Evidence Aid news – October 2015

We have some Evidence Aid news to share with you. This month we’re sharing an update on the World Humanitarian Summit, with a statement referenced, prepared by Evidence Aid and partners, an exciting new blog titled ‘The 2015 Sustainable Development Goals and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction: a year for policy coherence’, written by Virginia Murray of Public Health England, and a new reviews uploaded to our website. Evidence Aid was also recently cited in the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health. Please feel free to share this information with colleague and friends whom you think might be interested.

World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and Evidence Aid
As you will likely know, the key document informing current consultations is the latest WHS Synthesis report. The submission to the WHS that Evidence Aid contributed to is referenced twice. The first instance is on page 99 (ref. 404) with a quote taken from the article: “We recommend that the WHS encourage humanitarian actors to invest in research and data collection, synthesis and quality and to adapt systems to use and value evidence.” The other is on page 118 (ref. 503) where the report asserts that “Improving the impact and cost-effectiveness of innovations will require a stronger evidence base[…].” The submission was a joint contribution by: Oxfam, Feinstein International Center, Tufts University (Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy), 3ie International Initiative for Impact Evaluation, Evidence Aid, Habitat for Humanity Great Britain, International Rescue Committee, and UCL Centre for Urban Sustainability and Resilience.

2015 is a crucial year in global policy with the publication of three landmark UN agreements: 1) the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which aims to reduce disaster losses in lives, livelihoods and health (agreed in March); 2) the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are the successors of the Millennium Development Goals (agreed in September); and the climate change agreements (to be agreed in December). The rare coincidence of three agreements of such global significance is an opportunity for building coherence across the different but overlapping policy areas. The SDGs expand significantly on the original eight MDGs agreed in 2000. They include 17 new or amended goals and 169 targets. A wide variety of policy areas are covered, related to international development including the eradication of hunger, ensuring greater emphasis on health and well-being, reducing extreme poverty and promoting more inclusive access to education. Read more here.

New reviews added to Evidence Aid resources
We have recently added the following reviews to the resources: ‘Unconditional cash transfers for assistance in humanitarian disasters: effect on use of health services and health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries’ and ‘Effectiveness of mechanisms and models of coordination between organizations, agencies and bodies providing or financing health services in humanitarian crises’. See all of our resources here.

All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health
Evidence Aid was cited (see page 105) alongside Cochrane in a Report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Global Health, researched by Nadeem Hasan, Sarah Curran, Arnoupe Jhass, Shoba Poduval and Helena Legido-Quigley: The UK’s Contribution to Health Globally. 2015. Read the summary and download the full report here.
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