



# NEWS BULLETIN



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22 January 2013

## GLOBAL

**FOOD & HUNGER** - Up to half of all the food produced worldwide ends up going to waste due to poor harvesting, storage and transport methods as well as irresponsible retailer and consumer behaviour, a report says.

**HIV/AIDS** - The only HIV vaccine trial to achieve moderate success took place four years ago, yet it continues to reveal new information about the virus and renew hopes for a future vaccine.

**HEALTH** - Dengue is the world's fastest-spreading tropical disease and represents a "pandemic threat", infecting an estimated 50 million people across all continents, the UNWHO says.

## AFRICA

**END POVERTY** - Africa could reduce its poverty levels faster by focusing more on the production of staples rather than export crops, according to a [study](#) by the IFPRI.

**REPUBLIC OF CONGO** - The HIV infection rate has declined among pregnant women in the Republic of Congo from 3.4 percent in 2009 to 2.8 percent in 2012, according to a study by the Ministry of Health, which said it had taken specific action to help this section of the population.

**MAURITANIA** - Rains were decent across much of Mauritania in 2012 leading to hopes of a reasonable harvest. However, even in a good year farmers can produce a maximum five-month cereal supply - most small farmers produce much less - and most face 2013 with accumulated debts from previous years following decades of cyclical crises.

**MALAWI** - Several months of heavy rains in Malawi are threatening to undo any gains that farmers in the south may have made following a prolonged dry spell.

**ZIMBABWE** - An army worm outbreak threatens to worsen food security in Zimbabwe, where close to 1.6 million people already face food shortages ahead of the March harvest.

## ASIA & PACIFIC

**INDONESIA** - Hundreds of people hit by recent flooding in Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, say government assistance has still not arrived four days after the city governor declared a state of emergency following severe flooding triggered by days of heavy rain.

**MYANMAR** - Water, sanitation and hygiene will be a key issue for thousands of internally displaced persons in Myanmar's western Rakhine State as the weather gets warmer, say aid workers.

## MIDDLE EAST

**YEMEN** - The results of the first ever national child labour survey in Yemen suggest the country has more than 1.3 million child labourers, about 17 percent of all children.

WFWO's Communications Team