

# NEWS BULLETIN

13 FEBRUARY 2012



## GLOBAL

**CLIMATE** - Delegates at the UN Rio+20 conference should adopt a series of sustainable development goals similar to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) when they meet in June in Rio de Janeiro, said the British environment secretary. The Goals, aimed at greening global economies, should address "priority" areas such as oceans, food, energy, water, consumption and sustainable cities, she said.

## AFRICA

**BENIN** - The West African country of Benin is enhancing its free treatment efforts for malaria by targeting those who sell counterfeit and substandard malaria drugs, and recruiting ordinary citizens as health workers who focus on care for expectant mothers and sick children. Malaria is the leading cause of death in the country.

**HORN** - The climatic conditions linked to the drought in the Horn in 2011 have persisted, and some early warning officials say the aid community should brace themselves for a possible re-run of last year's food crisis.

**MALI** - Women engineers in Mali, who have been making solar cookstoves since 2001, are extending their successful project to promote greener cooking in the capital, Bamako, to the entirety of the West African country.

**MAURITANIA** - Persistent drought is worsening conditions in the African country of Mauritania. The UNWFP is urging action "to help the poorest households and avoid a major humanitarian crisis."

**SUDAN** - Several clashes involving thousands of combatants in South Sudan's Jonglei state have highlighted the volatility of the world's newest country, affecting some 140,000 people.

## ASIA & PACIFIC

**MYANMAR** - Lack of access to reproductive health services in Myanmar has led to high rates of maternal deaths and unplanned pregnancies among the country's displaced, migrant and refugee populations, say health experts.

**PHILIPPINES** - The Philippines government and an international aid agency are automating inventory systems to improve relief distribution in one of the world's most disaster-prone countries.

WFWO's Communications Team