

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

CLIMATE CHANGE - UN climate talks in Germany, which started on Monday, are at risk of making no progress on building a new climate regime as negotiators remain at odds about how to extend the Kyoto Protocol, raise up to \$100 billion a year for poor countries and share the burden of future emissions cuts. Meanwhile, losses from climate-related and other disasters in many low- and middle-income countries are likely to rise faster than economic growth unless governments change their economic policy to take account of increasing disaster risk, warns a new guide from climate experts.

AFRICA

HEALTH - Clinical trials are underway to test a new treatment for pregnant women that could tackle some of the leading preventable causes of death for babies in sub-Saharan Africa, researchers say.

COTE D'IVOIRE - South of the Sahel, where drought, high food prices and other factors have pushed some 16 million into hunger, 320,000 people in Côte d'Ivoire are also grappling with food insecurity. A combination of forces is causing region-wide high prices for rice, but the government's efforts to make the staple food cheaper lack teeth and are proving difficult to impose.

TANZANIA - The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization is helping Tanzania determine how much carbon is stored in forests and forest soils, in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming.

ASIA & PACIFIC

LAOS - The government of Laos has taken the unique step of stating its ambition to graduate from the UN list of Least Developed Countries (LDC) list by 2020. LDCs exhibit the lowest indicators of socioeconomic development, and have the lowest rating in the Human Development Index of the world's countries.

MYANMAR - Resistance of malaria to the world's most touted treatment, artemisinin, is spreading in Myanmar and, unlike other countries where drug resistance is growing, the government is lagging in its containment efforts.

WFWO's Communications Team