



NEWS BULLETIN



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15 July 2013

AFRICA

FOOD AND HUNGER - The United Nations has appealed for more than \$1 billion to help feed 11 million people at risk across Africa's arid Sahel belt, warning that the crisis in Syria has been distracting donors from the humanitarian situation there.

REFUGEES AND DISPLACEMENT - Tens of thousands of Somali refugees have returned home as security in their homeland has improved, the United Nations says, and is ready to support a further 60,000 refugees who are ready to go back.

DJIBOUTI - Poor rains and lack of expertise to boost local food production are some of the challenges facing Djibouti's population, says a senior UN official.

RWANDA - The future of tens of thousands of Rwandan refugees living in Africa remains uncertain nearly two weeks after the 30 June deadline recommended by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) for the discontinuation of their refugee status.

ASIA & PACIFIC

NATURAL DISASTER - China and Taiwan brace for the impact of Typhoon Soulik as the toll of dead and missing from torrential rain across a broad swathe of China has climbed beyond 200.

INDIA - Women and children who have survived deadly floods in India could now be at risk of being sold as brides or into domestic and sex work by traffickers preying on vulnerable families, aid agencies say.

MYANMAR - The Myanmar army has discharged 42 children and young adults who had been recruited for soldiering and other duties, part of a UN deal to end the use of child fighters, the United Nations' children's agency says.

PHILIPPINES - Consistent increases in HIV infections in the Philippines cannot be reversed without appropriate interventions, say health experts, following the recent release of the country's highest monthly infection rate recorded thus far.

SRI LANKA - Close to 100,000 returnees in Sri Lanka's north lack national identity cards (NICs), more than four years after the end of the country's decades-long civil war.

MIDDLE EAST

EGYPT - Civil unrest and dwindling foreign exchange reserves raise serious food security concerns in Egypt, the United Nations' food agency says in a report.

WFWO's Communications Team