

NEWS BULLETIN

4 October 2011



GLOBAL

CLIMATE CHANGE - Several globally renowned research programmes that have supplied much of the world's scientific knowledge on environmental change are to be brought together under an overarching strategy, in what is being billed as an "unprecedented mobilisation" of science to help cope with rapid global change.

GENDER EQUALITY - The involvement of men is key to the success of the gender-equality movement, but changing long-held social structures and convincing men of the importance of equal opportunities for women will not happen overnight, experts say.

AFRICA

SOMALIA - A humanitarian delegation from the Republic of Somaliland donated relief aid for 9,000 drought-displaced families in the Somalia capital, Mogadishu, during a visit on 30 September, the first such visit since the region declared unilateral independence from the rest of the country in 1991.

SOUTH AFRICA - A new book looks back on more than a decade of the life of South African lobby group, the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC), whose brand of activism came to define the world's fight for HIV treatment and care.

WEST AFRICA - The many negative effects of deforestation are well-known, but scientists have shown that farmers may derive one advantage from planting in deforested areas that are sandwiched between patches of forest.

ASIA

CHINA - A decade after China was declared free of polio, the country has launched a massive polio vaccination campaign targeting millions of children, in homes, schools, kindergartens, bus stations and airports, according to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative, after the recent discovery of 10 cases of the virus in the western province of Xinjiang. The virus has been shown to have entered China from neighboring Pakistan.

NEPAL - A cash grant programme to promote the purchase of nutritious food for children in the remote Karnali region of Mid-West Nepal increased birth registration by 300 percent in the past year, according to the UN Children's Fund.

WFWO's Communications Team