

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

CLIMATE CHANGE - Disaster reduction experts have been calling on countries to "climate-proof" infrastructure like roads, but until now, there have been no studies showing the scale or importance of these interventions. A recent study says, developing countries will have to spend about US\$200-300 billion per year by 2020 to construct public infrastructure - like bridges, power supplies and roads - that are not only environmentally friendly but can also withstand extreme changes in temperature and rainfall.

AFRICA

WOMEN & GIRLS - Aid workers report that more than 50% of girls between the ages of 11 and 17 at Malian refugee camps in Burkina Faso are married or have been promised.

EASTERN AFRICA - Above-average seasonal rains in parts of the East and Horn of Africa have affected tens of thousands of people, displacing families and restricting access to many in need, say humanitarian officials. The rains, coming ahead of a possible El Niño event, have prompted fears of further flooding.

MALI - Teachers, the Ministry of Education and aid agencies are scrambling to provide catch-up classes to thousands of displaced children who fled northern Mali for southern towns to help them graduate this year, while those teachers and families who stayed in the north are doing the same - determined to keep their children learning despite the closure of dozens of public schools and severe changes to the curricula.

NIGERIA - Some 1.3 million Nigerians have been displaced and 431 have died in what the authorities say is the worst flooding in over 40 years, with 30 of the country's 36 states affected since July, according to the National Emergency Management Agency.

SOUTH AFRICA - After a troubled past, a revamped South African National AIDS Council was recently unveiled, coinciding with the announcement that the country has achieved universal access to HIV treatment.

UGANDA - An increasing caseload of refugees from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is stretching food and non-food resources in western Uganda, say humanitarian officials.

WFWO's Communications Team