Welcome to the thirteenth 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?

Edition 5 of the Social Media Rumour Bulletin is out! This is a special edition, providing a one-page summary of the data we have collected over the last three months in six languages. Check it out to see key themes in each language group, common platforms and high-risk posts. The next rumour bulletin will be released on June 24.

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

And you can access all the previous Rumour Bulletins, with translations thanks to Translators without Borders in: Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, and Tagalog.

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Rumours that COVID-19 is sexually transmitted have continued across the region. The Internews rumour guide brings together the latest evidence to give you the tools you need to inform your audience. Now available in Bangla, Thai, Bahasa Indonesia, Hindi, and Vietnamese.

IREX presents these great tips to spot fake coronavirus information And the Washington Post says you’re probably spreading misinformation without knowing it - here’s how to stop.

And there has been some big disinformation news from Facebook this week. The company has spent months studying ownership structures of media companies around the world and will now label state-controlled media on its pages. Here’s the criteria they’ve come up with.

And this great article looks at Taiwan’s “humor over rumor” approach to tackling coronavirus misinformation.
Webinars:

- Internews Philippines, along with the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs are inviting journalists to join them for the latest webinar in their COVID Responsible Journalism Series June 11th from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM (Manila time). Register here.

- The Regional Risk Communication and Community Engagement Working Group will be exploring the Stigma towards Migrants, Refugees, and Other Displaced Populations in Times of COVID-19 at (am EDT Thursday 11 June. Register here.

- The next weekly WHO webinar will focus on “Suicide Prevention in the context of COVID-19”, 11 June 13.00-14.00 Indian Standard Time. Register here.

Other resources:

As lockdowns ease in some contexts, your audience may have concerns about returning to work. Internews has produced this comprehensive guide to global recommendations for journalists to consider when discussing a return to work with their audience. More languages to come.

The last two weeks have seen a number of protests around the world in reaction to the death in custody of George Floyd in the United States. While some protests have seen violence, many policymakers fear what impact these large gatherings may have on the spread of COVID-19. In response, Internews has produced this guide to journalist safety at protests.

And the Internews guide to safety measures journalists can take to protect themselves against COVID-19 is now available in Vietnamese, Hindi, and English.

Other reporting Guidance from Internews released recently:
• Guidance: How to prevent stigma and discrimination of migrant workers is now available in Bahasa Indonesia and Tagalog.

• Tools for Data Visualisation is also now available in Bahasa Indonesia, Vietnamese, Bangla, Hindi, Thai.

• Guide for Journalists reporting on Vaccine production is now available in Bahasa Indonesia, Thai, Vietnamese, Bangla, and Hindi.

Evidence Aid’s COVID-19 evidence collection now has more than 250 summaries of scientific systematic reviews relevant to:

• Interventions for COVID-19

• Interventions that might help health and social care services to cope with the impact of the COVID-19 response on other health conditions and healthcare interventions, and

• The impact of COVID-19 on non-health outcomes.

More than 90 additional summaries are in progress. The summaries are translated into Arabic, Chinese (simplified and traditional), French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

Social Science in Humanitarian Action has released a comprehensive guide to social science considerations for care and infection prevention and control in home-care. It explains why home care is important, provides an overview of existing guidance and models for home and community-based care, and provides themed recommendations for guidance and support.
BBC Media Action’s India team acknowledged the important role that sanitation workers play during the COVID-19 crisis with a short English language film released on Twitter and Facebook. The popular animation was shared by the government of India, the Gates Foundation, and local partners in the sanitation sector and earned 12,000 impressions on Twitter.

Dealing with the stress of COVID-19 is a challenge for many people and so the BBC Media Action Myanmar office worked with a popular youth dancer in the country, Jimmy Ko Ko, who encouraged youth to do something new during this time when they are isolated from friends and family. Check out his moves here. Another video produced by the team suggests counting from 1 to 10 to help reduce stress.

The WHO has updated its guidance wearing facemasks. Cloth, rather than medical, face masks are now suggested for people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms. You can read the full WHO guidance here. UN Verified has produced this English Language video to show how to wear a facemask safely.

Other resources we’re using.

- Funding opportunity - The Fund for Investigative Journalism is offering $5,000-10,000 Rolling Coronavirus Grants.

- Funding opportunity - Microloans for Journalists is offering $500 interest-free loans to journalists affected by COVID-19.

- Counting the Uncounted: The Global Investigative Journalism Network offers these 12 methods and six tools for journalists to go
beyond government statistics when researching COVID-19 death tolls.

- Also from GIJN, their new guide to Researching Government Contracts for COVID-19 Spending offers tips on probing the procurement process and spotting red flags for corruption, bid-rigging, and fraud.

- The Bioforce Stop COVID-19 Online training for frontline responders is now available in Arabic, English, and French.

- Webinar: Join veteran journalist and Rappler co-founder Maria Ressa in conversation with Seema Yasmin, an Emmy Award-winning medical journalist, to discuss reporting barriers during COVID-19, 8.30pm Delhi June 18. Register here.
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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