

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

CLIMATE - The limited agreement reached at the climate summit in Durban, South Africa, highlights the need for the United Nations to review its negotiating process moving forward. UN officials should shift some focus onto identifying the causes of carbon emissions and depicting greenhouse gas emission reductions in a more positive light.

POVERTY - Countries climbing up the wealth ladder have failed to pull large numbers of people out of dire poverty, according to a new survey. Nearly 1.19 billion – 72 percent of poor people live in middle-income countries as compared with 459 million living in low-income countries. And some 586 million people in middle-income countries live in "severe poverty", compared with 285 million in low-income countries.

TECHNOLOGY - The United Nations Environment Programme has developed a mobile telephone application designed to help individuals calculate their carbon footprint and ways to reduce it. The free for download Blue and REDD Carbon app provides information about ecosystems, and allows users to input travel plan information for suggestions on how to minimize impact on the local, and broader, environment.

AFRICA

CAMEROON has launched a project to boost local rice production by 25 percent in a bid to reduce dependence on imported rice and ensure food security in the country, government officials say.

SAHEL - Aid agencies are warning donors to act now to avert another drought-related food crisis in the Sahel that could mean over 11 million people sink into further food insecurity, poverty or malnutrition.

SOMALIA - Increased fighting in Somalia could worsen famine there again next year, a senior UN official has said, while appealing for a record \$1.5 billion for the world's largest humanitarian crisis.

ASIA & PACIFIC

CLIMATE CHANGE - Global warming will melt far less of the glaciers of Central Asia than of those in other mountain ranges, shielding the people who depend on them for water from the effects of climate change for several decades at least, scientists say.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

ARGENTINA - In Argentina, the availability of water far outstrips demand, yet 11 percent of the population still lacks piped water, while a large proportion of the rest squanders it without a second thought.

WFWO's Communications Team