

GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT – WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF

July 17 – July 24, 2008

- Key Articles
- Comprehensive Interviews, Tables, Graphics, Statistics, and Overviews of the Food Crisis
- New Reports
- New Books
- Food Crisis Developments
- Relationship between food/fuel prices
- Agriculture Development practices (corporate, IGO, NGO, gov't) with focus on South Asia/Sub-Saharan Africa
- Small scale farms and agriculture productivity
- Biofuels
- Food Aid
- Market Access
- Food Crisis and Poverty
- Developments in Agriculture, Science, and Technology

Key Articles:

- ***How to solve the growing global food crisis, in three steps***, by Jeffrey Sachs, *New York Daily News*, July 23, 2008
The surge of world food prices this year came like a bolt out of the blue, but warning lights were in fact flashing. Imbalances of global food supply and demand had been building for years beneath the public view.
http://www.nydailynews.com/opinions/2008/07/23/2008-07-23_how_to_solve_the_growing_global_food_cri.html
Contact the NY Daily News: (212) 210-2100
- ***Africa's Last and Least***, by Kevin Sullivan, *Washington Post*, July 20, 2008
Cultural Expectations Ensure Women Are Hit Hardest by Burgeoning Food Crisis
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/19/AR2008071900962.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500
- ***UN say 14 million in Africa's Horn need food aid***, by Mohamed Olan Hassan and Elizabeth Kennedy, *Washington Post*, July 22, 2008
Now, due to a global food crisis that is hitting this impoverished country especially hard, the family eats one meal a day. Other times they drink tea or water to ward off the inevitable hunger pangs.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/22/AR2008072201028.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500
- ***Food aid no solution to hunger***, Aphayo Otieno, *Daily Nation (Kenya)*, July 22, 2008
US PRESIDENT GEORGE W. Bush has announced about \$200 million in emergency food aid. This is in addition to his call on Congress to make another \$770 million available for food aid. In total, the emergency food aid from the US alone may be close to \$1 billion

http://www.nationmedia.com/dailynation/nmgcontententry.asp?premiumid=0&category_id=25&newsid=127796

Contact the Daily Nation: +254 20 3288430/7/8

- ***With offer, Europe Tries to Spur Trade Talks***, by Stephen Castle, *The New York Times*, July 22, 2008
The European Union began crucial global trade talks Monday with an offer of reducing its farm tariffs by 60 percent — the highest figure it has yet offered — in a challenge to developing countries to make concessions.
http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/22/business/worldbusiness/22trade.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=with%20offer%20doha&st=cse&oref=slogin
Contact the New York Times: 212-556-1234
- ***U.S. offers farm subsidy cut, is asked for more***, by Doug Palmer and William Schomberg, *Washington Post*, July 22, 2008
The United States sought to kickstart efforts to rescue a global trade deal on Tuesday by offering to cut a ceiling on its contested farm subsidies, but leading developing countries said it was not enough.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/22/AR2008072200372.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500
- ***Uprising Against the Ethanol Mandate***, by David Streitfeld, *New York Times*, July 23, 2008
The ethanol industry, until recently a golden child that got favorable treatment from Washington, is facing a critical decision on its future.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/23/business/23ethanol.html?ex=1217390400&en=361662f0fbf388ec&ei=5070&emc=eta-1>
Contact the New York Times: 212-556-1234
- ***Disjointed response blamed for food price crisis***, by Allan Odhiambo, *Business Daily Africa*, July 23, 2008
Conflicting strategies that African countries have adopted to combat ongoing rise in the cost of food are fuelling the crisis instead, analysts warned
http://www.bdafrica.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=8954&Itemid=5813
Contact Business Daily Africa: +254 20 328 8121
- ***Prices of Food and Gas Take a Toll in Asia***, by Keith Bradsher, *New York Times*, July 23, 2008
While prices have been rising in the United States and Europe, the biggest increases are being felt in Asia, and countries like India and Vietnam are already having to deal with double-digit inflation.
http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/23/business/worldbusiness/23inflate.html?_r=1&oref=slogin
Contact the New York Times: 212-556-1234

Comprehensive Interviews, Tables, Graphics, Statistics, and Overviews of the Food Crisis:

- **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) Resources:**
 - **Soaring food prices and the rural poor**, <http://www.ifad.org/operations/food/>

- **Interview with President Bage by BBC World News** on soaring food prices and the G8 Summit, www.ifad.org/events/op/2008/bbc/BBCWorld7708_300k.wmv
- **Council on Foreign Relations (CFR) Resources:**
 - **Interview with Daniel Gustafson** (director of Washington UN FAO) on U.S. Food Policy, <http://www.cfr.org/publication/15841/>
- **The New York Times Resources:**
 - ***Rising Costs felt at the World's Dinner Tables, graphic***, January 19, 2008
http://www.nytimes.com/imagepages/2008/01/19/business/20080119_PALMOIL.html
- **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Resources:**
 - **News, recent reports, tables.**
<http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/en/>
 - **Corporate Document Repository: Crop Prospects and Food Situation**,
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/ai465e/ai465e01.htm>
- **BBC News Resources:**
 - ***The cost of food: Facts and Figures***, http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/in_depth/7284196.stm
- **International Monetary Fund (IMF) Resources:**
 - ***Impact of High Food and Fuel Prices on Developing Countries—FAQs***,
<http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/faq/ffpfags.htm>
- **World Bank Data & Research Resources:**
 - ***High Food Prices—A Harsh New Reality***,
<http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/0,,contentMDK:21665883~pagePK:64165401~piPK:64165026~theSitePK:469372,00.html>
- **FarmPolicy.com Summary of Farm Policy News**
 - Useful weekly subscription to the latest on the food crisis, <http://www.farmpolicy.com/>

New Reports:

- ***High Level Task Force on the Global Food Crisis, Comprehensive Framework for Action***, by Chief Executives Board of the United Nations, July 2008
http://www.ifad.org/operations/food/documents/cfa/cfa_draft.pdf
- ***Asia Pacific Food Situation Update***, FAO, June 2008
How FAO is assisting member countries through its Initiative on Soaring Food Prices.
<http://www.fao.org/world/regional/rap/update.pdf>
- ***Get Biotechnology on the Agenda for Africa***, by Calestrous Juma, *The Japan Times* via the Belfer Center, June 30, 2008
Leaders at the Group of Eight industrialized nations' summit in Hokkaido next month need to take strong measures to promote cooperation in using biotechnology to address Africa's food challenges. At present there is resistance from Europe, and even Japan is dragging its feet on this vital issue.

http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/18390/get_biotechnology_on_the_agenda_for_africa.html?breadcrumb=%252Fproject%252F39%252Fscience_technology_and_globalization

- **Fighting food inflation through sustainable investment**, *FAO and European Bank for Reconstruction and Development*, March 10, 2008
<http://www.fao.org/newsroom/common/ecg/1000808/en/FAOEBRD.pdf>

New Books:

- **Global Warming and Agriculture: Impact Estimates by Country**, by William R. Cline, July 2007
 - Full-text of book can be found online at: <http://bookstore.petersoninstitute.org/bookstore/4037.html>

Food Crisis Developments:

- **Feeding the Beast**, by Alvaro Vargas Llosa, *The New Republic*, July 24, 2008
Why food prices are skyrocketing. We tend to judge this year's food crisis, marked by seemingly indomitable prices, from the point of view of those who are suffering. It might be useful to judge the crisis also from the point of view of those who are causing it. That's where the real lessons will be learned. Let's take Argentina, one of the world's top producers of grains and soybeans.
<http://www.tnr.com/politics/story.html?id=3454f134-ed0b-4eca-a472-671da858b116>
Contact The New Republic: (202) 508-4444
- **Looming water crisis might become a disaster**, by Colin Chartres, *Business Daily Africa*, July 24, 2008
A long list of factors have been blamed for the global food crisis which along with the energy crisis has hit developing countries hardest. Prices of staple foods have risen by up to 100 per cent in some cases.
http://www.bdafrica.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=8966&Itemid=5821
Contact Business Daily Africa: +254 20 328 8121
- **Shooting Ourselves in the Food**, by Ernesto Zedillo, *Forbes*, July 24, 2008
Images of people rioting in many countries to protest high prices are vivid reminders of the ongoing food crisis.
<http://www.forbes.com/opinions/forbes/2008/0811/025.html>
- **Food stamp use soars in Massachusetts**, by Jonnelle Marte, *Boston Globe*, July 23, 2008
Massachusetts, which earlier this decade had the lowest percentage of eligible residents using food stamps, now has the fastest-growing food-stamp program in the country, a dramatic turnaround that state officials attribute to soaring food prices and a simplified application process.
http://www.boston.com/news/local/articles/2008/07/23/food_stamp_use_soars_in_mass/?p1=Well_MostPop_Emailed6
Contact the Boston Globe: 617-929-2000
- **Food Crisis looms in East Africa**, *BBC News*, July 22, 2008

More than 14 million people in the Horn of Africa need food aid because of drought and rocketing food and fuel prices, the United Nations has warned.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/7520286.stm>

- ***Famine looming for 14m in Africa***, by Barney Jopson, Murithi Mutiga, and Javier Bias, *Financial Times*, July 22, 2008
Hunger on a massive scale is looming across the Horn of Africa as a combination of drought and high food prices have left more than 14m people in five countries in need of emergency food aid, according to the United Nations.
<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/43a0afd2-5754-11dd-916c-000077b07658.html>
Contact the Financial Times: +44 (0) 20 7873 3000
- ***China calls on ASEAN+3 to cement ties to tackle food crisis***, *China Daily*, July 22, 2008
Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi said here on Tuesday that ASEAN Plus Three (China, Japan and South Korea) must strengthen their cooperation in order to better tackle the global food crisis.
http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2008-07/22/content_6868044.htm
Contact the China Daily: Tel: +86(10) 64995000
- ***US groups to raise food prices***, by Elizabeth Rigby and Hal Weitzman, *Financial Times*, July 21, 2008
US food companies are preparing another round of hefty price increases as soaring commodity costs force them to pass on rises to consumers.
<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/2d11228a-56bc-11dd-8686-000077b07658.html>
Contact the Financial Times: +44 (0) 20 7873 3000
- ***Mideast facing choice between crops and water***, by Andrew Martin, *The New York Times*, July 21, 2008
Global food shortages have placed the Middle East and North Africa in a quandary, as they are forced to choose between growing more crops to feed an expanding population or preserving their already scant supply of water.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/21/business/worldbusiness/21arabfood.html>
 - Related Slideshow:
In arid Egypt, a struggle to grow more food:
http://www.nytimes.com/slideshow/2008/07/21/business/20080721ARAB_index.html
Contact the New York Times: 212-556-1234
- ***Hunter Deepens as Haiti Food Aid Lags***, by Jonathan Katz, *Washington Post*, July 20, 2008
After soaring food prices led to deadly riots in April, the U.S. and the U.N. promised millions of dollars in aid to poor families like Rivilade's, as well as help for farmers to break Haiti's dependence on imported food.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/20/AR2008072001331.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500
- ***Economy not looking so bad, as viewed from the farm***, by Alister Bull, *Washington Post*, July 20, 2008

The U.S. housing crisis looks pretty distant when viewed from the cornfields of middle America, although land values pushed up by record commodity prices also evoke past booms that ended in bust

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/20/AR2008072000887.html>

Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500

- ***Favorable Weather pushes corn prices even lower***, by Ian Berry, *The Wall Street Journal*, July 19, 2008
Good crop weather extended the slide for Chicago Board of Trade corn Friday, as prices continued to plunge from record highs set during June's U.S. corn-belt flooding.
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121638885141265301.html>
Contact the Wall Street Journal: (212) 416-2000
- ***Slump keeps farm bulldozers at bay***, by Daniel Pimlott, *Financial Times*, July 19, 2008
For decades American builders have, in the words of the Joni Mitchell song, "paved paradise and put up a parking lot". Now, a combination of the housing slump, the energy crisis and soaring prices for food is helping to keep the bulldozers at bay.
<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/6b2295fc-5529-11dd-ae9c-000077b07658.html>
Contact the Financial Times: +44 (0) 20 7873 3000
- ***Diet for a more-crowded planet: plants***, by Moises Velasquez-Manoff, *Christian Science Monitor*, July 18, 2008
Rising incomes raise appetite for meat. But how many can 'eat like an American'?
<http://features.csmonitor.com/environment/2008/07/18/diet-for-a-more-crowded-planet-plants/>
Contact the Christian Science Monitor: 617.450.7929
- ***As Price of Grain Rises, Catfish Farms Dry Up***, by David Streitfeld, *The New York Times*, July 18, 2008
Catfish farmers across the South, unable to cope with the soaring cost of corn and soybean feed, are draining their ponds.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/18/business/18catfish.html>
Contact the New York Times: 212-556-1234
- ***No healing in Argentina's bitter row***, by Daniel Schweimler, *BBC*, July 17, 2008
The Argentine Senate has rarely had such a dramatic session. After 18 hours of debate, in the early hours of the morning it all came down to just one vote. This is a conflict that has grown and grown since the government announced in March that it was raising export taxes on agricultural products, mostly soya and grains.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/7511762.stm>
- ***New Irrigation Project a Boon for Senegalese Farmers***, by Naomi Schwarz, *Christian Science Monitor*, July 17, 2008
Villagers plan to use the project – developed by the Israeli embassy in partnership with local and international nongovernmental organizations – to drastically increase their local production.
<http://www.csmonitor.com/2008/0718/p04s01-woaf.html>
Contact the Christian Science Monitor: 617.450.7929

Relationship between food/fuel prices:

- ***Futures Imperfect***, by Dwight Sanders and Scott Irwin, *The New York Times*, July 20, 2008
AS costs for energy and food rise, the impact that speculators have on commodity prices is being debated by politicians and the public. The recent volatility in crude oil prices — increasing to nearly \$150 per barrel and then falling to below \$130 — has only heightened these concerns.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2008/07/20/opinion/20irwinsanders.html>
Contact the New York Times: 212-556-1234
- ***Soaring Inflation undermines sustainability of Persian Gulf Region***, by Liam Stack, *Christian Science Monitor*
States scramble to protect themselves from skyrocketing energy costs, but measures such as government subsidies are proving ineffective.
<http://www.csmonitor.com/2008/0718/p07s02-wome.html>
Contact the Christian Science Monitor: 617.450.7929

Agriculture Development practices (corporate, IGO, NGO, gov't) with focus on South East Asia/Sub-Saharan Africa:

- ***Qatar, Sudan in farming tie-up***, *Gulf Times*, July 22, 2008
AS PART of Doha's efforts to ensure food security, Qatar and Sudan yesterday agreed to establish a joint holding company, which is expected to focus on agricultural investment, food industry and animal husbandry.
http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=231463&version=1&template_id=57&parent_id=56
- ***The Farmland Fix***, *Washington Post*, July 21, 2008
To lower food prices, the USDA should allow farming on some conservation land.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/20/AR2008072001657.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500
- ***Southeast Asia tackles food, energy security***, by Manny Mogato, *Reuters India*, July 21, 2008
Southeast Asian foreign ministers are tackling spiraling food and fuel prices at their annual meeting on Monday, according to a draft declaration, as worsening inflation adds to political turbulence in the region.
<http://in.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idINIndia-34600920080721>
- ***Food rise has Bolivia's coca farmers planting rice***, by Carlos Valdez, *Washington Post*, July 20, 2008
Soaring food prices may achieve what the United States has spent millions of dollars trying to do: persuade Bolivian farmers to sow their fields with less potent crops than cocaine's raw ingredient.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/20/AR2008072000814.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500

- **Mini dams to be constructed in Islamabad for agricultural development**, AP Pakistan, July 20, 2008
Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Administration is constructing mini dams, water courses, water storage ponds and fish ponds in the rural areas for the development of agriculture, livestock and fisheries and promoting agricultural activities in the area to increase the production of cash crops and dairy products for meeting the local demand in satisfactory manner.
http://www.app.com.pk/en_/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=45913&Itemid=2
- **Malawi: Derivatives used to hedge against bad weather**, IRIN, July 18, 2008
Malawi, riding high on recent cereal surpluses, is hedging its bets against inclement weather disrupting its good fortune by using a financial derivative to offset agricultural risk
<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=79319>
Contact IRIN: +1 917 367 2422
- **Muslim developing nations' group aims for food self-sufficiency**, IRIN, July 17, 2008
"Self-sufficiency is our objective and our main goal," Alam Dipo, secretary-general of the so-called D-8, or Developing Eight Countries for Economic Cooperation, told IRIN on 15 July from Istanbul, where the group's secretariat is based.
<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=79311>
Contact IRIN: +1 917 367 2422

Small scale farms and agriculture productivity:

- **Fertilizer costs rocket with food prices: Rabobank**, Reuters, July 22, 2008
Fertilizer costs are rocketing along with higher food prices as fast growing nations like China and India try to boost crop output, Rabobank, a lender to the agricultural sector, said on Tuesday.
<http://uk.reuters.com/article/gc08/idUKN2230382620080722>

Biofuels:

- **Biofuels and the Food Crisis**, by Bhaskar Dutta, *Calcutta Telegraph*, July 24, 2008
Perhaps George W. Bush was indulging in his favourite pastime — of putting his foot in his mouth — when he suggested that the rising incomes and hence demand for food in India and China were mainly responsible for the increase in global foodgrain prices.
http://www.telegraphindia.com/1080724/jsp/opinion/story_9590205.jsp
Contact the Calcutta Telegraph: +91-33-22345374 / 2216600 / 22378000
- **Ethanol Backers, Critics Ratchet up the rhetoric**, by Lauren Etter, *The Wall Street Journal*, July 17, 2008
The battle over biofuels heated up Wednesday as a Paris-based intergovernmental group criticized crop-based fuels for driving up food prices and ethanol supporters counterpunched.
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121625904991660615.html>
Contact the Wall Street Journal: (212) 416-2000
- **Amid Food Finger-Pointing, conference urges biofuel study**, by Jerry Hagstrom, *CongressDaily*, June 6, 2008

At the urging of U.S. officials, a U.N. conference on climate change, biofuels and food security Thursday formally adopted a declaration that calls for more study of biofuels, amid some grumbling that biofuel production has led to a run-up in world food prices.
http://www.nationaljournal.com/congressdaily/cda_20080606_5204.php
Contact National Journal Group: 202-739-8400

Food Aid:

- **More Kenyans to go hungry**, Nation Team, *Daily Nation (Kenya)*, July 23, 2008
Kenyans are part of 14.6 million people in need of emergency food aid in the Horn of Africa.
http://www.nationmedia.com/dailynation/nmgcontententry.asp?premiumid=0&category_id=1&newsid=127898
Contact the Daily Nation: +254 20 3288430/7/8
- **£1.3bn food aid for Bangladesh**, by Raphael Minder and Tom Felix Joehnk, *Financial Times*, July 22, 2008
International donors have agreed to provide \$1.3bn (£820,000, £651,000) in emergency food financing for Bangladesh in one of the clearest indications that soaring food prices are threatening livelihoods in poorest countries.
<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/d5464a2e-5807-11dd-b02f-000077b07658.html>
Contact the Financial Times: +44 (0) 20 7873 3000
- **EU fund to boost food security in poor countries**, by Louis Michel, *Business Daily Africa*, July 21, 2008
This is a scene that has been repeated across numerous African and other developing countries in recent months, where ordinary people have suddenly found themselves unable to afford the most ordinary of foods — a loaf of bread or a bowl of rice.
http://www.bdafrica.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=8849&Itemid=5821
Contact Business Daily Africa: +254 20 328 8121

Market Access:

- **Doha's F-Words**, *Wall Street Journal Europe*, July 21, 2008
Removing barriers to trade in agriculture and services, including financial services, is central to the Doha Round of trade negotiations.
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121659188919968783.html>
Contact the Wall Street Journal: (212) 416-2000
- **EU raises offer on farm tariffs as WTO talks begin**, by Bradley Klapper, *Washington Post*, July 21, 2008
While the EU's farm tariffs have been an issue of dispute _ especially inside the bloc with countries such as France and Ireland skeptical of agricultural liberalization _ it was not clear how much pressure Brussels had been under from its trading partners.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/21/AR2008072100520.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500
- **EU offers 60% cut in farm tariffs**, BBC, July 21, 2008

The European Union (EU) has offered to cut its farm tariffs by 60% to kick-start trade talks in Geneva.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/7517135.stm>

- **WTO: Farming exporters tell rich nations to open agriculture markets**, Reuters, *International Herald Tribune*, July 20, 2008
Developing countries and food exporters from rich and poor nations on Sunday demanded that the United States and European Union open their farm markets and eliminate trade-distorting subsidies.
<http://www.iht.com/articles/2008/07/20/business/20wtotfw.php>
- **Against the Grain**, by Swaminathan S. Aklesaria Aiyar, *American Spectator/CATO Institute*, June 13, 2008
So how come millions are falling into poverty and starting food riots across the world? The answer lies not in any outsized surge in world demand or fall in world supply, but in the fact that several countries have imposed duties, quotas and outright bans on agricultural exports.
http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=9459

Food Crisis and Poverty:

- **Kenya: Livestock disease, high prices fueling food insecurity**, IRIN (Integrated Regional Information Networks), July 23, 2008
Recurrent outbreaks of the viral livestock disease peste des petits ruminants (PPR), which affects goats and sheep, are exacerbating poor food security in the mainly pastoralist Turkana region of northwestern Kenya.
<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=79374>
Contact IRIN: +1 917 367 2422
- **Dependence and Devastation in Liberia: Global Food Prices Wreak Havoc in Monrovia**, by Action Against Hunger, Reuters, July 23, 2008
The humanitarian organization Action Against Hunger / Action Contre la Faim (ACF) released a report detailing the devastating impact of rising food prices in Monrovia, Liberia where vulnerable communities can no longer feed themselves and rates of acute malnutrition are rising dramatically.
<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/fromthefield/216709/121683393915.htm>
Contact Reuters: +44 20 7542 9484
- **Pakistan: Lack of food prompting extreme actions by parents**, IRIN (Integrated Regional Information Networks), July 21, 2008
Poverty and deprivation are evident everywhere as one drives out of the southern Punjab city of Muzafargarh, some 400km southwest of the provincial capital Lahore.
<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=79338>
Contact IRIN: +1 917 367 2422
- **Indonesia: Child malnutrition aggravated by food, oil, price rises**, IRIN (Integrated Regional Information Networks), July 21, 2008

Dozens of Indonesian children under five died of malnutrition in the first six months of 2008, according to the health authorities, although no accurate figure can be determined.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=79350>

Contact IRIN: +1 917 367 2422

- ***In Africa, One Family's struggle with the global food crisis***, by Kevin Sullivan, *Washington Post*, July 20, 2008
In this poor West African nation, as in much of the developing world, women are responsible for feeding their families. They grow, buy and cook food. But at mealtime, men and children eat first and women eat whatever is left.
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/07/20/AR2008072001580.html>
Contact the Washington Post: 703.469.2500
- ***Afghanistan: 1.5 million 'severely' hit by drought—minister***, IRIN (Integrated Regional Information Networks), July 17, 2008
At least 1.5 million people in 19 of Afghanistan's 34 provinces - mostly farming communities in the north - have been severely affected by drought and are in need of urgent humanitarian relief, an Afghan minister told IRIN.
<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=79295>
Contact IRIN: +1 917 367 2422

Developments in Agriculture, Science, and Technology:

- ***Rising Agriculture Demand Feeds DuPont's Net Income***, by Bob Sechler, *The Wall Street Journal*, July 22, 2008
DuPont's agriculture and nutrition business, which produces genetically modified seeds, benefited from strong global demand for corn and soybeans.
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121671232121073123.html>
Contact the Wall Street Journal: (212) 416-2000