



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

- Ethiopia's capital markets regulator has introduced a new framework governing six types of collective investment funds, including ETFs, money market funds, mutual funds and real estate investment funds. The rules strengthen investor protection by requiring independent custodians to hold investors' assets, while setting investment limits, borrowing caps and penalties for non-compliance. The directive is a significant step toward channeling domestic savings into productive investments and broadening access to Ethiopia's capital market.

[Directive No. 1150/2026 - DIRECTIVE ON OPERATION OF COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT](#)

- Ethiopia's agricultural sector generates large amounts of agricultural residues that are often burned, dumped or underutilized. A new study, From Waste to Value: Valorising Agricultural Waste Streams in Ethiopia, initiated by the Agricultural Team of the Netherlands Embassy in Ethiopia and prepared by SPAAK Circular Solutions and TRAIDE Foundation, explores how these resources can be transformed into opportunities for farmers and businesses while supporting a cleaner, more sustainable and resilient agricultural sector.

[From Waste to Value - Valorising agricultural waste streams in Ethiopia](#)

- Ethiopia has developed a 2026 Agrifood Investment Profile under FAO's Hand-in-Hand Initiative, identifying four strategic investment opportunities in agricultural mechanization, animal feed production, extensive rangeland management and grandparent poultry farming. The profile provides detailed investment cases, giving potential investors a practical starting point for exploring opportunities in Ethiopia.

[Ethiopia 2026 Agrifood Investment Profile – Investment Opportunities & Investor Materials](#)

Did you know?

Did you know?

Ethiopia has reached the final stage of drafting its WTO Working Party Report. Bilateral market-access agreements have been concluded with 11 of 17 negotiating countries, with six still under discussion.

Did you know?

Addis Ababa has emerged as one of the world's most climate-resilient major cities, ranking second globally in a new assessment by geospatial artificial intelligence institute AlphaGeo.

Did you know?

Ethiopian specialty coffee has reached an unprecedented price on the international market, with one kilogram of Guji coffee selling for \$2,376, the highest price recorded in Ethiopia's coffee history.

Did you know?

Ethiopian Electric Utility (EEU) connected 664,505 households to electricity, marking a significant expansion of access to power across the country.

Did you know?

A national assessment found that the formal seed system supplies less than 20% of Ethiopia's total seed demand, with farmer-based and informal systems supplying most of the remainder.

Did you know?

The ECX launched a digital service portal in September, allowing traders to handle services remotely, while reporting ETB 50.27 billion in produce traded during 2025/26 and ETB 1.79 billion in warehouse-receipt financing for farmers, cooperatives and processors.

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Newsflashes

Horticulture and Agriculture Highlights

Ethiopia Targets Sorghum for Feed and Export Growth



Ethiopia is preparing a five-year program to transform sorghum into a major commercial crop, aiming to increase production, expand commercial farming and create a surplus for processing and export. The plan sees opportunities for sorghum to replace part of maize in animal feed as maize prices rise, with poultry feed identified as particularly promising. Experts, however, say success will depend on improved varieties, reliable seed systems, mechanization, finance, storage and strong links between farmers and processors. Read more on the [Fortune News](#) in [here](#).

Ethiopian coffee exporters turn to China as EU deforestation rules loom

Ethiopian coffee exporters are increasingly looking to China and other Asian markets as the EU's deforestation rules approach. The EU accounts for around 30% of Ethiopia's coffee exports, worth about USD 1 billion annually, but exporters face challenges meeting the new traceability and deforestation-free requirements taking effect from December 2026. Read more in [here](#).

Ethiopia unveils 10-year master plan for date palm sector

Ethiopia has launched a 10-year Research and Development Master Plan to modernize and commercialize the date palm sector, with the aim of replacing imports and developing export markets. The country has an estimated 500,000–700,000 hectares suitable for date palm cultivation, but only around 1.2% has been utilized. Ethiopia's date import bill already falling from around USD 9.8 million five years ago to approximately USD 650,000 last year. Read more in [here](#)

EU weighs stricter pesticide limits on African agricultural imports

The EU is considering stricter pesticide residue rules that could make it harder for some agricultural imports from Africa and other regions to enter the European market. The proposal would allow residue limits for pesticides not approved in the EU to be lowered to the lowest level laboratories can reliably detect, potentially leading to rejected shipments even where the substances remain legal in exporting countries. Exporting nations have called for consultation and science-based risk assessments, while the latest compromise would require a prior food-safety assessment in certain cases. The proposal is now being examined by EU lawmakers. Read more in [here](#).

Macroeconomic Developments

Ethiopia, Djibouti Launch Strategic Infrastructure Project



Ethiopia and Djibouti have announced a strategic project to connect Damerjog in Djibouti with Dewele in Ethiopia through a new refined petroleum products pipeline, supported by storage terminals at both ends. Developed in partnership between Ethiopian Investment Holdings and the Dangote Group, the project is expected to improve energy supply efficiency, reduce delays and strengthen the competitiveness and resilience of the strategic trade corridor. Read more in [here](#)

Ethiopia and BRICS New Development Bank Explore Cooperation on Economic Transformation

Ethiopia and the New Development Bank (NDB) have explored ways to deepen cooperation in support of the country's development priorities and economic transformation. The discussions focused on potential areas of collaboration as Ethiopia moves closer to formalizing its membership in the BRICS-backed development bank. The Council of Ministers has already approved the country's membership, with the proposal now awaiting parliamentary ratification as read in [here](#).

Ethiopia and IFC move to scale up private investment

The IFC says Ethiopia's economic reforms, including progress on foreign exchange, inflation and reserves, are helping create a more predictable environment for private investment. IFC Managing Director highlighted opportunities across sectors including agribusiness, infrastructure, digital economy, tourism, aviation and renewable energy. IFC currently has a portfolio of around USD 500 million in Ethiopia. [Read the full Fana article](#)

Agriculture, Manufacturing and Tourism Drive Ethiopia's Growth Outlook

Ethiopia has strong potential for sustained economic growth, driven by agricultural modernization, expanding manufacturing, natural resources, tourism and its youthful workforce. Experts say continued investment in skills, technology, infrastructure and foreign investment, alongside economic reforms, could help transform the country into a major regional producer and exporter. Developing sectors such as commercial farming, textiles, technology, mining and tourism, while improving productivity and attracting capital, will be key to turning Ethiopia's economic potential into long-term growth. Read more on the news of [Fana Broadcasting Corporate](#) in [here](#).

Biodiversity & Climate Watch

Ethiopia's Clean Energy Growth Strengthens Regional Connectivity

Ethiopia's expanding renewable energy capacity and cross-border electricity connections are emerging as key drivers of regional economic integration. With most of its electricity generated from renewable sources, Ethiopia is strengthening energy links with neighboring countries while the EU supports investments in power transmission, connectivity and clean energy. The growing regional electricity trade is expected to boost economic cooperation and create new opportunities for sustainable growth across the Horn of Africa as read [here](#).

Finance, Market Barriers Slow Ethiopia's Circular Economy Push

Ethiopia's circular-economy businesses face market-access and financing challenges, alongside gaps in technology, infrastructure and reliable waste supply chains as read in news of [The Reporter](#) in [here](#). Stakeholders are calling for stronger waste-recovery systems, green-business incentives and public-private partnerships to help these ventures scale under the National Circular Economy Roadmap.

Ethiopia's Farmers Turn to Solar

Farmers in southern Ethiopia are turning to solar-powered irrigation as fuel shortages, high costs and unreliable pumps disrupt crop production. A new green-growth initiative is promoting solar water pumps, cold storage, drying systems and biodigesters to reduce dependence on fossil fuels, improve productivity and strengthen climate resilience. The programme also aims to expand farmer training, financing and private-sector support so renewable-energy technologies become more affordable and accessible, while building longer-term sustainable agricultural systems. Read more in [this article](#).



Livestock Lens

Ethiopia's Livestock Exports Gain Momentum as Government Targets \$1 Billion in Earnings



Ethiopia is stepping up efforts to unlock its livestock export potential by strengthening supply chains, improving abattoir capacity and expanding meat processing. With reliable livestock supply remaining a key constraint, authorities are promoting stronger links between pastoralists, traders and exporters, including a pilot in the Somali Region and Borena that allows suppliers to deliver animals directly to export facilities, reducing intermediaries and transaction costs as read in [here](#)

Healthy herds, productive fodder fields and stronger social cohesion in South Omo

In South Omo, pastoral communities are strengthening resilience through improved livestock health, fodder production, fisheries and peacebuilding. Supported by FAO and partners, the efforts are helping households improve food security, diversify incomes, manage natural resources and strengthen cooperation among communities. Improved veterinary services and fodder production are also boosting livestock health and household incomes. Read more in [this article](#).



Other Related News

Ethiopia and the Netherlands deepen economic cooperation

During the fourth political consultations in Addis Ababa, the Dutch delegation was led by Pascal Grotenhuis, Vice Minister for International Cooperation of the Netherlands. Agriculture, horticulture, dairy and cold-chain infrastructure were highlighted as key areas of cooperation, while the Netherlands expressed interest in expanding investment and economic ties with Ethiopia.

Ethiopia Renews IFAD Partnership, Increases Contribution Tenfold

Ethiopia has reaffirmed its longstanding partnership with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) by significantly increasing its contribution to the Fund's latest replenishment. The renewed commitment underscores the country's continued focus on rural transformation, agricultural development, and strengthening livelihoods and resilience among rural and pastoralist communities. New Business Ethiopia has more in [here](#).

Renewed conflict raises risks for agriculture and trade

The renewed insecurity in the northern part of Ethiopia is affecting markets and food availability in the region, while further escalation could pose risks to major trade corridors carrying a significant share of international cargo. This creates additional risks to the movement of farm inputs, food products and livestock, as well as to market access and supply chains. Read more in [here](#).

Ethio-Seed Hub Officially Launched to Strengthen Ethiopia's Seed Information System

Ethiopia has launched the Ethio-Seed Hub, a national digital seed information system designed to improve access to quality seeds and strengthen coordination across the country's seed sector. The platform will provide farmers and other stakeholders with timely information on seed availability, locations, stocks and demand, supporting better decision-making and agricultural productivity. Read more in [here](#).

Events & Development

Past event

Ethiopian Food System Resilience Program (FSRP) holds its 4th Steering Committee Meeting

The Ethiopian Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP) held its 4th Steering Committee Meeting in Bishoftu, bringing together senior government officials, regional agriculture representatives and key stakeholders. The meeting reviewed progress across agriculture, research, policy reform and digital agriculture, while the Steering Committee approved the 2019 EFY Annual Work Plan and Budget, paving the way for continued efforts to strengthen the resilience, productivity and sustainability of Ethiopia's food systems.

The 2nd Ethiopian International Date Palm Festival has been held in Semera City

The 2nd Ethiopian International Date Palm Festival successfully took place in Semera, Afar Region, bringing together producers, investors, researchers, policymakers, and development partners to advance Ethiopia's growing date palm sector. The event featured expert discussions, research presentations, field visits, and a date palm product exhibition, strengthening opportunities for investment, innovation, knowledge exchange, and sustainable growth.

Upcoming events

Potato Sector Fact-Finding Mission in Ethiopia

The Agricultura team at the Netherlands in Ethiopia is organizing a Potato Sector Fact-Finding Mission, bringing together Dutch stakeholders and Ethiopian actors to explore value-chain opportunities, exchange knowledge, and identify areas for collaboration. The mission will focus on key areas including seed systems, production, technology, storage, processing, and market development, with the aim of strengthening partnerships and unlocking opportunities across Ethiopia's potato sector.

The Netherlands Pavilion at ALEC 2026 from 29th October to 31st October 2026 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Ethiopia is organizing the Netherlands Pavilion at the African Livestock Exhibition & Congress (ALEC) 2026, bringing together Dutch companies and stakeholders to showcase innovative solutions, connect with Ethiopian and regional partners, and explore business opportunities across the livestock value chain.

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