Evidence Aid Newsletter – Special Edition – Humanitarian Evidence Week

The Humanitarian Evidence Week 2017 (HEW2017; 6th to 12th November) – One week of blogs, webinars, training, debates and other initiatives to promote a more evidence-based approach to humanitarian aid. HEW2017 brings together more than 20 organisations creating a platform highlighting their work related to the generation, use and dissemination of evidence in the humanitarian sector which is led by Evidence Aid and developed together with our partner the Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine (CEBM). During HEW2017, Evidence Aid will be offering training and is also involved in several of the other events that you can read about below, and here. HEW2017 starts on 6th November with an editorial on the IRIN news website by Save the Children.

Three exciting events in London – Registration required

On Monday 6 November you can join us at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) to listen to Bayard Roberts (Professor of Health Systems and Policy at LSHTM) talking about the opportunities for the RECAP project to improve evidence-based decision-making and accountability in humanitarian response, with responses from Gareth Owen (Emergency Director at Save the Children UK) and Alice Obrecht (Research Fellow at the Secretariat for the Active Learning Network for Accountability and Performance, ALNAP). If you're interested please register here.

The next day (Tuesday 7 November) the founder of Evidence Aid, Professor Mike Clarke, will run a 1-day Evidence Aid course placing systematic reviews in the context of disasters and the provision of humanitarian aid. The course will provide learning and practical experience in a small group setting for many aspects of systematic reviewing. These include question formulation and eligibility criteria, searching for eligible material, data extraction, analysis, and reporting. You can find more information here. Join us in central London by registering for this course with Claire Allen (callen@evidenceaid.org).

Finally, the last physical event of HEW2017 is on 9 November, when we welcome you at the University College London Thomas Coram Research Unit Library at Woburn Square to discuss evidence gaps and research priorities in the humanitarian sector. During this event UNICEF Research Centre – Innocenti, 3ie, Action Against Hunger, International Rescue Committee, the Campbell Collaboration and the UCL EPPI Centre will present some of their work and provide you with the opportunity to discuss this important topic. There is only limited seating for this event, so please register as soon as possible by contacting Jane Higgins (jhiggins@evidenceaid.org).

Webinars

The UNICEF Research Centre – Innocenti, Professionals in Humanitarian Assistance and Protection (PHAP) and the US National Library of Medicine – Disaster Information Management Research Center are facilitating webinars during HEW2017. On Tuesday 7 November PHAP will look at some of the challenges and limits of evidence-based approaches to humanitarian action (information and registration here. The UNICEF Research Centre – Innocenti is addressing social protection in fragile contexts on Wednesday 8 November. The next day you can hear Robin Taylor and Neil Pakenham-Walsh during the US National Library of Medicine – Disaster Information Management Research Center webinar talking about improving the availability of reliable health information.

Blogs, vlog, podcast and online discussion forum

Throughout HEW2017 several blogs will be published with contributions from UCL EPPI-Centre, CERAH Geneve, CENDEP Oxford Brookes University, CaLP, ReBuild Consortium and DFID/UKAID. The Karolinska Institute will produce a vlog (video blog), while the CEBM is producing a podcast. Finally, one of the HEW2017 initiatives has already started within the HIFA (Healthcare Information For All) Discussion Forum where you can join library and information professionals to explore ways to improve the quality, usefulness, availability and use of healthcare information for humanitarian action. Just join HIFA and contribute to the discussion, here.