

# NEWS BULLETIN

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## GLOBAL

**HEALTH** - New tuberculosis infections have dropped 2.2 percent worldwide last year, but with nearly 9 million new infections, the World Health Organization says. TB remains a massive problem that could worsen if countries shortchange funding to fight it.

## AFRICA

**BURUNDI**, despite being potentially self-sufficient in food, has the highest level of hunger of all the 79 countries listed in the 2012 Global Hunger Index, published earlier this month by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Welthungerhilfe, and Concern Worldwide.

**EAST AFRICA** - In humanitarian emergencies impoverished women may turn to sex work as a way of feeding themselves and their families; without the usual health services and given the often low education of those involved, sex is frequently unprotected, exposing them and their clients to sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV.

**SAHEL** - Sahelians are used to living on the edge and doing all they can to overcome adversity. In 2011, the combined shocks of ongoing high food prices, an end to remittances from Libya, poor harvests across much of the region, and conflict in northern Mali, had a disproportionate effect on the fragile food security situation and the region's economy: An estimated 18.7 million people are at risk of hunger and 1.1 million at risk of severe malnutrition this year.

**SOMALIA** - Thousands of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Somalia's southern Gedo Region, say their overcrowded settlements are desperately short of basic needs, from shelter to clean water.

**SOUTH AFRICA** - Two South African women may have helped unlock the key to a vaccine to rid the world of one its deadliest epidemics, according to new research released by South African HIV experts.

**UGANDA** - An outbreak of the deadly Marburg virus in Uganda has spread to the capital Kampala after an infected woman travelled to the city and the death toll from the disease, a cousin of Ebola, climbed to five, a health official says.

## ASIA & PACIFIC

**NATURAL DISASTER** - Some 185 million people are exposed to annual flooding and storms in Asia-Pacific, a figure that has mushroomed in the past four decades due to economic growth and expanding urban populations, a UN report says.

**BANGLADESH** - Previously relocated residents of southeastern Bangladesh are returning to the sites of their former homes in hilly areas at high risk of landslides, say activists and locals.

WFWO's Communications Team