



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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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

- The National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) has removed all controls on commercial lending and deposit rates under Directive No. NBE/INT/13/2026, effective January 9, 2025, allowing banks to set rates freely and ending decades of state-administered pricing.

[Directive No. NBE/INT/13/2026](#)

- The NBE has also issued Directive SBB/95/2025, aligning banks with Basel II and III capital international standards. For companies, this means stricter lending rules and more rigorous credit assessments. Over time, it should create a more stable banking environment, improving confidence and access to finance.

[Risk Based Capital Adequacy Requirement for Banks NBE](#)

- The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) released the World Economic Situation and Prospects 2026 report, projecting Africa's growth at 4.0% in 2026 and 4.1% in 2027, driven by improving macroeconomic stability that supports investment and consumer spending.

[World Economic Situation and Prospects 2026 \(WESP 2026\)](#)

- The report from IMARC Group provides a comprehensive analysis of market trends, end-user demand & distribution channels of the Ethiopian livestock market and projects USD 972.86 million by 2034, driven by 1.25% CAGR.

[Ethiopia Livestock Market, 2026-2034](#)

Did you know?

Did you know? The National Bank of Ethiopia has launched its first Automated Interbank Foreign Exchange Market, a landmark step aimed at improving price transparency and advancing broader macroeconomic and financial sector reforms.

Did you know?

Addis Ababa has been ranked the top performer in municipal finance management among major African cities, driven by stronger revenue systems and digital reforms, according to an evaluation conducted by UNECA.

Did you know?

Carrefour's entry into Ethiopia through a partnership with Queens Supermarket marks a significant shift in the country's retail landscape.

Did you know?

The Ethiopian government has sold a 10% stake in Ethio Telecom for ETB 3.2 billion, pricing shares at 300 birr each, in the country's first major equity transaction in decades.

Did you know?

Ethiopia's export revenue surged to \$5.10 billion during the first half of the 2025/26 fiscal year, exceeding the government's target by 20%.

Did you know?

Ethiopia officially launched the construction of the Bishoftu International Airport, a mega aviation hub designed to handle 110 million passengers annually upon completion.

Did you know?

Ethiopia's Ministry of Revenues will invalidate non-QR manual sales receipts starting January 9, 2026, marking a major step toward digitizing tax compliance.

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Newsflashes

Horticulture Highlights

Ethiopia Revises Investment Incentives to Boost Competitiveness

Ethiopia's Council of Ministers this month approved a revised investment incentive regulation that shifts the focus from blanket tax holidays to performance-based, capital-linked incentives. For the horticulture sector, where investors put millions into greenhouses, irrigation, and cold-chain systems, this means incentives are tied to what they deliver, jobs, exports, and technology. Read more about the regulation in [here](#).

Vertical Farming to Boost Food Security and Skills:

A new urban agriculture initiative is promoting modern vertical farming to address land scarcity and food security by enabling year-round crop production in stacked systems, which use less land and water while bringing fresh produce closer to cities. [This article](#) has more on the topic.

Ethiopia Makes Strong Gains in Tea Development Under Green Legacy Program



Ethiopia's tea development initiative under the Green Legacy Program is registering strong progress, according to an official statement. Early success in tea planting highlights the country's potential to expand the sector, while sustained efforts in agro-processing and greater private sector participation are seen as key to adding value. If maintained, the initiative is expected to boost export earnings while meeting growing domestic tea consumption demand as reported in [this](#) article.

Macroeconomic Developments

NBE Aligns Import Pricing to Reinforce FX Market Integrity

The National Bank of Ethiopia has issued a directive, effective January 27, 2026, requiring the use of customs indicative prices for selected imports when opening Letters of Credit (LCs) and issuing import permits. The measure aims to reduce price discrepancies across the banking system, improve the accuracy of balance-of-payments data, and strengthen the integrity of external sector reporting. Read more in [here](#).

Modern Logistics to Redefine Ethiopia's Market Landscape

Ethiopia is modernizing trade and logistics to boost efficiency, highlighted by a 1.7 billion birr cold storage facility in Addis Ababa storing fruits, vegetables, and animal products, reducing post-harvest losses and supporting economic reforms. The facility can store over 20,000 quintals of fruits and vegetables and 10,000 quintals of animal products. You can read more in [here](#).

Ethiopia's Business Registry Collapses 80% in 2025, Signaling Systemic Private Sector Stress

Ethiopia's federal business registry fell over 80% in 2025 to just over 100,000 firms, reversing a decade of growth to 585,000 by 2024. The decline, reported by the Labor Ministry, reflects private sector stress from macroeconomic tightening, currency pressure, and regulatory changes, raising concerns about business survival and job creation. Read more on [the topic](#).

Ethiopia Halts Eurobond Restructuring Over Creditor Compliance Concerns

Ethiopia will not proceed with the agreed-in-principle Eurobond restructuring after the Official Creditor Committee found it does not fully comply with the Comparability of Treatment principle. Following consultations with the OCC and the IMF, the Ministry of Finance said the terms were inconsistent with the OCC framework and Ethiopia's IMF program, and has therefore halted the restructuring of the US\$1 billion Eurobond. Read more in [here](#)

IMF Disburses \$261 Million to Ethiopia, Endorsing Reform Driven Stabilization Path

The IMF approved the fourth review of Ethiopia's Extended Credit Facility, releasing \$261 million and signaling confidence in the country's reform efforts and macroeconomic stabilization. While progress was acknowledged, the IMF stressed the need to maintain policy discipline, gradually phase out fuel subsidies, and advance tax and customs reforms to strengthen fiscal stability, restore investor confidence, and ensure debt sustainability. [Addis Insight](#) has more on the [topic](#)

Ethiopia Caps Investor Compensation as Capital Market Rules Take Shape

The Ethiopian Capital Market Authority has proposed a maximum compensation of 100,000 birr (approximately USD 640) per investor in cases of default, fraud, or failure by market participants, under a draft Capital Market Compensation Fund Regulation submitted to the Ministry of Justice for review before issuance. It is intended to protect small investors and increase confidence in Ethiopia's capital market as read in [here](#).

Biodiversity & Climate Watch

Ethiopia's Renewable Energy Drives Ambitious National Goals to power Sustainable Growth

Ethiopia is advancing an ambitious renewable energy drive to power sustainable growth, expand reliable electricity access, and support industrialization while safeguarding the environment, according to [this article](#). The initiative is set to deliver affordable power for households and industries, boost local manufacturing and extend electricity access to underserved communities.

Ethiopia's Leadership in Global Energy Transition Highlighted at IRENA Assembly in UAE

Ethiopia's leadership in the global energy transition was highlighted at the 16th IRENA Assembly in the UAE, where the country showcased its 98% renewable energy mix and green policies, including a ban on fossil-fuel vehicle imports, positioning itself as a pace-setter for Africa's clean energy future. Read more in [here](#).

Ethiopia's Clean Energy Drive Anchored in Regional Integration, Connectivity: PM Abiy

Ethiopia emphasized its strong commitment to expanding renewable energy, positioning wind, solar, and hydropower as key pillars of its clean energy transition. The country aims to leverage these resources to drive sustainable economic growth, enhance energy security, and support regional cooperation in green energy development. Read more on the topic [here](#).

Ethiopia Adopts Comprehensive Vision to Transform Riverbanks into Engines of Sustainable Urban Growth



Ethiopia's riverside development is being reshaped by a bold, integrated vision that goes beyond simple river restoration as reported in [here](#). The approach focuses on coordinated infrastructure development along riverbanks, supported by flexible buffer zones tailored to local conditions. By organizing land use within these corridors, the initiative aims to curb pollution and flooding, restore ecosystems, and create public spaces, mobility links, and economic opportunities.

Ethiopia Calls Nationwide Environmental Mobilization

A nationwide call has been issued to protect Ethiopia's natural resources, emphasizing the urgent need to combat severe soil erosion & strengthen environmental conservation. The government has highlighted growing cooperation with local communities, as conservation initiatives gain momentum ahead of the rainy season, and urged citizens to take collective responsibility in safeguarding the country's natural resources. Read more in the [Ethiopian News Agency](#) in [here](#).

Livestock Lens

Ethiopia Eases Meat Export Tax Burden as Invoice Reform Replaces Punitive Profit Levy

Ethiopia has overhauled meat export taxation by removing the 35% profit tax triggered by invoice shortages. The move reflects a policy recalibration amid chronic foreign exchange shortages and stalled export growth, as livestock shipments have lagged their potential despite strong regional demand.

Ethiopia's Honey Sector Gains Momentum:

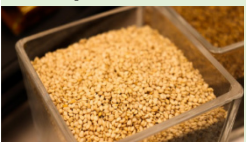
At a honey value-chain conference in Addis Ababa, UNIDO highlighted a 45% rise in honey production and stressed that improving market access, locally, regionally, and internationally, is key to turning honey into greater income and prosperity for producers, while also calling for stronger industry links and modern beekeeping practices. You can read more in [this article](#).

Other Related News

Cooperatives Face Market Reckoning With New Law Welcoming Outside Capital

Ethiopia is poised to overhaul its cooperative sector, allowing cooperatives to raise capital from non-members, form joint ventures with private firms, and merge with similar entities, nine years after the original law was passed. The revised legislation, recently tabled in Parliament, permits investors to hold up to 10% of shares without voting rights, while partnerships with private companies aim to enhance access to technology, expertise, and markets. Read more in [here](#).

Ethiopia's Oilseed Exporters Face Off With State Over Hoarding Clampdown



Ethiopia's pulses and oilseeds export sector, once a major source of foreign currency, faces a crisis as declining shipments and widespread hoarding erode revenue. Federal authorities have launched inspections and have put in place measures towards companies to release stocks. Read more in [here](#).

Events & Development

Past event

High-Level Cold Chain Training for Floriculture Sector (January 27, 2026)

Ethiopian Horticulture Producer Exporters Association (EHPEA) in collaboration with Flower Watch, successfully organized an insightful training session focused on the latest developments in cold chain management for the floriculture sector. The training brought participants from various flower farms and from Ethiopian airlines.

Ethiopian Coffee Draws Strong Global Interest at World of Coffee Dubai 2026

Ethiopian coffee is attracted strong international interest at the [5th International Coffee Exhibition \(World of Coffee Dubai 2026\)](#), held at the Dubai World Trade Centre from January 19–21. Ethiopia is represented by 26 coffee exporters showcasing premium and specialty coffees, drawing attention from international traders, roasters, investors, and industry experts.

Upcoming events

Invest in Ethiopia 2026 High-Level Business Forum from 26–27 March 2026

Ethiopia will host the [Invest in Ethiopia High-Level Business Forum \(HLBF\)](#) on March 26–27, 2026, in Addis Ababa. Organized by the Ethiopian Investment Commission in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and development partners, the forum will showcase Ethiopia's investment potential.

EU-Ethiopia Business Forum 2026 to Spotlight Strategic Investment in Addis Ababa from 20-22 April 2026

The EU–Ethiopia Business Forum (EEBF) will be held in Addis Ababa, bringing together European and Ethiopian stakeholders to strengthen trade and investment ties under the EU's Global Gateway strategy. [The forum](#) will feature high-level panels, business matchmaking, networking sessions, and field visits to promote sustainable, long-term partnerships.

E-course on food systems 2026 from 20 February to 27 March 2026



The Netherlands Food Partnership, in collaboration with Wageningen University & Research, will offer a free e-course on Food Systems. The course is designed for professionals working in Food and Nutrition Security programmes in low- and middle-income countries and will provide practical insights into food systems approaches. The 2026 edition will run from 20 February to 27 March 2026, with registration open until 6 February. Read more on the official course announcement in [here](#).

Ethiopia's HortiFlora Expo 2026: March 24 – March 26, 2026

[HortiFlora Expo](#) returns in Addis Ababa as a major international horticulture and floriculture trade fair, bringing together over 200 local and global exhibitors and buyers to showcase flowers, fruits, vegetables, inputs, technologies and investment opportunities.

15th Ethio-Chamber International Trade Fair: Feb 04 – Feb 08, 2026

The 15th Ethio-Chamber International Trade Fair, held in Addis Ababa from 4–8 February 2026, brings together local and international manufacturers, exporters, investors, and industry leaders to showcase products, foster partnerships, and expand trade and investment linkages.

Trade Mission to Ethiopia for Dutch Horticulture Companies

Van 23 tot 27 maart 2026 organiseert RVO, samen met de Nederlandse ambassade en Dutch Greenhouse Delta (DGD), een handels- en kennismissie naar Ethiopië voor Nederlandse tuinbouwbedrijven. De missie richt zich op kasoplossingen, water- & energiebeheer, agro-logistiek, kennisontwikkeling en omvat een bezoek aan de HortiFlora International Tradefair.

For address changes or unsubscribing please send an email to ADD-LVWN@minbuza.nl

