

**TWAS NEWSLETTER**

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# IN THE NEWS

## Report shows constant rises in vaccine prices

In poor countries, the price to vaccinate a child has increased 68 times since 2001, according to a report by the international organization Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). MSF called on pharmaceutical companies to slash the price of the pneumococcal vaccine to USD5 per child in developing countries. The pneumococcal vaccine alone accounts for about 45% of the total cost to vaccinate a child today in the poorest countries.

**Down to Earth:**

<http://bit.ly/1zIU7Ky>

## To curb climate change, eat less meat

To avert devastating changes to the Earth's climate, the world's appetite for meat must be better controlled, says a new report from Chatham House, a UK think tank. Fears of consumer backlash are keeping governments from taking action, said the report. Meanwhile, the global livestock industry produces more greenhouse gas emissions than all cars, planes, trains and ships combined - largely from burping cows and sheep and their manure.

**The Guardian:**

<http://bit.ly/12soTu3>

## Scientists expose malaria parasite's drug resistance

Scientists from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore have discovered how the malaria parasite is developing resistance to important drugs used to treat the disease, according to findings published in *Science*. Malaria is a mosquito-borne parasite that affects over 60 million people worldwide and can turn fatal. Antimalarial drugs are becoming less reliable as the parasite becomes more

resilient, but the new finding should assist the decision-making of healthcare workers who are treating malaria patients.

**Bangalore Mirror:**

<http://bit.ly/1zIWMnz>

## Floating homes for crowded Maldives

The Maldives, an archipelago nation in the Indian Ocean, has embarked on a series of floating developments that could alleviate a severe housing shortage and respond to rising sea levels that are driven by climate change. The 5 Lagoons Project is a joint project between the Maldivian government and Netherlands company, Dutch Docklands. While the first project is aimed at tourists, there are also plans to develop affordable floating homes for citizens. The company is also proposing to build cheaper floating platforms, made largely from plastic bottles, to house schools and essential services in the aftermath of floods elsewhere in the developing world.

**SciDevNet:**

<http://bit.ly/1xfs6V1>



## Africa aims for the moon

The Foundation for Space Development, South Africa, has initiated a bold project to launch an African mission to the moon. Partnering with other African organizations, the foundation hopes to inspire young people to pursue their scientific dreams and fulfil their potential. The project is attempting to develop the mission with the support of crowdfunding, aiming to raise USD150,000 for the first phase.

**Sen:**

<http://bit.ly/1EYrLdz>