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Network



**Agriculture team**

Netherlands Embassy  
in Addis Ababa presents



# Dutchiopia — Agri News

Updates on activities, events, studies, articles and more related to the agriculture sector in Ethiopia



Latest publications



Did you know?



Newsflashes



Events & Development



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# 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

- Ethiopia's Nationally Determined Contributions 3.0 marks a bold step forward in its climate ambitions, proposing more aggressive mitigation and adaptation actions for 2025–2035. The document lays out how the country plans to mobilize resources, align sectors, and strengthen institutions to meet its climate goals. It serves as both a roadmap and a call to action for governments, donors, and civil society alike.

[Ethiopian NDC 3.0](#)

- Ethiopia's National Carbon Market Strategy outlines a comprehensive roadmap to leverage both international and domestic carbon markets to mobilize climate finance, generate high-quality carbon credits, and support its climate and development goals.

[Ethiopia's National Carbon Market Strategy \(2025 – 2035\)](#)

- Ethiopia's agriculture sector is experiencing a profound shift, driven by new policies, technologies, and climate pressures. The article "Agriculture Sector in Ethiopia: 7 Key Trends Powering Growth," explores emerging patterns shaping the future of farming in the country. From smallholder dominance to the rise of agro-industrial initiatives, the trends highlight both opportunity and challenge in Ethiopia's path forward.

[Agriculture Sector in Ethiopia: 7 Key Trends Powering Growth](#)

## Did you know?

### Did you know?

Dr. Eyob Tekalign, a State Minister of Finance and a central figure in Ethiopia's recent economic reforms, has been appointed as the new Governor of the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE).

### Did you know?

The Ethiopian Capital Market Authority (ECMA) will begin airing a series of educational programs in a critical move to build public understanding ahead of the launch of the nation's first securities exchange.

### Did you know?

Ethiopia is set to embark on a major nuclear energy initiative, a move aimed at diversifying the nation's power sources and accelerating its technological development.

### Did you know?

Ethiopia's tax-to-GDP ratio has collapsed to a multi-year low of 7.5%, down from 12.4% in the 2014/15 fiscal year, creating a significant fiscal challenge for the government despite a period of economic expansion.

### Did you know?

Ethiopian Airlines has announced that the new Bishoftu International Airport is slated for completion within the next five years, with international flight operations expected to commence by 2030.

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## Newsflashes

### Horticulture Highlights

#### Ethiopia Develops Phytosanitary Strategy to Boost Agricultural Transformation

Ethiopia unveils its new Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy (2026-2030), a bold national roadmap to modernize agriculture, boost exports, and protect biodiversity. Developed in collaboration with the FAO and the Standards and Trade Development Facility, the strategy targets pest control, infrastructure upgrades, and digital innovation to safeguard farmers' livelihoods and expand safe market access as reported on the [Ethiopian News Agency](#) in [here](#).

#### Ethiopia tightens coffee export rules with higher capital thresholds, stricter quality standards

The Ethiopian Coffee and Tea Authority (ECTA) has issued Directive 1106/2025, significantly raising minimum capital requirements for private exporters from Birr 1 million to 15 million and trade associations from Birr 1.5 million to 20 million. The directive also mandates stricter quality controls: exporters (except farmer-exporters) must operate ECTA-certified labs and employ certified coffee tasters dedicated to a single dispatcher, enhancing traceability and grading accuracy. Read more on the topic in [here](#).

#### Ethiopia Launches Post-Harvest Management, Mechanization Center Project

Ethiopia launches the Post-Harvest Management and Mechanization Center to provide effective, affordable, and locally adaptable solutions across the agricultural value chain. The center will serve as a hub for training, innovation, and technology transfer, aiming to reduce post-harvest losses and boost food security. Located within an Integrated Agro-Industrial Park, the center is set to modernize post-harvest systems and advance sustainable agricultural transformation. Read more [here](#).



### Macroeconomic Developments

#### Exporters face major disruptions due to inefficient communication with NBE

Exporters say poor coordination between banks and the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), combined with the absence of a digital tool to check delinquent status, is causing major export disruptions. Many are unexpectedly barred from obtaining export permits due to minor arrears and receive no advance notice, forcing costly trips to Addis Ababa to resolve issues. As reported in [this article](#), exporters urge the NBE to implement a real-time delinquency-check system and improve transparency to prevent delays and support smoother export operations.

#### Ethiopia's investment climate remains fraught despite reform push, U.S. report warns

Ethiopia's economic reforms have yet to convince foreign investors, according to the 2025 Ethiopia Investment Climate Statement released over the weekend by the U.S. Department of State. Despite floating the birr, opening new sectors, and relaunching the Securities Exchange, persistent instability, weak property rights, and heavy state dominance continue to undermine confidence. [Addis Standard](#) has more on the topic in [this article](#).

#### Ethiopia Intensifies Push for Diversified Economy, Sustainable Development

Ethiopia is accelerating its path toward sustainable development through strategic economic diversification, according to [this article](#). The country seeks to capitalize on its strengths across manufacturing, agriculture, mining, and tourism to foster inclusive and broad-based growth. Concurrently, efforts are being made to address key investor concerns, including access to electricity, financing, and essential inputs, while unused spaces within special economic zones are being prepared for new investors, further supporting Ethiopia's ongoing economic transformation.

#### Ethiopia Pursuing for Access to Sea Peacefully, Based on Int'l Law: PM Abiy

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has reiterated Ethiopia's determination to secure access to the sea through peaceful means, stressing that the country's current status as a "geographical prisoner" cannot continue. Speaking at the launch of his fourth book *The Medemer State* in Addis Ababa, he emphasized that Ethiopia, given its size and history of Red Sea access, cannot remain landlocked for future generations. [Ethiopian News Agency](#) has more on this topic [here](#).

## Equity Bank Moves to Enter Ethiopia's Financial Sector

Kenya's Equity Bank is advancing plans to enter Ethiopia's financial market, capitalizing on the recent opening of the sector to foreign investors. With banking penetration and private sector credit at just 15% of GDP, compared to over 30% in neighboring countries, Ethiopia presents significant growth potential for the Nairobi-based bank, which already operates across several East and Central African nations as stated in [this article](#).

## Biodiversity & Climate Watch

### Second Phase of Agricultural Commercialization Clusters Launched

Ethiopia has launched the second phase of its Agricultural Commercialization through Climate Smart Inclusive Initiative (ACCI) at the Africa Climate Summit 2025, aiming to transform the agri-food sector across nine regions and 18 commodities. Building on the success of its first phase which boosted productivity by up to 86%, ACCII focuses on climate-smart farming, inclusive value chains, and resilience, allocating 50% of its resources to climate-related interventions. You can read more in [here](#).

### Ethiopia Aims to Use Wetlands for Sustainable Development and Climate Resilience

Ethiopia is stepping up efforts to leverage its wetlands for economic and environmental benefits, according to the Ministry of Water and Energy. Officials highlighted new regulations, awareness campaigns, and projects aimed at unlocking wetlands' potential for fish farming, climate-smart agriculture, and climate change mitigation. Experts called for stronger coordination, long-term investment, and stakeholder engagement to transform wetlands into drivers of green development and food sovereignty, with support from partners as stated in [this article](#).

### WFP Reaffirms Commitment to Supporting Ethiopia's Impressive Strides in Climate Action, Food Security

The World Food Program (WFP) has reaffirmed its support for Ethiopia's bold strides in climate action and food security, praising efforts like the Green Legacy Initiative, wheat self-sufficiency, and Yelemat Tirufat. By integrating climate resilience into development and advancing climate-smart agriculture, Ethiopia is restoring ecosystems, strengthening local food systems, and reducing aid dependency. WFP pledged continued support for building a self-reliant and climate-resilient future. Read more on the topic in [here](#).

### IGAD Urged to Create Roadmap for Food Security Amid Climate Challenges

IGAD Ministers responsible for Agriculture and Food Security endorsed the establishment of the IGAD Fertilizer and Soil Health Hub during a ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This decisive approval paves the way for a regional platform to address soil fertility challenges, strengthen food security, and enhance climate resilience across member states. The Ministers also authorized IGAD to proceed with the Hub's operationalization, marking a key milestone in advancing sustainable agriculture and resilient food systems in the region. [Read more](#) in here.

### Ethiopia Leader in Transition from Fossil Fuels to Clean Energy: African Scholars

Ethiopia is emerging as a continental leader in clean energy through transformative initiatives like the Green Legacy and the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) which is Africa's largest hydropower project, officially inaugurated on September 9, 2025. With major investments in hydro, solar, and wind, Ethiopia is accelerating climate action, energy security, and sustainable growth. [This article](#) has more on the topic.

## Livestock Lens

### Africa's meat market to hit US\$108.23 billion by 2033 as urban demand and cold chain investments surge

Africa's meat industry is booming driven by rapid urbanization, a young population, and rising protein demand. Poultry leads consumption, while pork is the fastest-growing sector, especially in Southern and Central Africa. Smallholder farmers play a crucial role alongside large processors, but gaps in cold chain logistics remain a major challenge and opportunity. Investments in refrigeration, transport, and digital retail are key to unlocking value and expanding markets. Regional trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area and supportive government policies further boost growth. For farmers, processors, investors, and policymakers, this dynamic market offers immense potential, with success hinging on innovation, infrastructure, and collaboration to meet urban demand for affordable, quality meat as stated in [this article](#).

### WTO Fisheries Subsidies Agreement Enters into Force on September 15 Protecting Global Fish Stocks

The World Trade Organization's long-awaited Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies came into force on September 15, 2025, marking a major win for millions of small-scale fishers and coastal communities worldwide. The pact bans harmful subsidies that fuel illegal and overfishing, aiming to restore fish stocks and protect livelihoods. Particularly impactful for Africa, where illegal fishing drains an estimated \$11.2 billion annually, the agreement promises to curb unsustainable distant-water fleets threatening food security. Read more on the topic in [here](#).

## Other Related News

### EU Pushes Back Enforcement of Deforestation Rules

The EU is preparing to propose yet another delay to its anti-deforestation rules. The law requires importers of palm oil, coffee, timber, and other goods to prove they aren't linked to deforestation. The EU is pushing enforcement from December 2025 to December 2026. Read more in [here](#) to understand what this shift means for trade, regulation, and global efforts to stop deforestation.

### Ethiopia Expands Maritime Fleet With Six New Ships

Ethiopia is set to strengthen its maritime capacity with the addition of six new vessels, aimed at improving the transport of critical imports and exports, particularly fertilizer. Managed by Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics (ESL), this fleet expansion will enhance the country's cargo handling capabilities, reduce dependency on foreign shipping services, lower logistics costs, and modernize the national fleet according to [this article](#).

### Ethiopia, Netherlands Forge Deeper Partnership on Human-Centered Development

Ethiopia and the Netherlands are redefining their long-standing partnership, shifting from traditional aid to a model centered on trade, investment, and job creation as drivers of sustainable development. [At a high-level meeting](#), Ethiopia emphasized economic reforms and innovative blended finance approaches, while the Dutch delegation pledged stronger policy alignment and support for agriculture, clean energy, and export sectors. Both sides committed to a renewed, people-focused cooperation framework aimed at inclusive and sustainable growth.

## Events & Development

### Past event

### Africa Climate Summit Ends With Billions Pledged for Local Action

The second Africa Climate Summit concluded with the adoption of the Addis Ababa Declaration and the launch of two major financing initiatives aimed at channeling billions of dollars into climate action across the continent. The Africa Climate Innovation Compact (ACIC) and the African Climate Facility (ACF), were also established under the initiative of Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed of Ethiopia.

### Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) inaugurated

The inauguration of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), Africa's largest hydroelectric project, marks a pivotal milestone in overcoming longstanding energy challenges and ushers in a new era of development, prosperity, and national pride for Ethiopia. Designed and constructed by Webuild, this monumental infrastructure symbolizes Ethiopia's leadership in the continent's green transition. The official ceremony was attended by Pietro Salini, Chief Executive of Webuild, alongside Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali and Heads of State from African nations united by a shared vision of growth and regional cooperation.

### Upcoming events

### Netherlands Pavilion at the African Livestock Exhibition and Congress (ALEC) from Oct 30 to Nov 1, 2025



### FAO 2025 Global Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation From 29 September to 1 October 2025

The second global livestock sector gathering will bring together FAO Members, policymakers, farmers, private sector actors, civil society, NGOs, researchers, and development agencies to shift from dialogue to action by sharing experiences and showcasing practical solutions. SNV will contribute its expertise in inclusive livestock development, working with smallholders and local partners to create sustainable, scalable solutions, and will highlight insights from the Building Rural Income through Inclusive Dairy Business Growth in Ethiopia (BRIDGE) project, which fosters an inclusive dairy sector, boosts farmer incomes, and supports the production of safe, nutritious food for all.

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