INSTITUTE FOR THE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF RISK



IPUR is excited to announce the launch of its own podcast series Risk Radar, available on Spotify. The podcast explores the science and art of public risk perceptions and risk communication, and how it affects our perspectives, attitudes and decision-making towards topical issues in the social sciences. Each episode features conversations with and between researchers, professionals, and practitioners who are working in areas relating to environment and climate, emerging technologies, and health and lifestyle.

Our fifth and latest episode features a conversation with <u>Zoi Roupakia</u> (Policy Affiliate at Cambridge Industrial Innovation Policy) and <u>Jennifer Castañeda</u>

<u>Navarrete</u> (Principal Policy Analyst at IfM Engage, University of Cambridge) on Al perceptions and policies.



IPUR Climate communication must feel close to home, connect science and fact to lived experiences

To drive change, climate risk communication and reporting need to be grounded in people's realities. At a workshop held on 17 September, Amy Sim and Paritta Wangkiat from the Earth Journalism Network and Mekong Eye, as well as Dr Olivia Jensen (IPUR Lead Scientist for Environment and Climate) left the 60 or so participants with some key takeaways on how to get climate messages across to their audiences:

- Make it local. Talk about how climate change has intensified extreme weather events and move beyond generic reporting to show how local areas are also impacted.
- Make it actionable. Pair reporting with science and research where possible to offer clear, feasible steps for people and even municipalities, businesses, and communities.
- Lean on solution and impact-oriented reporting to alleviate the sense of helplessness many can feel when scrolling through daily news.

The workshop was organised by IPUR, <u>Internews</u> and the <u>Earth Journalism</u> <u>Network</u>, and supported by <u>NUS Sustainability CONNECT</u>. Read more <u>here</u>.



As public discussions on Kpods continue in Singapore, it is important to remember this: All forms of vaping come with serious health risks. There is no "safe" vape. Authorities are rightly cracking down on Kpods, but that attention should serve to open up the conversation, not narrow it. IPUR and <u>Dr Yvette van der Eijk</u> discuss the broader issue of vaping itself, which paved the way for Kpods in the first place, and the importance of talking openly about risks. Read the story on CNA <u>here</u>.





Rebuilding hope in the Mekong Delta

Inspiring stories from climate migrants

Rising risks from climate change are displacing communities across
Southeast Asia, turning tens of thousands into climate migrants. In the face
of this, IPUR worked with Mekong Eye, Earth Journalism Network and
climate Xchange to produce a heartwarming story from Vietnam showing that
education can unlock new opportunities, rebuild hope, and empower
communities facing displacement.

The story was inspired by a <u>research paper</u> by <u>Dr Tra Thi Trinh</u> (IPUR Research Fellow) on climate change and migration decisions. Read the story <u>here</u>.

INSIGHTS

IPUR Seminar Series: Risk communication in healthcare

IPUR and the <u>Institute of Behavioural and Decision Science</u> co-organised two webinars exploring the intricacies of healthcare decision-making from both the patient's and the provider's perspectives. On Aug 27, <u>Prof Jill Lei</u> from the University of Melbourne, Faculty of Business and Economics, shared how patients' socioeconomic status influences their preferences for aggressive versus conservative medical treatments. On Sep 3, <u>Dr Jingcun Cao</u> from Hong Kong University Business School examined how physician education seminars on a

third-party online platform in China influence adoption of the heart-failure drug variciguat (Vequvo). Watch the recordings.

Stay tuned to our <u>website</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u> for an upcoming webinar with the <u>Institute</u> <u>for Climate Risk and Response</u> at the University of New South Wales.

People worry less about mental health when they have better access to support services

A new study led by <u>Dr Yiyun Shou</u> and <u>Dr Chia-Wen Wang</u> examined how the availability of mental health services affects people's worries about mental health risks. The study found that in countries with more availability in mental health outpatient facilities, people were less worried about being personally harmed by mental illness. However, neither the frequency with which these services were used nor their quality appeared to affect public concern. The connection between worry and the rates of specific mental health conditions, like anxiety or schizophrenia, were mixed. Overall, the findings suggest that broadening access to mental health outpatient facilities - rather than just focusing on how much they are used - could help reduce risk perception about mental health globally. <u>Read more.</u>

