



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

In this Issue

25 March 2013

GLOBAL

POVERTY REDUCTION - Nepal, Bangladesh and Rwanda are "star performers" in reducing the number of poor in their countries compared to larger economies such as India, according to an Oxford University study.

HEALTH - Deadly strains of tuberculosis that are resistant to multiple drugs are spreading around the world, and authorities urgently need another \$1.6 billion a year to tackle them, global health officials say.

AFRICA

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - Humanitarian agencies in the Democratic Republic of Congo's (DRC) North Kivu Province are working to increase their support for hundreds of thousands of displaced people living outside formal camps with little humanitarian support, often relying on the kindness of sometimes equally vulnerable host communities.

MALI - Air and ground battles have left Mali's central and northern regions littered with unexploded ordnance (UXO), seriously endangering the lives of children and the return of displaced people.

SENEGAL - Education experts gathered in the Senegalese capital Dakar this week to discuss what priorities should look like once the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) expire in 2015. The conclusion: more focus on quality and how to measure it; on equity and access for hard-to-reach children; and on what should happen during the first three years of secondary school.

SOMALIA - Hundreds of households in the disputed Sool area of the self-declared republic of Somaliland are facing a water shortage following poor rains, say officials.

SOMALIA - Every Somali citizen will have access to basic healthcare by 2016 if a new, government-led strategic plan achieves its aims.

SOUTH AFRICA's gold mines are estimated to have the highest number of new tuberculosis (TB) cases in the world, making the disease a leading export to neighbouring countries.

ASIA & PACIFIC

NEPAL - While health experts applaud Nepal's declining maternal mortality ratio (MMR) in recent years, they say this gain is unsustainable if the country does not address its lack of qualified health staff, especially midwives, to keep women in childbirth alive.

NEPAL - Development assistance on its own will not resolve chronic levels of food insecurity in Nepal's western Karnali Zone, described by many as a "silent emergency". Rather, a more measured and integrated approach is required in some areas, including relief, say experts and government officials.

SRI LANKA - The UN Human Rights Council approved on 21 March a second resolution requesting the Sri Lankan government to do more to address alleged wartime rights violations, but observers question whether such resolutions can create meaningful change.

MIDDLE EAST

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION - Nearly 300 government officials, scientists, aid workers and activists from across the Arab world are working together in Jordan to draw up the first joint regional platform for disaster risk reduction (DRR).

WFWO's Communications Team