half of the world's population cannot obtain essential health services, according to a new report from the World Bank and WHO. And each year, large numbers of households are being pushed into poverty because they must pay for health care out of their own pockets. Currently, 800 million people spend at least 10 percent of their household budgets on health expenses for themselves, a sick child or other family member. For almost 100 million people these expenses are high enough to push them into extreme poverty, forcing them to survive on just $1.90 or less a day. The findings, released on 13 December 2017 have been simultaneously published in Lancet Global Health.

Drug Control, Crime Prevention and Counter-terrorism

Roadmap for the Development of Prison-based Rehabilitation Programmes (UNODC)
http://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/17-05452_ebook.pdf
As the guardian of the Nelson Mandela Rules, UNODC has published a new handbook to provide a series of practical steps for prison administrators in order to assist them in developing high-quality and sustainable rehabilitation programmes that meet international standards and norms. UNODC's new manual - The Roadmap for the Development of Prison-based Rehabilitation Programmes - lists four main reasons for prison systems to invest in education, training and work programmes for prisoners: First, giving prisoners opportunities to learn new skills and to build work experience will help them to stay away from crime when they leave prison, thus contributing to public safety; Second, the provision of constructive activities in prisons assists in rendering life in prison more similar to life outside - referred as the principle of "normalization", which is important to facilitate a prisoners' social reintegration into the community upon release; Third, education, vocational training and work programmes in prisons support order, safety and security in prison facilities, as prisoners involved in constructive activities are less likely to engage in disruptive behaviour; and lastly, remuneration schemes related to work programmes enable prisoners to support themselves and their families, while equally producing revenues for prison administrations to maintain such programmes and to support the improvement of prison conditions. Most importantly, the handbook includes evidence from empirical studies showing the effectiveness of such programmes.

New information material

Single copies of the following titles can be ordered via e-mail: info@unric.org

70 años – Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos.
Naciones Unidas. Nueva York. 2017. 15 p.
ISBN 978-92-1-300273-5

70 ans – Déclaration universelle des droits de l'homme.
Nations Unies. New York. 2017. 15 p.
ISBN 978-92-1-001133-4.

70 years – Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
United Nations. New York. 2017. 14 p.
ISBN 978-92-1-101376-4.

NEW TITLES
added to the library collection in December

II.D   Trade, Finance and Commerce

The Least Developed Countries Report 2017: Transforming Rural Economies.
United Nations. New York and Geneva. 2017. xi, 166 p. (UNCTAD/LDC/2017)
Sales No: E.17.II.D.6. ISBN 978-92-1-112914-4
Online version: http://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/ldcr2017_en.pdf

Rapport 2017 sur les pays les moins avancés : L'accès à l'énergie comme vecteur de transformation ; Aperçu général.
Nations Unies. New York et Genève. 2017. 22 p. (UNCTAD/LDC/2017 (Overview))

II.K   Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

Economic Report on Africa, 2016: Greening Africa's Industrialization.
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Economic Commission for Africa. 2016. xxiv, 229 p.
ISBN 978-92-1-125126-5. Sales No. E.16.II.K.3.
Online version: http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/pdf/pubs/2016era-uneca.pdf

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