Welcome to the twelfth edition of Connect:COVID-19. This weekly digest will connect you with quality resources and fact-checked information designed to combat misinformation in the COVID-19 crisis. We aim to support busy newsrooms as well as fact-checking and community organisations.

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Who are we? We are a group of organisations funded by the H2H Network that work to improve access to quality information in a crisis. Find out more.

This week's tools.

People’s Perspectives- What are people saying about the virus?

We want your feedback! In the last three months, we have analyzed more than 3,000 rumours in nine languages and produced four Social Media Rumour Bulletins (You can see all the past editions here). Have these bulletins helped you in your work? Got a great idea to improve what we’re doing? Give us your thoughts in this 4 min survey!

Did you catch the fourth edition of the Internews Social Media Rumour Bulletin last week? The bulletin is now available in Hindi, Vietnamese, Bahasa
Indonesia and English on their website. #4 looks at posts promoting specific drugs, questions over whether COVID-19 is sexually transmitted, and suggestions that the disease is a hoax. Edition 5 due out next Wednesday!

Guidance in how to respond to questions from your community about whether COVID-19 is sexually transmitted is now available in Thai, Bahasa Indonesia, Vietnamese, and Hindi. This Internews Guidance is translated with the support of Translators without Borders.

Do you have any rumour to share? Contribute to our research by submitting a rumour here!

In Bangladesh: Many of the rumors and misinformation tracked by BBC Media Action in the Rohingya camps showed concerns and misunderstandings about the quarantine process. To ensure people get the correct information, BBC Media Action produced two audio packages explaining how quarantine works and why it is important.

- A quarantine centre manager explaining how the centre works
- A Rohingya man describing his experience of being in the centre

BBC Media Action is also using community feedback to produce the “What Matters?” newsletter. The most recent edition focuses on dynamics between the local Bangladeshi community and the Rohingya refugee population.

The third edition of Korona Cotha, featuring feedback and perceptions from communities across the whole of Bangladesh is out. This edition highlights the perception that Covid-19 as a disease of ‘happy people’ who live in cities. Those living outside of urban areas feel that those who work hard, like rural people, will not be infected. The bulletin also features perceptions gathered from people with disabilities living across the country.
The United Nations has released a new tool to combat misinformation. The [Verified website](#) encourages ‘Information Volunteers’ to share their trustworthy content and fact-based COVID-19 advice in nine languages.

**Webinars:**

- Sat June 6 - The Internews FactShala program presents the latest in their series of webinars addressing the COVID-19 Infodemic, [Register here](#) for this webinar in Bangla
- Did you miss last week’s webinar by Internews and Accountability Lab on the COVID-19 stigma experienced by migrants returning to South Asia from Gulf states? [Check out the recording of this English language event here](#) and [new guidelines for reporting](#).
- Last Friday Internews spoke to Thai Journalists about the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable communities - check out the Thai language recording on their [Facebook page here](#)

**Other resources:**

The Internews guide for Journalists [reporting on Vaccine production](#) is now available in Bahasa Indonesia, Thai, Vietnamese and Hindi.

TWB partnered with Tearfund to translate their [COVID-19: Guidance on child inclusion and protection](#) into Arabic and Swahili. This resource provides guidance to help ensure that children are protected and encouraged to participate during the pandemic.
TWB worked with WHO to translate tips on how to move around safely during COVID-19 into Japanese.

TWB partnered with International SOS to subtitle this short informative COVID-19 film in Thai, Indonesian, Tagalog, Korean, Japanese, Malay, Myanmar, Hindi, Bangla, and Hausa.

Language data can help you communicate health information in the most effective way. TWB has launched new maps and datasets for Colombia and Sierra Leone that provide insights on languages, literacy, and communication dynamics. Use them to plan your COVID-19 communication strategy.

Have you seen the Internews COVID-19 Media resource library? This library contains more than 140 videos, toolkits, and guidelines for journalists working in this pandemic.

Struggling to weigh up scientific evidence for your reports? A systematic review is a great way to assess a wide range of evidence to build a balanced response to your COVID-19 questions. Evidence Aid has now created plain-language summaries of more than 250 reviews. Thanks to Translators without Borders they are available in Arabic, traditional and simplified Chinese, French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

You can also see their great practice guide that helps you explore different types of evidence, learn how to choose the most appropriate, and how to judge its quality.
Other resources we’re using.

- **Alert** - A leading medical journal has retracted a study that claimed face masks were not effective in preventing the spread of SARS-CoV-2. Retraction Watch says the study contained only 4 participants. Keep across this growing list of COVID-19 studies that did not stand up to scrutiny.

- **Is your country using a COVID-19 contact tracing app?** The WHO has new ethical guidelines considerations to guide the use of digital proximity tracking technologies.

- Get first access to the World Health Organization's new COVID-19 mobile learning app targeted specifically to health workers - Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

- The Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma looks at Building Resiliency: What Science Can Teach Us’ in this webinar on June 4.

- **As the US gears up for Presidential elections**, this webinar from the Aspen Institute looks at Voting in the time of Pandemic.

- This great project has identified over 100 apps related to COVID-19 symptom tracking, contact tracing, and general government initiatives and information.

- The CDC has released new guidelines on COVID-19 safety measures for public pools, playgrounds, and employer information for office buildings.
You might have seen the Internews guide to Data Visualisations, this great medium article looks at data visualisation pitfalls that have been common in the pandemic.

If you have any questions, requests for resources, feedback or would like to let us know when our tools have been useful, you can email us at any time at covid-19@internews.org.

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