



# Dutchiopia – Agri News

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## On activities, events, studies, articles and more

Do not hesitate to contact us in case of requests, tips for this news letter or trade questions.

## Agricultural Department

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

[@] [ADD-LNV@minbuza.nl](mailto:ADD-LNV@minbuza.nl)

[tw] [@AgriEthiopia](https://twitter.com/AgriEthiopia)

[fb] [Dutch Embassy Ethiopia](https://www.facebook.com/DutchEmbassyEthiopia)

[www] <https://www.agroberichtenbuitenland.nl/landeninformatie/ethiopia>



## Latest Publications

- Understanding that a new approach must be pursued that reorders the existing national policy rational on reserving the export, import, wholesale and retail trade sectors to domestic investors, the Ethiopian Investment board has developed the directive to promote the sectors' gradual opening to willing and capable foreign investors. The objective of the Directive is to list out investment areas in the export, import, wholesale and retail trade sectors reserved for domestic investors in which foreign investors may participate, establish the conditions that apply, and indicate details of the facilitation and regulatory functions of the appropriate government bodies.

[Ethiopian-Investment-Board-Directive-to-Regulate-Foreign-Investors-Participation-in-Restricted-Export-Import-Wholesale-and-Retail-Trade](#)

- The UN Food and Agriculture Organization's global roadmap for achieving SDG 2 ('zero hunger') without compromising the 1.5°C global warming threshold focuses on agrifood system transformation strategies for food security and nutrition. The paper emphasizes the importance of reforming farm and agroindustrial subsidies, promoting Africa-Europe cooperation, and balancing efficiency and fairness in the food-climate nexus.

[Global-Roadmap-Achieving-SDG2-1.5-Limit-Tools-Opportunities-Implementation](#)

## Did you know?

### Did you know?

Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture launched the first National Potato and Sweet Potato Development Strategy during the celebration of the first international day of Potato on May 30, 2024. 70% of the country's arable land is considered suitable for potato cultivation. Around 29 registered potato varieties are grown across these suitable areas.

### Did you know?

Ethiopia has a staggering number of Cattle population amounting to over 66 million cattle, it stands as Africa's largest cattle-keeping nation, with local breeds constituting nearly 97% of the total population. Livestock contributes to 17% of Ethiopia's gross domestic product (GDP) and 39% of its agricultural GDP.

### Did you know?

There are currently eight dry ports in the country: Modjo, Kality, Gelan, Semera, Dire Dawa, Kombolcha, Woreta and Mekelle. The main dry port is Modjo Dry Port, as it hosts 78% of the country's shipping and logistics services. The number of dry ports is planned to increase from the current 8 to a total of 11 in 2030.

### Did you know?

Ethiopia's 'Ye Lemat Tirufat' (Bounty of the Basket) development program aims to ensure food self-sufficiency and nutritional opulence. The program focuses on boosting dairy, eggs, chicken, and honey production, as well as intensifying efforts to achieve food self-sufficiency. The program considers the country's resources, including farmers' knowledge and skills, diverse livestock, fishery, and agriculture.

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## Short Newsflashes

### Parliament approves sharecropping contractual agreements

Parliament recently approved a landmark piece of legislation transforming the agricultural sector this month. The law governing rural land management and use introduces sharecropping contractual arrangements. It formalizes a long-standing practice allowing landholders to lease their land to another individual for a share of the crops produced.

More information can be found [here](#) on the topic.

### Ethiopia eyes 'moderate' debt rating once IMF approves debt restructuring

Ethiopia's Ministry of Finance expects its external debt to be upgraded to 'moderate' status after an agreement with external creditors and the International Monetary Fund. The IMF debt restructuring program is expected to eliminate Ethiopia's budget deficit for up to six years. Negotiations for debt restructuring under the Common Framework are ongoing, and an interim debt payment suspension agreement with bilateral creditors helped save over USD 1.4 billion in service payments this year.

[This article](#) of [The Reporter](#) has additional information on the topic.

### Ethiopia Developing Policy, Proclamation on Wetland Management

The Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority (EEPA) is developing a policy to protect and utilize wetlands in the country. Wetlands play a crucial role in regulating water resources and maintaining environmental balance. Experts call for a robust legal framework to safeguard wetlands and implement sustainable management practices.

You can read more in this [article](#).

### NBE Governor Hopes to See Transformed Finance Sector Very Soon



Ethiopia's National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) has expressed hope for a more open, diversified, and competitive financial system that fosters innovation and operates in line with international best

practices. The transformation will include a policy shift allowing reputable foreign investors to operate in Ethiopia, bringing fresh capital, innovative products, and global best practices. You can read more [here](#)

### Revised land bill provides financial access to smallholder farmers through tenure certificates

The revised bill broadens land utilization privileges and allows farmers to use tenure certificates as security for financial loans. As indicated in [this article](#), the legislation endows explicit land utilization entitlements to women, youth, and underprivileged demographics that encountered difficulties in obtaining land tenure previously. The legislation aims to promote effective governance in rural land administration and management.

### Over half of Ethiopia's fertilizer order for current year arrives at Djibouti port



Ethiopia's Agricultural Businesses Corporation (EABC) reports that just over half of the soil fertilizer ordered for the "Bega" dry season and the upcoming "Mehir" main harvesting season has arrived at the Port of Djibouti.

The government plans to procure 23 million quintals of fertilizer for the current harvest, nearly twice the 14 million quintals imported in the previous season. However, ongoing conflicts in the Amhara region are disrupting the delivery of this vital fertilizer to small-scale farmers. You can read more [here](#).

### Availability, Diversity of Forages Integral to Livestock Productivity

The International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) has celebrated its 40th anniversary of its Forage Genebank, which focuses on the conservation and use of global forage genetic resources. The institute has played a pivotal role in the livestock sector for over 40 years, with over 18,000 accessions from nearly 2,000 forage species.

The conservation of forage genetic diversity holds profound economic significance, particularly for disadvantaged regions worldwide. With the escalating variability of climate change, there arises an urgent need for adapted forages capable of thriving in ever-changing ecosystems.

More information can be found [here](#),

## Ethiopia, Djibouti Take Over Management of Ethio-Djibouti Railway From Chinese Company



The Chinese Railway Construction Corporation (CRCC) has transferred management of the Ethio-Djibouti Railway to Ethiopia and Djibouti governments. The 750-kilometer electrified railway, part of the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative, aims to improve regional integration, increase trade, and stimulate economic growth. The project has transformed goods movement, opened new markets, attracted investments, and created job opportunities.

Press [this](#) link for more information on the topic.

## EHPEA, Trade Mark Africa Ink Partnership for Digital Innovation in Horticulture

The Ethiopian Horticulture Producer Exporters Association (EHPEA) has partnered with Trade Mark Africa and Idaptive Data Fusion System PLC to develop comprehensive e-learning and knowledge management systems in Ethiopia's horticulture sector. The project is part of a wider program aimed at promoting regional economic integration in the horn of Africa.

You can read more in [this article](#).

## Ethiopia Lures 3 Billion USD FDI in Ten Months of Current Fiscal Year

Ethiopia has received \$3 billion in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the first 10 months of the current fiscal year, according to the Ethiopian Investment Commission. "The commission plans to attract \$3.5 billion in FDI during the current fiscal year. We are working towards meeting the annual goal. We expect this number to grow in the coming years.", stated the commissioner. More information can be found in [this](#) article.

## 74 Million USD Obtained from Export of Animal Products in 10 Months

Ethiopia's Livestock Development Institute has generated 74 million US dollars in revenue over the past 10 months, with over 24,200 tons of animal products supplied to the foreign market. The institute initially planned to export 26,000 tons, but research, technical support, and capacity building activities have been conducted to increase industrialization and maximize export revenue. [Ethiopian News Agency](#) has more details for you [here](#).

## Newly Launched Groundwater Facility Would Enhance Livelihoods Resilience in Horn of Africa: UN Agencies

The Groundwater Access Facility (GaFa) initiative, launched by IGAD Water Ministers and UN officials in Somali Region, Ethiopia. The initiative aims to address water scarcity affecting millions in the region and create a platform for IGAD member states to collaborate on groundwater mapping, data sharing, and related activities.

If you want to read more on the topic, [Ethiopian News Agency](#) has details [here](#).

## Ethiopian Minister Stresses Importance Of Finance In Bringing About Structural Change In Agriculture

Ethiopia's Agriculture Minister has emphasized the importance of access to finance in agriculture for structural transformation as read in [here](#). A workshop was held to discuss the need for a framework and legal instrument for agricultural finance. The minister stressed the need to build resilient farmers and pastoralists by enhancing synergy between financial institutions, insurance providers, and the agricultural community.

## Policy Studies Institute Emphasizes Need for Enhanced Synergy between Foreign, Domestic Investors

The study, titled "Policy and Strategic Directions of Foreign Direct Investment in Ethiopia: Challenges and Prospects," by the Institute of Policy Studies found that strategic directions should be implemented to maximize the benefits of foreign investment. The study recommends the government enhance efforts to improve the linkage between foreign and local investors. Press [this link](#) for more information.

## FAO Urges for Robust Social Protection to Tackle Challenges of Poverty in Africa

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has called for an urgent expansion of social protection coverage in Africa, particularly in rural areas. Rural poverty and hunger often overlap with agricultural employment, and Africa is highly vulnerable to climate change impacts. With 389 million people living in poverty and 282 million facing food security crises, over a billion Africans cannot afford a healthy diet. More information can be found [here](#).



## Ethiopian Agriculture Ministry looks to lease anti-pest aircraft in bid to generate revenue



Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture is considering commercializing a fleet of aircraft to spray farms with pesticides and agricultural chemicals. Insurance and maintenance costs, as well as the need to manage pest infestations through private sector involvement, are pushing the Ministry to consider commercializing the aircraft. Read more on the topic in [here](#).

## Companies Operating In Industrial Parks To Supply Products To Local Market

The Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC) has announced that companies operating in industrial parks can now supply 50% of their products to the local market. This move is part of a strategy to encourage foreign direct investment and increase foreign currency earnings.

The Special Economic Zone Proclamation, approved by parliament, will allow industrial parks to develop into Special Zones, positively impacting the macro economy. Read more on [Fana Broadcasting Corporate](#) in [here](#).



## African Development Bank supports Ethiopian Youth and Women-led MSMEs

The African Development Fund has approved a \$42.86 million grant to Ethiopia to fund the Agri-MSMEs development for jobs Program. The program aims to boost the growth and productivity of youth and women-led MSMEs in Ethiopia by improving access to finance, providing business development services, and strengthening the entrepreneurship environment. The website of AfDB has more on this topic [here](#).

## Events & Development

### Upcoming events

#### International Conference On Promotional Marketing Strategies in Dire Dawa, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

The research society functions with the objective of bringing together students, academicians and researchers from across the world to share knowledge and contribute to a great cause in the fields of engineering and technology. Click [here](#) for more info and registration.

#### Tigray national Poultry Symposium and Expo

The event will be held from May 30 - June 4, 2024 at Mekelle City, Tigray Region. The event will provide opportunity for poultry farmers, producers, suppliers, consumers to network, learn about the latest trends, and showcase their products/ services. Read more in [here](#).

### Past events

#### 6th Int'l Integrated Agricultural Products Trade Fair in Addis Ababa



The 6th international integrated agricultural products trade fair in Addis Ababa was held from the 16 - 18 of May 2024, featuring 123 Ethiopian and foreign companies. The fair aimed to attract investment, promote manufacturing products and create market linkages, among others.

### The Agricultural Team

Meeuwes Brouwer  
Mahlet Mekuria Dessie  
Nablies B. Hailemariam

Agricultural Counsellor  
Agricultural Advisor  
Agricultural Officer

Email: [ADD-LNV@minbuza.nl](mailto:ADD-LNV@minbuza.nl), X [@AgriEthiopia](#)



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