

NEWS BULLETIN

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GLOBAL

FOOD - Most of the world consumes bread, the cost of which has spiralled this year thanks to climatic shocks, worsening food security for millions. But a significant scientific breakthrough could see the development of extreme-climate -tolerant and disease- resistant varieties of wheat much sooner than previously possible.

CLIMATE CHANGE - People in developing countries have been learning to adapt to increasing salinity, erratic rains and, in some instances, frequent flooding as the climate changes. But a new study has taken a closer look at some of these adaptation strategies and found that, past a certain threshold, they cease to work.

HEALTH - A report from the monitoring board of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative suggests that people from Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan must prove they have been vaccinated before being allowed to leave the polio-endemic countries.

AFRICA

KENYA has made significant strides in boosting exclusive breastfeeding, even passing a new law banning the promotion of infant formula. Nevertheless, challenges to safe infant feeding - a major part of prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission - remain.

SOMALIA - More youths from the self-declared republic of Somaliland are illegally migrating from the region, mainly due to a lack of jobs, traveling through Ethiopia, Sudan and Libya on their way to Europe, say officials.

SOUTH AFRICA - The South African government has negotiated savings of about US\$250 million in its latest antiretroviral (ARV) tender, which is the first to include a three-in-one tablet. This triple fixed-dose combination ARV will now allow the country to move to new, simpler HIV treatment and prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT) guidelines in April 2013.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN

DEFORESTATION - Industry and urban sprawl are gobbling up tracts of the Amazon rain forest in Brazil, contributing to deforestation and carbon emissions. Observers say recent gains against deforestation could be reversed by the booming Amazon population, which is closing in on 25 million.

WFWO's Communications Team