

NEWS BULLETIN

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AFRICA

CAMEROON - Campaigners opposed to a large palm oil plantation in a rainforest covering part of the Korup National Park in southwestern Cameroon say up to 45,000 people risk losing their livelihoods if the project proceeds.

GUINEA - The cholera that struck more than 7,000 people in Guinea this year was caused by a new generation of cholera strains - atypical variants of vibrio cholerae O1 El Tor, epidemiologists have confirmed.

MALAWI / ANGOLA - Prolonged dry spells have driven almost four million people to food insecurity in Malawi and oil-rich Angola, in Southern Africa. Humanitarian aid agencies have been trying to shine a spotlight on crises in the region, even as the situations in Syria and the Sahel continue to dominate headlines.

SIERRA LEONE - Campaigns to lower the rate of female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) in Sierra Leone are having some impact, but efforts to ban the practice have failed thus far, and despite a push to communicate its health risks, many still believe FGM/C promotes good health and hygiene.

TOGO - The spread of viral hepatitis in Togo, where there is little awareness of the disease and most people discover by chance that they are infected, is causing concern, says the ASADH, which is working with the Health Ministry to combat the disease.

UGANDA - Hundreds of millions of dollars in donor aid have been withheld from Uganda in recent months, threatening post-war rehabilitation in the northern region and key public investments across the country.

ZAMBIA - Over the past five weeks, almost 1,000 people have fled into Zambia to escape fighting in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), forcing the Zambian government to consider re-opening a refugee camp it closed two years ago.

ASIA & PACIFIC

BANGLADESH - Activists warn food insecurity in southeastern Bangladesh may worsen over the next decade as a result of unfettered deforestation.

PAKISTAN - The government of Sindh Province in Pakistan has called off its polio vaccination campaign after unidentified militants carried out coordinated attacks today on vaccination teams in three different parts of Karachi, killing four women and injuring two men.

PHILIPPINES - Isolated communities in the Philippines including hill tribes are facing hunger a week after a typhoon struck, and with roads blocked, supplies will have to be dropped by air, authorities say.

SRI LANKA - More than 6,000 people have been evacuated following heavy rain and flooding across parts of Sri Lanka, say officials.

WFWO's Communications Team