

NEWS BULLETIN

28 November 2011



GLOBAL

ENVIRONMENT - More than two million lives can be saved each year by implementing the cost-effective measures presented in a United Nations report released today, which would help reduce black carbon, methane and ozone emissions. The report, issued by the UN Environment Programme, provides a package of 16 measures that could not only save some 2.5 million lives each year but also avoid crop losses amounting to 32 million tons annually, and help keep the global temperature rise below the two degree Celsius target over the next 40 years.

TECHNOLOGY - The United Nations International Telecommunications Union said that it will, with partners, urge delegates at the UN climate change conference in South Africa to harness the power of information and communication technology to promote measures to mitigate and adapt to global warming.

AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC - A high incidence of underage marriage and the widespread use of child labour are occurring in the Central African Republic, a landlocked country in central Africa, says the UNHCR.

KENYA - The resettlement of evictees from Kenya's Mau Forest remains a humanitarian and environmental concern for the country as more than 25,000 people continue to live in camps around the forest.

SUDAN - The United Nations refugee agency voiced concern over the movement of large numbers of people from Sudan into Ethiopia and South Sudan, saying that an estimated 76,000 people have moved since August, mainly as a result of conflicts.

ASIA & PACIFIC

HIV/AIDS - The number of new HIV infections in South and South East Asia have dropped by more than 40 per cent between 2006 and 2010, according to a new report on HIV/AIDS.

AFGHANISTAN - The health system in Afghanistan continues to face many challenges – including a shortage of skilled female health-care workers and family planning services.

DPR KOREA - A United Nations assessment published finds that the main annual harvest in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) has improved compared to last year but serious nutrition concerns persist, especially among young children.

MIDDLE EAST

DEVELOPMENT - Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro urged countries in the Arab region to steer their economies towards sustainable development that leads to the creation of more jobs for youth, while ensuring that the transition is anchored in good governance and respect of human rights.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

CUBA - Cuba will be attending the next round of climate change negotiations after a year that has seen a growing consensus in the developing South to put pressure on rich nations to take on firmer commitments within an international governance regime for climate stability.

WFWO's Communications Team