



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.

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Latest publications

Ethiopian companies looking for Dutch business partners



- **Minaye Group:** Minaye Flowers PLC is a grower, exporter and distributor of premium quality range of fresh cut flowers (Roses) and interested to partner with experienced partners on Vegetable processing.

Read more about the Company in [here](#).

- **Abay Poultry and Animal Feed Production:** The company is interested to work on animal feed production in partnership with interested Netherlands company. The company is active in producing different animal feed and poultry production. They have also work with SNV Ethiopia on edgt project at SNNPR calf feed production.

You can get more information in [here](#).

- **ESCOR** Animal Production Consultancy is specializes in Feed and livestock consulting services. It was founded in November 2020 and have practical knowledge and experience of over 12 years in animal and feed production.

You can read more in [here](#).

Did you know?

In South Africa, Ethiopia's federal government and the TPLF signed an agreement to a permanent cessation of hostilities to end the bloodshed in the beginning of this month.

Did you know?

Addis Ababa, the capital city of Ethiopia, was found to be second only to the highest-ranking city Beijing, China in [the world's most attractive locations for data center](#) operations according to the latest FDI Benchmark study.

Did you know?

The EatSafe Innovation Challenge – [National Pitch Competition](#) for Ethiopia was hosted on the 1st of September 2022, in its capital city. Helen Wolde-Michael, one of the five shortlisted finalists who went through the mentoring session, emerged as the victor of the final contest held in Denmark and won \$10,000 for her ingenuity.

Did you know?

The FDRE Prime Minister, Abiy Ahmed, launched a [national poultry, dairy, and honey production development program](#), themed “YeLemat Trufat”. The campaign’s goals are to increase export earnings, ensure food and nutrition security, and domestically substitute imported products.

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Short Newsflashes

A peek at foreign banks' appetite in Ethiopia



After Ethiopia's Council of Ministers ratified a banking open-up policy and strategy in early September, a number of foreign banks are considering investing in Ethiopia. Over the past decade, a dozen foreign banks have set up representative offices and are already exploring the possibilities in the Ethiopian market.

The KCB Group, Deutsche Bank, Commerzbank, Bank of Africa, Ziraat Bank, Equity Group Holdings, the Export-Import Bank of India, Equity Bank, the European Investment Bank, and Standard Bank, among others, have opened representative offices.

Other entry modalities also include subsidiary, branch, and acquiring up to 30 percent of local banks. The licensing is expected to start within a year after the NBE amends the Banking Business Proclamation and enacts new directives. You can get more information in [here](#).

Land privatization once again on the table

P.M Abiy Ahmed raised the point of land privatization in urban areas during his latest address to the Parliament. His suggestion did not cause any commotion among MPs.

Even if this approach necessitates a constitutional amendment, it is a major development since such a move, if approved by the majority of Ethiopians represented by the House of Federation, might have an impact for generations to come. The News is from [Ethiopian News | The Reporter](#) and can be found [here](#)

Flights to Tigray will Resume Soon, according to Ethiopia Airlines' CEO

According to [this article](#), Following the peace agreement reached in Pretoria, South Africa, Ethiopian Airlines is planning to resume regular flights to the Tigray region that had been suspended due to the conflict, according to the airline's CEO, Mesfin Tasew.

The airports in the region, such as Mekele and Shire, are in good condition and convenient for resuming flights, with the exception of Axum Airport, which was damaged during the conflict and requires renovation to make it operational again.

Agro-processing Industry Parks Built with Cost of 30 Bil Birr Opens to Investors

At the investment forum organized to introduce the Bure Integrated Agro Industrial Park to potential investors, some 103 investors expressed their interest to start work in the park. The Government has completed the construction of three agro-processing industrial parks at a cost of 30 billion birr and has made them ready to potential investors.

The park is constructed with the necessary facilities including asphalt roads, water, electricity, standard waste disposal system, the internet and other vital infrastructures.

You can get more information in [here](#).



Bill to grant special license for digital credit providers

A draft bill that will grant digital credit issuers a special license is in the pipeline, the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) said. Officials of the regulatory body are considering introducing a new legislation that will allow licensing of digital financial service providers. The new legislation necessitates amending the Banking Business Proclamation as well as Microfinance Business Proclamation.

You can get more information on [this](#) at [TheReporter](#)

The Perks of Investing in Ethiopia's 13 Industrial Parks

According to [this article](#), Ethiopia's Industrial Parks Development Corporation (IPDC), in its endeavor to invite investors (both domestic and foreign) to invest in any of the 13 state-owned industrial parks, has laid out a couple of the fiscal and non-financial incentives that await all who venture to do so.

These perks include tax exemptions, an export credit guarantee scheme, franco valuta imports, and much more.

Ethiopia Extends the Deadline for Sugar Enterprises Privatization Expressions of Interest Submissions

The Government had invited both international and domestic investors to participate in the tendering of 8 state-owned sugar enterprises aiming to increase private sector participation in the ownership and operation of sugar companies.

Following the request of potential investors, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia wishes to extend the submission date for the Expression of Interest (EOI) to participate in the proposed opportunity from on or before November 30, 2022, to January 4, 2023, 5pm East African Time (EAT). You can read more in [here](#).

Development Bank of Ethiopia (DBE) allocated Birr 4 billion to novice inventors

The Development Bank of Ethiopia (DBE) allocated Birr 4 billion to support novice inventors. The bank will cover the costs of entrepreneurs who submit innovative proposals after confirming the proposed idea is original. Until now, DBE has given instructions to applicants who came with ideas for the agriculture sector to undertake and submit feasibility studies. Creating favorable environment to enable the private sector to participate in the digital economy is also one of the focus areas of Digital Ethiopia 2025 Strategy.

You can read more in [here](#).

Ethiopian Airlines to Construct a \$50 Million E-commerce Cargo Service Center

According to [this](#) article, With operations geared to begin soon, Ethiopian Airlines commenced the construction of a modern e-commerce cargo service center worth \$50 million. This is in line with the group's vision to become a logistics hub for Africa's growing e-commerce market.

Girma Wake, Chairman of the Board of Ethiopian Airlines Group noted that as the growth of digital marketing in the world diminished the demand for regular cargo service and expanded that of e-commerce freight provision, the airline saw it fit to follow the trend.

Damaged roads in Djibouti troubles Ethiopian cross-border freight trucks

Deteriorating condition of roads from Port of Djibouti to the Ethiopian border through the Galafi checkpoint distressed cross-border freight truck owners.

Vehicles transporting cargo from Djibouti to Ethiopia are facing accidents because of the damaged roads, which span up to 200 kilometers.

Last month, officials at the Ethiopian Customs Commission warned the truck owners that they cannot cross the Dewale checkpoint. Please read more on the topic [here](#)

About 3.7 Million Farmers Benefitting from Agricultural Commercialization Cluster in Four Regions: EATI

Some 3.7 million farmers have so far benefited from the Agricultural Commercialization Cluster (ACC) Initiative under implementation in four regional states, according to the Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Institute (EATI).

The ACC Initiative is a five-year program of the Government of Ethiopia which focuses on 10 priority commodities in a geographically clustered and integrated approach with the target to double the income of nearly five million smallholding farmers in the coming five years. You can read more in [here](#).

Mekelle sees food item prices slow down following Ethiopia cessation of hostilities agreement

As reported on this [article](#) and following the permanent cessation of hostilities agreement signed between the Ethiopian government and the representatives of the Tigray people's Liberation Front (TPLF) on 02 November in south Africa, food prices have seen a significant reduction in Mekelle, the capital city of Tigray regional state. According to message received by [Addis Standard](#) from a resident of Mekelle city, basic food items such as Teff grain, wheat and wheat flour showed sudden price discounts.

Ethiopia's Residents Passport Fee Increased by 233%



A new regulation has been recently issued regarding the fees to be paid for provisions of the Immigration and Citizenship Service. There is a noticeable hike in all of the revised prices, with only a few categories remaining free of charge (Diplomatic, Civil Service, and Refugee).

A regular Ethiopian resident has to pay Br.2000 to get an ordinary passport of 32 pages (64 pages amount to Br.4000). While a non-resident is currently being subject to a higher fee of between \$150-\$250. Similarly, updated details about visa fee for nationals, foreigners, residents, and non-residents are outlined along with various services regarding identification cards. Read more [here](#).

Forex trouble cause Franco Valuta share spike

Imports made through the Franco Valuta scheme since April 2021 have accounted for more than 40 percent of the entire import bill. It is a result of the government's decision to address supply problems brought on by a lack of foreign exchange, which forced the implementation of the scheme across sectors. Last month, the IMF reported that Ethiopia's forex reserve is not even enough to cover four weeks of the country's imports.

Imports of items through the scheme have spiked since the government allowed certain items of necessity to be imported through the scheme as a solution to ease the inflation and shortage of food-related items. You can read more [here](#).

Researchers Stress Need to Tap Fish Resources in Omo River, Lake Turkana

An international aquatic biodiversity researcher team has stressed the need to tap the vast potential of fishery resources in Omo River and Lake Turkana.

Universities from Canada, USA, Kenya, and Ethiopia are working to establish Omo-Turkana Biodiversity Research Center in order to tap the potential of fishery resources in Omo River and Lake Turkana.

The aquatic researcher team has undertaken a field visit in Ethiopia to unleash the potential as stated on the [Ethiopia News agency](#) in [here](#).

Events & Development

Past events

Expert mission on E-certification (e-Phyto)



As a follow up to the Phytosanitary, Food Safety and Quality Mission of Ethiopian delegates to the Netherlands in September, the Agricultural team at the Embassy of the Netherlands in Addis Ababa, invited Mr. Lex Moret, Dutch expert on Electronic Certification. The aim of this Inception Mission is to have a clear insight and overview where Ethiopia nowadays stands with its system on electronic certification. Based on the outcome of the expert findings during this mission, recommendations will be prepared on what is still needed to have a full E-Phyto system in Ethiopia.

ENLBA Annual event

On November 18, 2022, the Ethiopian Netherlands Business Association (ENLBA) held its yearly event at the Embassy of Kingdom of the Netherlands. The theme of the event was "Exploring Potential for Growth Through Partnerships", dedicated to the Day of the Entrepreneur and serving as platform and networking with different businesses to discuss challenges and opportunities.

Upcoming events

Innovation Fund 1st Call for Proposals

Stichting Wageningen Research (SWR) Ethiopia is promoting private sector driven innovation via a grant scheme called the "Innovation Fund" that offers funding.

These innovation projects are expected to address hindering challenges in various agricultural sub-sectors in Ethiopia while benefiting smallholder farmers, improve food systems and/or enhance export of selected commodities.

The Innovation Fund application process is structured around Call for Projects. Each Call for Projects employs a two-stage submission process. Read more in [this](#) article.

Ethiopian National Agriculture Sector Exhibition

Agricultural Exhibition happening on December 06th, 2022 at the UN-ECA, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), ATI and Ethiopian Agricultural Research Institute (EAIR) are organizing this exhibition where 25 public and private institutions showcase their projects, services & products.

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