



# NEWS BULLETIN



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4 January 2013

## AFRICA

**HEALTH** - Over 150 experts from seven African countries - Congo, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Cameroon - are calling on African governments to implement national plans to combat cancer.

**KENYA** - The Kenyan school term is set to commence on 7 January, but flash floods and landslides could disrupt education for as many as 2,500 pupils. Many schools in affected regions have been damaged or are being used as makeshift shelters for those displaced, education officials say.

**SWAZILAND** - Swazi women are organizing to promote their rights and welfare, convinced that discriminatory laws are at odds with the essential roles they play in their families and in their country's economy.

## ASIA & PACIFIC

**AFGHANISTAN** - More violence and a worsening humanitarian situation are likely in Afghanistan in 2013, say aid agencies.

**BANGLADESH** - Even though HIV prevalence in Bangladesh is as low as 0.1 percent of the 160 million population, experts fear that widespread discrimination towards people who test positive for HIV may leave infections unreported.

**MYANMAR / THAILAND** - The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) has expressed concern over reports that more than 70 ethnic Rohingya have been deported to Myanmar from Thailand.

**NEPAL** - Insufficient, fragmented and misdirected investment in the water and sanitation sector has hindered the fight against diarrhoea, leaving it one of Nepal's leading child killers despite hundreds of millions of dollars having been invested, say practitioners.

**PAKISTAN** - Hundreds of thousands of people displaced by September monsoon flooding in Pakistan have not yet moved back into their homes, according to aid groups.

**SRI LANKA** - Floods in the past two months following a long drought have left Sri Lanka's Northern and Eastern provinces reeling, with tens of thousands of people displaced, thousands of houses damaged or destroyed, and stretches of agricultural land devastated.

## MIDDLE EAST

**OPT** - Palestinians living in firing zones are among the most vulnerable populations in the West Bank with little access to basic services.

WFWO's Communications Team