



NEWS BULLETIN



In this Issue

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AFRICA

HEALTH - Twelve years after African governments pledged in the Abuja Declaration to allocate at least 15 percent of their annual budgets to healthcare by 2015, just six countries have met this goal.

CLIMATE CHANGE - Drastic water loss in West Africa's River Volta basin - covering Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, and Togo - could deprive millions of people of food and hydropower in coming years due to climate change, researchers predict.

CHAD - Thousands of Chadians, most of them children, have returned home, fleeing insecurity in parts of neighbouring Central Africa Republic (CAR), Darfur, Libya and Nigeria. The returnees, most of whom are seeking shelter in their country's remote border regions, are in need of emergency assistance in the form of protection and basic services, according to a senior humanitarian official.

GUINEA BISSAU - A slump in cashew nut prices in Guinea-Bissau has left nearly half of the population eking out food, with families skipping meals or selling livestock to survive until the next harvest in September, aid groups say.

NAMIBIA Sub-Saharan Africa's driest country, is suffering its worst drought in a generation, with more than 100,000 children at risk of malnutrition, the United Nations says.

SUDAN - Tens of thousands of people face severe food insecurity as they hide in the bush in South Sudan's Jonglei State following another wave of violence that has cut off aid to them.

WEST AFRICA - Some 1,700 people in West Africa have contracted cholera since mid-June, showing a significant decline compared to the same seven-week period in 2012 when 11,834 were affected.

ASIA & PACIFIC

PNG - The government of Papua New Guinea (PNG) has bolstered its funding for disaster preparedness, strengthening the country's National Disaster Management Centre (NDC) to better respond to crises.

THAILAND - Health officials are struggling to stem alarming rates of HIV among men who have sex with men (MSM) in Thailand.

MIDDLE EAST

SYRIA - Supplying adequate drinking water, toilets and washrooms to this huge and rapidly growing camp for Syrian refugees in the Jordanian desert, in the middle of summer, is proving to be a challenge.

WFWO's Communications Team