



Weekly News email

23rd November 2023

News headlines

If you only read one news items today, read this one which includes two benchmark reports from World Benchmarking Alliance!!

World Benchmarking Alliance - [2023 Gender Benchmark and 2023 Corporate Human Rights Benchmark](#) summary. Includes individual reports accessed through these links [Gender Benchmark Report](#) & [Corporate Human Rights Benchmark](#)

And In Other News....

Brazil: In the past 20 years, [24 indigenous Guajajara were killed in the Arariboia territory; six of them were 'Guardians of the Forest'](#)

China and USA - [The US and China have agreed on measures to tackle climate change](#) but stopped short of committing to end fossil fuels, a joint statement said.

EU - [EU agrees to ban exports of waste plastic to poor countries](#). The EU has struck a deal to stop ships of waste plastic landing in ports of poor countries.

India - [Some of the 41 men stuck for over a week seen standing in confined space as rescuers prepare to resume drilling](#)

Malaysia - [How 48 Indian workers strengthened Malaysia's forced labour fight](#)

Pakistan – [Faces severe voter gender gap](#)

Qatar - [Workers' rights were touted to be part of the Qatar World Cup's legacy. One year on, what has changed?](#)

Qatar - [A year after the World Cup kicked off in Qatar in 2022, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have published briefings examining progress on migrant workers' rights in the emirate.](#)

South Africa - [Three of the world's most influential women have told BBC News they want to end child marriage within a generation. Michelle Obama, Amal Clooney, and Melinda French Gates announced last year a collaboration between their foundations to combat the problem.](#)

Somalia - [The number of displaced people by the rains in Somalia has gone up by 100,000 in just one week, bringing the number to close to 650,000 people.](#)

Taiwan - There are no crops to celebrate': [climate crisis wipes out a way of life in Taiwan's mountains](#)

UK - [Riders hired by Deliveroo cannot be represented by a trade union for the purposes of collective bargaining,](#) the Supreme Court has ruled. The decision is the latest in a long-running dispute, which began when a union tried to represent a group of riders overpay and conditions.

UK - People with [mobility and mental health problems should work from home](#) or lose benefits under new policy

UK - [Political attack on human rights is a 'dangerous' assault on UK democracy, says HRW director](#)

UK - [UK faces 'gigafactory gap' that could stifle its EV industry, say MPs.](#) Business committee tells government it must get more investment into sector to avert decline

UK - Defra's failure to [protect and restore water bodies 'unlawful'](#), high court rules

UK – The huge climate impact of [Middle Classes](#)

UK - [Long jail sentences handed to two Just Stop Oil climate campaigners could stifle protest, the United Nations has warned the UK government.](#)

UAE - UAE: Migrant Worker [Abuses Linked to Broader Climate Harms](#)

USA - [Low-wage Chicago workers file lawsuit against employers for failing to protect them from harassment](#)

Human rights and ethical trade news

Vulnerable Communities: [Investigators accuse açaí companies of taking advantage of vulnerable communities and their children](#)

Human Rights Defenders - [Three women human rights defenders working as coordinators of the Trade Union Association of Agricultural Workers and Peasants receive death threats](#)

Due Diligence Directive: [EU Council Presidency proposes exclusion of finance sector from due diligence directive, despite objections from business & CSOs](#)

ETI - [The fishing sector globally has been associated with human rights abuses for many years.](#) The launch of the Outlaw Ocean Project's latest report is the most recent in a long line of reports connecting fishing boats to modern slavery. However, this latest investigation connects seafood processing to state sponsored forced labour in China.

Human Rights Watch - [Rights Defender's Long Sentence Shows Turkey's Authoritarian Path](#)

Laos - Australia: Urge [Laos to Address Rights Abuses](#)

Sustainability/climate

Climate and Wealth - The richest 10% of people in many countries cause up to 40 times more climate-heating carbon emissions than the poorest 10% of their fellow citizens, according to data obtained by the Guardian.

COP28 - Vulnerable' Pacific countries must get maximum benefit from 'loss and damage' fund, Australian climate minister says. Chris Bowen also says climate disaster fund will need to be bankrolled by broader-than-expected range of countries in speech ahead of Cop28

Resources / Reports/Blogs

Making Polluters Pay - Understanding the role of super-rich and rich people (the top 1% and 10% by income) in climate breakdown is essential if we are to successfully stabilize our planet and guarantee a good life for all of humanity.

IDH - Rewriting the Sustainability Playbook to Integrate Social and Environmental Agendas

Oxfam – The world cannot stand by as starvation is used as a weapon of war.

TUC Blog –Transgender day of remembrance 2023.

Events and webinars

United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights. 27 - 29 November 2023

Location - hybrid – in person element in palais des nations, Geneva (Switzerland)

The future of trade: trade justice in a changing political landscape – Trade Justice Movement Exploring the changes that we should be fighting for in 2024, a bumper election year. Wed, 15 Nov 2023 13:00 - 14:00 GMT