

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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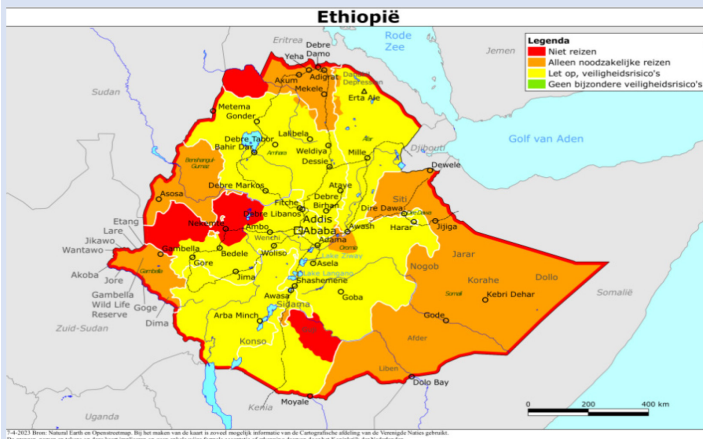
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## Latest publications

### Ethiopia Travel advice



[Reisadvies Ethiopië | Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken \(nederlandwereldwijd.nl\)](#)

De kleurcode van het reisadvies voor Ethiopië is geel met een deel oranje en rood. Lees het hele reisadvies om te zien wat dit voor u betekent. De veiligheidssituatie in Amhara is sinds 12 april 2023 verbeterd. De hoofdwegen tussen Addis Ababa en de grote steden in Amhara (zoals Bahir Dar en Debre Birhan) zijn weer open. Reist u naar Amhara? Informeer bij uw lokale contacten of reisagent naar de situatie op de plaats waar u heen reist. Wees voorzichtig en neem geen risico's. In november 2022 is een vredesakkoord gesloten tussen de federale regering en de Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). De veiligheidssituatie in Tigray is vanaf dat moment verbeterd en er is geen sprake meer van een openlijk conflict in deze regio en in de grensregio's Amhara en Afar. De situatie in West Tigray en het grensgebied met Eritrea blijft zorgelijk. Het is daar nog steeds onveilig. Lees meer over de veiligheidssituatie onder Veiligheidsrisico's.

## Did you know?

### Did you know?

Ethiopia has made an official request to join the BRICS group, which embraces Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, according to Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ethiopia hopes for a positive decision on its application to join BRICS member states,

### Did you know?

The second Africa-run High-Level Forum on Equitable and Reasonable Utilization of Transboundary watercourses in Africa was held recently in Addis Ababa under the theme: "Equitable and Reasonable Utilization of Transboundary Watercourses: A Key to Africa's Prosperity." The overall purpose of the conference remains to ensure equitable and reasonable utilization of the transboundary water resources through promotion and exchange of experiences and scientific researches.

### Did you know?

The Ministry of Innovation and Technology announced it is finalizing the preparation of national policy on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Accordingly, the draft AI policy document comprises major policy issues outlining Ethiopia's existing realities and future development and growth directions.

### Did you know?

The East African region is coming together to develop strong policy frameworks and implementation structures for early warning and action systems that prevent the devastating impacts of climate change as stated by the Coordinator for Eastern and Southern Africa Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR).

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## Short Newsflashes

### Policy Looms Amid the Pursuit of Intra-Continental Trade Integration

A bill that subsidizes local producers and levies tariffs on imported goods that have domestic alternatives is put forth by the Ministry of Trade & Regional Integration (MoTRI). Officials hope to calibrate economic liberalization while maintaining the development of domestic producers and traders with efforts underway to join the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

As indicated in [here](#), the absence of trade policy and constant alterations in the law had stakeholders struggle to buildup trust, while underdeveloped logistics infrastructure and weak industry linkages hampered the development of local trade.

### Debre-Berhan City Grants License To 260 Investors Accumulating 38bn Birr Capital

The Department of Industry and Investment of Debre-Berhan City Administration has announced that it has granted investment licenses to 260 investors that registered 38 billion birr capital in the current Ethiopian fiscal year. The head of the department indicated that these investments will create job opportunities for 22,000 citizens when they go fully operational. Read more in [here](#).



### Ministry Clears Path for Agribusiness

As mentioned on the [Addis Fortune News](#) in [this](#) article, a recently ratified proclamation by Parliament, six years in the making, has led to regulation for contract farming, seeking to reduce past failings in production and supply chain risks.



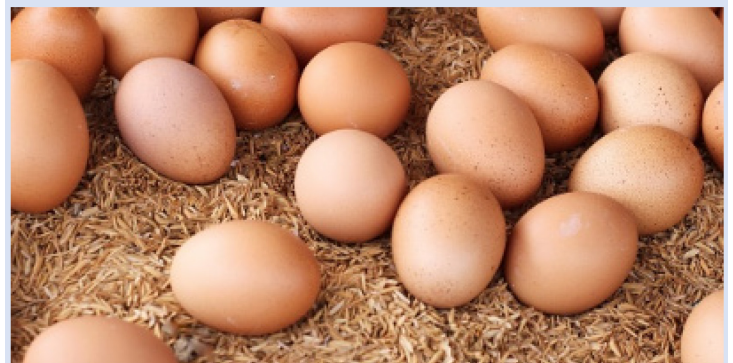
### Trade Ministry Introduce a Legislation to Harmonize Product Standards

Creating a strong regulatory infrastructure and standardizing the quality of goods for the export sector is prioritized under the new bill put forth by officials at the Ministry of Trade & Regional Integration.

The lack of a regulatory body guaranteeing the nature and makeup of goods has led to a decline in international demand. Issues related to quality have become a sticking point, with Ethiopia's ascension into the World Trade Organization (WTO) restarted in 2018 after an on-and-off process for a couple of decades.

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

### Polarity in Supply, Demand for Eggs Disenchant Poultry Farmers



The fluctuating price of eggs had consumers adjust their budgets and consumption habits, while poultry farmers may face challenges in maintaining profitability and operations. Producers explain the continuous rise in animal feed prices in causing them to suffer repeated loss as experts point to the unsuitable bred of hens.

Read more in [here](#).

### Ethiopia Earns Some 86 Million USD From Exports Of Animal Products In 11 Months

The Livestock Development Institute said some 86 million US dollars have been earned in revenue from the exports of animal products during the past eleven months. The revenue has been gained by exporting meat, honey, camel milk and offal products to different countries around the globe.

During the stated period, some 20,000 tons of animal products were supplied to the foreign market. Deputy Director General of the institute mentioned the ongoing effort to maximize the value of animal products and bring them to the foreign market in the current fiscal year. As a result, better results were recorded compared to last budget year.

Read more in [here](#).

### **Study to weigh pros and cons of minimum wage as Ethiopia hesitates**

Ethiopian Ministry of Labor and Skills has launched a national assessment before deciding on a minimum wage. The assessment will take three to four months to complete.

While the Labor Proclamation mandated setting a minimum wage, the government has hesitated due to the country's economic crisis.

The 2019 Labor Proclamation stated that a Wage Board shall be established through the Council of Ministers regulation. The Wage Board would then periodically revise the minimum wage as stated in [TheReporter News](#) on this [article](#).

### **Runaway inflation continues under 'stabilize market' Franco plan**

The government's Franco Valuta scheme has failed to stabilize prices and reduce inflation, economists and citizens say. The scheme allows traders to import essentials like edible oil, sugar, and baby formula using foreign currency while exempt from duty taxes.

Though over a third of Ethiopia's imports now enter duty-free under the scheme, steep price rises for goods show its inability to curb inflation and stabilize the economy, experts say.

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

### **ATI Underscores Need for Establishing Bank Dedicated to Agriculture**

According to [this article](#), on the [Ethiopian News Agency](#), Establishing a bank dedicated to agriculture and enhancing the engagement of the private sector are crucial to speed up the country's agricultural transformation, according to Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Institute (ATI).

Institute Deputy CEO, Yifru Tafesse told Ethiopian News Agency that with regard to accessibility of finance for the sector, the loan disbursement to the agricultural sector is below 10 percent. The biggest contributor of foreign currency is the agricultural sector, but its loan share is extremely low, he noted.

### **Borena Zone Embarks on Arduous Walk to Hydration**

As stated [in here](#), Officials hope to mitigate the impacts of drought on the wide livestock population of Borena Zone, Oromia Regional State, by constructing groundwater wells.

Under Wash Program, the project is expected to benefit close to 43,000 populace frequently impacted by climate change. The World Bank disbursed 90 million Br to three locations that will generate 1,728 cubic metres daily at the Elwaya area, while 46 million Br is allotted to the Wachele.

### **Ambitious-budget-bet-on-domestic-revenue-growth-amid-macro-instability**

Ethiopia Finance Minister Ahmed Shide presented an ambitious budget for the 2023-24 fiscal year to Parliament. At the heart of the plan is an expectation that domestic revenues, combining tax and non-tax components, will rise to 479.5 billion Br in the coming fiscal year. This substantial hike equates to a 34pc leap from the current year's revenue.

Critics, however, question the plausibility of such projections, indicating that realizing these numbers might require significant improvements in tax administration and a healthier national economy.

Read more in [here](#).

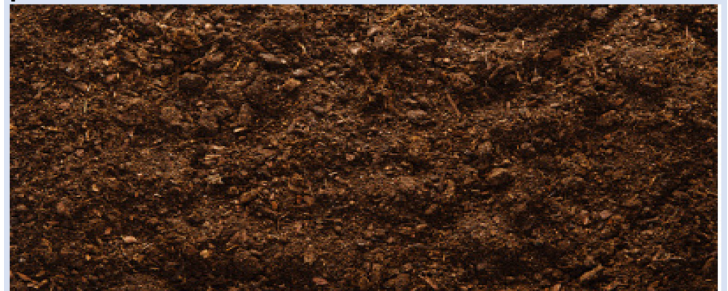
### **EU Reiterates Continued Dev't Cooperation With Ethiopia**

The European Union will continue to strengthen its development cooperation with Ethiopia, reaffirmed Stefan Lock, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Ethiopia.

Ethiopia's Minister of Planning and Development Fitsum Aseffa received the Head of Cooperation at her office to discuss continued cooperation in development undertakings. It is to be recalled that the European Union development cooperation has been engaged in development cooperation in Ethiopia for a long time.

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

### **House Committee finds illicit fertilizer trade in Amhara region, calls for swift measures in wake of farmers' protests**



Hundreds of protesting farmers took to the streets of the capital Bahir Dar and other parts of the region chanting slogans that they have been "waiting with hope" that they will receive fertilizer from one day to the next, but have run out of patience now; the farmers in Bahir Dar protest have also expressed their fears that the shortage may force them abandon farming preparations for the coming season in June-July.

As read on the [Addis Standard News](#) in [here](#), the Parliament said that members of the Committee, as part of inspection in the regional state, seized 4,165 quintals of undistributed fertilizer from the Degoy and Wetet Abay Cooperative Associations, located in the West Gojjam Zone, South and North Mecha districts.

# Events & Development

## Past events

### Ethiopian Regional Investment & Trade Mission to The Netherlands



High level Ethiopian Delegation from the authorities in the regions of Amhara & Oromia visited the Netherlands the past week. The mission aimed to enhance the enabling environment

for traders & investors in Ethiopia through knowledge & experience sharing.

The Ethiopian delegation visited various organizations & companies during this mission focusing on Horticulture, Dairy & Animal Feed sectors-key industries where Dutch investors & traders have successfully established businesses in Ethiopia.



### Validation workshop for the evaluation of SPS capacity and action plan. - June 29,2023

Ethiopian Agricultural Authority presented the capacity assessment it has conducted with the support of COLEAD concerning evaluation of SPS capacity and an outline of the process(R-SAT process) and action plan for the Avocado value chain in Ethiopia. Discussions and comments were provided during the session.

### Ethiopian veterinary experts Mission to the Netherlands

This study visit and expert training to the Netherlands was initiated by NL & ETH business partners in the Poultry industry and was supported by the Agricultural team of the Embassy of the Netherlands together with NVWA. The aim of this mission is to set up an efficient and reliable veterinary inspection and control system for poultry breeding material (hatching eggs, day-old chicks and grandparents) in Ethiopia with the support of the delegate members from the Ethiopian Agriculture Authority and the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture.

Ethiopia intends to become a regional hub for surrounding countries, with the high-quality poultry breeding material being imported from the Netherlands.



### The Agricultural Team

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