

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

UNITED NATIONS - With 800 million members in over 100 countries, the cooperative sector is a globally important group of collective organisations. On Oct. 31, the UN will begin a year of recognising their importance by launching the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) in New York.

CLIMATE CHANGE - Governments around the world and the international humanitarian community need to plan now to effectively manage millions of climate refugees, scientists write in the journal *Science*. As the Earth's temperature rises, the world can expect as many as 10 million climate refugees every year.

HEALTH - With global health funding on the decline, officials are concerned that strains of tuberculosis (TB), including multi-drug resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB), may go untreated.

AFRICA

NIGER - The United Nations food aid agency announced plans today to scale up its operations inside the poor West African country of Niger, where a poor harvest and insect attacks against cereals have left a million people in need of immediate support.

ASIA

PAKISTAN - The needs of people affected by floods in Pakistan are rising as winter approaches and reported outbreaks of water- and vector-borne diseases, the United Nations reported today, warning that funding for humanitarian assistance in the country remains low, with stocks of some relief items severely depleted.

THAILAND - Bangkok lies just above sea level and faces severe risks as Thailand grapples with the worst flooding the country has faced in decades, says Asian Development Bank Country Director. Authorities expect more than 1 billion cubic meters of runoff water to pass through the capital in the coming days.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

LAC Region - Local communities in Latin America should go to court more often to fight for access to drinking water, regarded as a universal right, and combine legal action with social protests and political lobbying, experts say.

WFWO's Communications Team