



NEWS BULLETIN



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

In this Issue

14 February 2013

AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - Healthcare remains difficult to access in parts of the Central African Republic (CAR). A scarcity of health workers and a lack of medical supplies are among the problems.

COTE D'IVOIRE - Tens of thousands of Côte d'Ivoire cocoa farmers are reducing pesticide use, curbing soil erosion and water contamination and at the same time boosting yields and income thanks to certification schemes which are making their cocoa more attractive to foreign buyers, say certification companies.

ETHIOPIA - Over the years, small-scale farmers growing white pea beans in Ethiopia have sold their produce through the informal market, relying largely on middlemen who dictate prices and walk away with huge profits, often leaving the farmers in poverty.

MADAGASCAR - After years of underfunding its locust management programme, Madagascar is threatened by a major swarm that could infest most of the island country.

MALAWI - As fuel prices climb in Malawi, amid fuel shortages and a soaring inflation rate - prompted by a 50 percent devaluation of the currency - a new paper suggests a way to decrease the country's reliance on imported fuel: biofuels.

MOZAMBIQUE - In the last 10 days, 22 cases of the waterborne disease cholera have been confirmed by laboratory testing in three areas in and around the northern Mozambique.

UGANDA - Inadequate funding, a shortage of health staff and poor adherence to vaccination schedules are some of the reasons for declining immunization levels in Uganda, which experts say threatens efforts to reduce preventable deaths among children.

ZIMBABWE - HIV-positive women are living longer, but are now dying of cervical cancer. In Zimbabwe, cervical cancer is now the most common cancer among women, particularly those living with HIV. Activists are urging the government to step up efforts to prevent deaths related to the disease, accusing it of paying lip service to the problem.

ASIA & PACIFIC

BANGLADESH - Activists are calling for stronger action to address rising levels of corruption in Bangladesh's fledgling public health care system.

INDONESIA is seeking to boost its community mental health services in an effort to end the lockdown and shackling of thousands of mental health patients.

SRI LANKA - Water resources in northern Sri Lanka, which are coming under increasing pressure as returning farmers use wasteful water pumps to irrigate their crops, need to be better managed, say experts.

WFWO's Communications Team