

NEWS BULLETIN

4 July 2011



GLOBAL

ENVIRONMENT - Political will is all that's needed to bring electricity to the 2.5 billion people with no or unreliable access to power, or to feed the one billion who go hungry every day, or to finally begin to slash carbon emissions to avoid dangerous climate change, or just about any other global problem.

AFRICA

ZIMBABWE - A combined effort by donor agencies, foreign governments, local organizations and the Zimbabwean government is slowly improving the water infrastructure while reducing the chances that cholera will return.

ASIA & PACIFIC

Ministers and senior government officials from 31 countries, meeting at a United Nations-supported conference in Bangkok, have agreed to work more closely together on disaster risk reduction and make it central to national development strategies, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific reported today.

INDONESIA - Five years after a volcanic eruption displaced thousands, the mud continues to spew and many survivors have yet to regain their livelihoods.

MYANMAR - Thousands of citizens have fled recent fighting between government forces and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) in Kachin State, the northernmost part of the country bordering China, raising concerns among community groups.

MIDDLE EAST

IRAQ - Decades of war and international sanctions have turned Iraq into one of the worst places for children in the Middle East and North Africa, with around 3.5 million living in poverty, 1.5 million under the age of five undernourished and 100 infants dying every day, the UN warns.

SYRIA - The number of Syrians who have fled to Lebanon is fluctuating from week to week, but many have found it difficult to meet basic needs - especially shelter, food, health care and protection - sources say.

WFWO's Communications Team