

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

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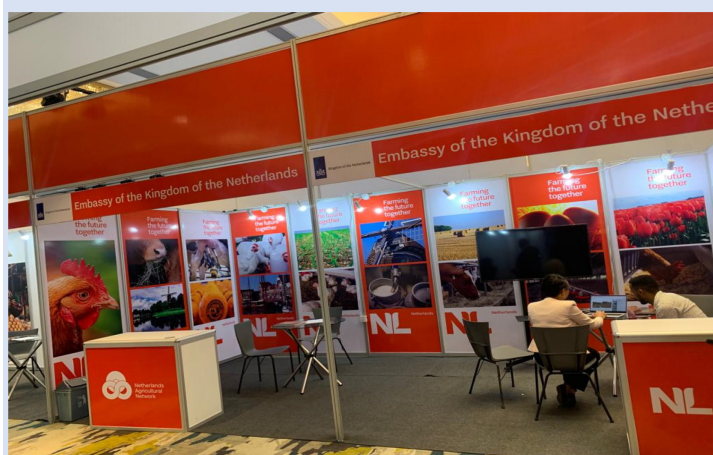


## Latest publications

### NL Paviljoens voor zuivel en pluimvee tijdens ALEC-2023

De jaarlijks in Addis Abeba gehouden 'African Livestock Exhibition & Congress (ALEC) vind in 2023 plaats van 26-28 Oktober. Het Ministerie van LNV en het Landbouwteam op de Nederlandse ambassade in Ethiopië, organiseren ook dit jaar weer Nederlandse Paviljoens tijdens ALEC-2023. De ALEC is één van de grootste internationale veehouderijbeurzen in Afrika die zich richt op bedrijven actief in de zuivel- en pluimveeketen. Vorig jaar trok de beurs veel bezoekers uit zowel Ethiopië als landen in de Oost-Afrikaanse regio. Verder besloot een aardige groep van aan Nederland gerelateerde bedrijven als standhouder of bezoeker deel te nemen aan de ALEC.

Nederlandse bedrijven die zaken (willen) doen in Ethiopië en actief zijn in de veehouderijsector, kunnen een stand huren in één van de NL Paviljoens. Indien geïnteresseerd kunt u contact opnemen met het Landbouwteam op de NL Ambassade in Addis (email: [ADD-LNV@minbuza.nl](mailto:ADD-LNV@minbuza.nl)).



### Did you know?

Ethiopia has emerged as Kenya's top electricity supplier, surpassing Uganda in 2023. The surge in electricity imports follows a power purchase agreement (PPA) signed between the two countries for the supply of hydropower from the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), as well as the impact of a severe drought that hit local hydro-power generation in Kenya.

### Did you know?

Ethiopian Postal Service (Ethiopost) has announced the launch of its new domain name, Ethio.post, which aims to establish a unique brand for the post and position it as a reliable and trustworthy supplier of digital postal services. The Ethio.post website will allow users to track shipments, calculate exact prices, locate branches, explore a stamp gallery, and purchase selected items from Ethiopost's online store.

### Did you know?

KCB Group, the top Kenyan financial institution, is exploring the possibility of purchasing shares from one of the commercial banks in Ethiopia. With a reputation for acquiring banks across the region, KCB has shown interest in establishing a banking operation from the start to avoid potential losses incurred upon entry.

### Did you know?

The Ethiopian Deposit Insurance Fund has been put into operation by the National Bank of Ethiopia. Created under Council of Ministers Regulation No. 482/2021, the fund was designed to provide a safety net for depositors and promote stability within the banking sector.

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## Short Newsflashes

### Security concerns cripple sesame trade

Unresolved security concerns have resulted in a drop in the volume of sesame traded at the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange (ECX), according to its executives. The volume of sesame traded at the floor of ECX plummeted by over 62 percent in the last three years.

The two-year conflict in northern Ethiopia, which recently ended with the signing of the cessation of hostilities agreements in Pretoria and Nairboi, has led to a major decline in sesame production, reducing the volume of the commodity traded through the Ethiopian Commodity Exchange (ECX).

The majority of the cash crop is grown in the northern and northwestern regions, which border Sudan and Eritrea. The two-year war rendered farming nearly impossible for farmers. You can read more in [here](#).



### Ministry Ushers 26m Birr Solar Irrigation Project

Small-holder farmers residing in Amhara, Oromia, Sidama, and Southern regional states foresee solar power water pumps installation.

Financed by the World Bank, the sister company of 3M Engineering Plc was selected as the prospect winner among six bidders to install the solar irrigation pumps in three months for 26 million Br. The project has been hoped to benefit 1.6 million smallholder farmers who live in areas with the highest potential for agricultural growth.

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

### Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Appoints Dr. Beriso Amelo as New CEO

State-owned Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics (ESL) has announced the appointment of Dr. Beriso Amelo as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective from March 30, 2023. Dr. Beriso's appointment marks a significant milestone for the firm as he takes over the leadership reins of only the third CEO since the company's formation in 2011.

You can read more [here](#).

### Unforeseen cotton surplus pulls down prices, disappointing growers



The local cotton industry is having a rough year since demand from local industries hasn't kept up with the oversupply of cotton being produced, leaving growers disappointed.

The surplus cotton production is at risk of being discarded, and industries are unable to buy even if the price of local cotton has dropped by sixty percent compared to the previous year. You can read more [here](#).

### Financial Security Service Orders Banks to Suspend 37 Bank Accounts

According to [this article](#), the Financial Security Service has issued an urgent notice to all banks in Addis Ababa, ordering them to immediately suspend the bank accounts of 37 individuals and businesses.

The directive cites suspicious transactions as the reason for the suspension, as per Proclamation No. 780/2005.

### Hides consumption for food in West Africa swells Ethiopia's export

Growing demand for Ethiopia's raw hides unlocks new business opportunities for local suppliers, opening up a new stream of export revenue for the country's foreign currency-strapped economy as stated in [this article](#) of [TheReporter](#) News.

Consumers in West Africa, mainly Ghana, Togo, and Nigeria, buy the hides that are raw from Ethiopia for food consumption. It's a key meal component, known as Ponmo or Wele in West Africa.

## Fuel Transactions in Addis Ababa to be Done Only through Electronic Payment from April 24

The Fuel and Energy Regulatory Authority has made a crucial announcement that starting from April 24, fuel trading in Addis Ababa and its surroundings will be done entirely through electronic payment methods. The move is aimed at creating a transparent and efficient fuel trading system.

As stated in [here](#), It is important to note that this is not a voluntary measure. The implementation of electronic payment for fuel transactions will be mandatory nationwide from July 08. This means that gas stations and fuel companies outside Addis Ababa and its surrounding cities will also have to comply with the new regulations.



## Forex rush disrupts meat export

A scramble for foreign currency by non-abattoir meat exporters has left meat-producing and exporting companies in dire straits. The companies have complained that “unfair business competitions” are crowding them out of the meat export market.

Earlier last week, the lobbying group for the companies announced that they would cease exporting meat, only to abandon the plan two days after their announcement due to pressure from government officials.

The abattoirs accuse the non-abattoir exporters of offering the local market inflated prices and then selling the meat at a lower price just with an intention to generate forex despite making losses. For more information on the topic, please read more in [here](#).

## Bidders invited, fertilizer plant consultant tender fails

Ethiopia’s plans to build Ethiopia’s first natural gas-based fertilizer plant were set back again as the Ministry of Mines (MoM) failed to find a consultant to do a feasibility study.

In addition to conducting technical feasibility studies, economic and financial evaluations, environmental impact assessments, and mitigation measures, the selected company will determine the site of the fertilizer plant and conduct a cost analysis. Read more in [here](#).

## Ethiopia’s Rice Trading Goes Digital with ECX’s Electronic Exchange Platforms



In a bid to stabilize the rice market, the Ethiopian Commodities Exchange (ECX) has included rice in its marketing system for the first time ever. This move is expected to allow rice suppliers and demanders to engage in bids easily and access the actual daily price of rice.

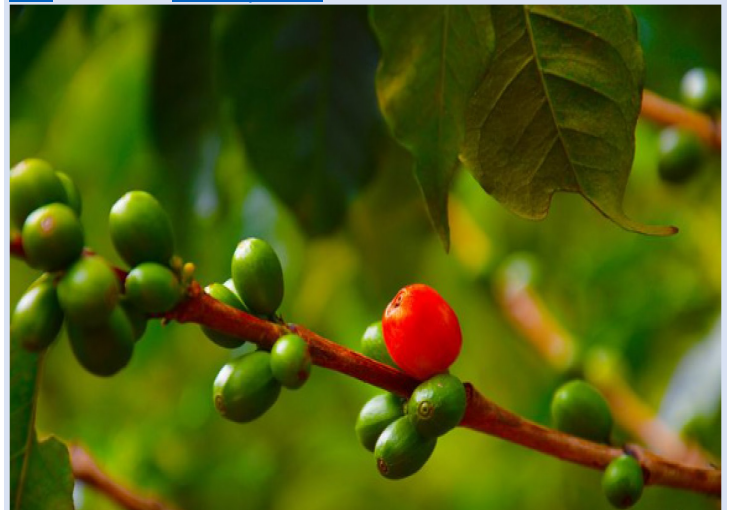
The inclusion of rice trading is a significant step for Ethiopia, a country that has traditionally been a major importer of rice. The production of rice has been growing yearly in Ethiopia, and it is now being produced in several states including Amhara, Oromia, SNNPR, Gambella, Benishangul Gumuz, and Tigray states.

Please read more [here](#).

## Drop in global coffee prices forced Ethiopia to default on \$133 million contracts

Ethiopian coffee exporters have defaulted on 394 coffee export contracts since October 2022. The exporters say they have no choice but to breach their contract because the international coffee price has dropped below the local price in Ethiopia, slashing the profit margin they had anticipated.

Coffee exporters failed to meet their contractual obligations by withholding 28,000 metric tons of coffee worth USD 133 million. You can get more information in [this](#) article of [TheReporter](#) News.



# Events & Development

## Past and upcoming events

### KING'S DAY 2023 celebration at the DUTCH Embassy in Addis Ababa



We would like to thank all our sponsors for their support and contributions to the King's Day reception. We are extremely lucky to have such kind sponsors, and we

sincerely appreciate your rapid responses and flexibility during the event planning process.

Your generosity made our visitors ecstatic and undoubtedly gave our embassy a beautiful King's Day vibe. We anticipate working together much more in the future!



### The Agricultural Team

Meeuwes Brouwer  
Mahlet Mekuria Dessie  
Nablies B.Hailemariam

Agricultural Counsellor  
Agricultural Advisor  
Agricultural Officer

### Invest Ethiopia 2023: 13th Ethio-Chamber Int'l Trade Fair In Addis Ababa



The 13th Ethio-Chamber International Trade Fair kicked off on 26<sup>th</sup> of April in Addis Ababa with the objective of promoting import substitution and export trade in Ethiopia under the motto "Buy Ethiopian Invest in Ethiopia."

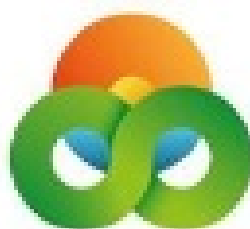
More than 250 foreign and local firms have been participating in this 5-day international trade fair. Most of the participating foreign firms are engaged in manufacturing, agriculture, supply of various raw materials and technologies to local industries in Ethiopia.

Strengthening linkage between various business actors, facilitating technology and knowledge transfer and sharing of experiences to enhance competitiveness of local industries is the overall objectives of the trade fair organized by the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce and Sectoral Associations. You can read more in [here](#).

### Regionaal Oost-Zuid Afrika Agro Business Forum in NL

Momenteel wordt gewerkt aan een gezamenlijk initiatief om op 6 juni a.s. in Wageningen een regionaal Oost-Zuid Afrika Agro Business & Beleid Forum te organiseren. Meer details volgen in de volgende Dutchiopia editie van mei.

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