

NEWS BULLETIN



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GLOBAL

CLIMATE CHANGE - Private-sector entities employing low-carbon business strategies can help governments develop national climate-change battle plans, says Christiana Figueres, head of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Negotiators from around the world are set to attend a summit beginning this month to seek agreement on climate-protection efforts after the Kyoto Treaty expires in 2012.

URBAN planning needs to be a more central focus area in the battle against climate change as the world's 3.3 billion-strong urban population faces some of the most direct risks, urban planning and climate experts warn. Efforts to improve building codes, use of land and disaster response systems at the local level would make planning more effective and reduce risks.

AFRICA

LESOTHO - The Lesotho Highlands Development Authority is building a third major dam, despite concerns about the welfare of thousands of villagers who lost their homes or land after the first dams were built in return for what many feel is inadequate compensation.

SOMALIA - Migrants in Somaliland, especially those from Ethiopia, have increasingly come under attack since the government in the self-declared independent state in September ordered employers to fire all "illegal foreigners" as part of its commitment to expelling them from the territory, according to rights organizations.

ASIA

PAKISTAN - Flood survivors across Pakistan's Sindh province say they have received very little help, even as disease begins to spread, and people who have lost crops, livestock and homes wonder how they are to survive.

SRI LANKA - Cottage industries such as poultry farming, home gardening and bee-keeping are becoming increasingly popular among returnees in Sri Lanka's former northern conflict zone as alternatives to regular jobs, officials say.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA - An original campaign led by men is getting thousands of men in Argentina to reflect on the abuse of power and commit themselves to helping eradicate violence against women.

WFWO's Communications Team