



NEWS BULLETIN



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AFRICA

REPUBLIC OF CONGO - Improved maternal healthcare and better family planning programmes have led to a sharp decrease in the Republic of Congo's maternal mortality rate over the past decade.

LIBERIA - Stigma, discrimination and difficulty in reaching health clinics has led over half of new HIV cases in Liberia to go untreated, says the National AIDS Control Programme of Liberia, which calls the situation "alarming".

MALI - Many more northern Malians are likely to face severe food shortages in the coming days and weeks if markets remain blocked by border and road closures, and humanitarian access remains limited, warn food security agencies.

NEPAL - Agriculture in Nepal suffers from years of under-investment, limited research, and scant inputs, technology and services for farmers. Unless things change, Nepal may fall into deeper food insecurity and poverty, say analysts.

SOUTHERN AFRICA - Several Southern African countries are dealing with the effects of flooding following heavy rains over much of the region in the past week.

UGANDA - A new Ugandan HIV-prevention campaign that frankly addresses sexual infidelity is generating heated debate over the direction the country's HIV strategy should take.

ZIMBABWE's education system, once regarded as the finest on the continent, was a casualty of the country's economic meltdown in the 2000s, when it nearly collapsed - but lately there have been signs of recovery.

ASIA & PACIFIC

BANGLADESH - NGOs in Bangladesh are pushing for a constitutional amendment to guarantee the legal right to access food, or a food security "framework law" that will hold the state liable for any scarcity.

INDONESIA - Recent widespread flooding in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, highlights the need for more effective flood management.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

MEXICO - Mexican President launches a campaign against hunger, pledging to transform the lives of nearly 7.5 million of the country's poorest, though he gives few details, prompting criticism that the plan is a "rehash" of old policies.

WFWO's Communications Team