

Homepage » MADAGASCAR: NGOs oppose transfer of 60,000 ha of land to Elite Agro LLC

MADAGASCAR: NGOs oppose transfer of 60,000 ha of land to Elite Agro LLC

By **Boris Ngounou** - Published on February 5 2020 / Modified on February 5 2020



CRAAD-OI and Collectif TANY oppose the occupation of 60,000 hectares of Madagascan land by the agricultural company, Elite Agro LLC. Not being in control of all the details of the contract between the government and the foreign company, the two land defence platforms fear a confiscation of farmers' land and an environmental disaster.

The TANY collective and CRAAD OI, two platforms engaged in land defence, are categorically opposed to Elite Agro LLC's agricultural project in Bas Mangoky, a landlocked area in southwestern Madagascar. These two Malagasy organisations expressed their fears in a joint communiqué issued on February 2, 2020. The provision of 60.000 hectares of land.

We respect your privacy

When you browse on this site, cookies and other technologies collect data to enhance your experience and personalize the content you see. Visit our Privacy Policy to learn more. By clicking "Accept", you agree to this use of cookies and data.

Accept

The dispute surrounding this agricultural project comes the day after its approval by the Council of Ministers on January 16, 2020. It was on this occasion that the Madagascan public became aware of the outlines of the memorandum of understanding signed between the state and Elite Agro LLC, an agricultural company based in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates.

The Emirati industrial group would take charge of all the necessary equipment and logistics and would pay the salaries of the people who would work on the farm for a period of 30 years. The planned annual production is 350 000 tonnes of rice, 200 000 tonnes of maize and 150 000 tonnes of wheat initially, but in time it is expected to reach 240 000, 300 000 tonnes of soya, 20 000 tonnes of cape peas and 30 000 tonnes of groundnuts. All this production will be purchased by the state, at a price not yet specified, to supply both the local market (food self-sufficiency) and the rest of the East African sub-region. The agreement also provides for the signing of a final contract at the end of the one-year test phase.

The State reassures in vain

As a result of the dispute that erupted following the announcement of this project, the President of the Republic of Madagascar gave a press briefing on 20 January. *"We will benefit more from it, because it will allow us to stop importing and therefore no longer pay transport costs,"* explained Andry Rajoelina.

However, these explanations did not reassure the CRAAD-OI and Collectif TANY platforms, which denounce the lack of transparency of the authorities regarding the partnership between the state and a company from the United Arab Emirates. *"We strongly contest the strategy adopted by the leaders to rely mainly on investors and large groups from all over the world to cultivate the land in Madagascar, instead of developing the country's vital forces by further multiplying the accompanying measures for peasantry and local entrepreneurship".*

In Madagascar, where 70% of the population is rural, land is a sacred element, often the source of strong emotions.

A similar case already hit the headlines in 2009. The "Daewoo case", named after a South Korean company, Daewoo Logistics, which had concluded a large agricultural project with the government. The project was to cover 1.3 million hectares of land, half the size of Belgium, dedicated to the production of palm oil and maize. But the opponents of this project had won their case. The surge of protests that followed contributed to the overthrow of the

We respect your privacy

When you browse on this site, cookies and other technologies collect data to enhance your experience and personalize the content you see. Visit our Privacy Policy to learn more. By clicking "Accept", you agree to this use of cookies and data.

Accept

CATEGORIES

BIODIVERSITY

INDUSTRIAL IMPACTS

TAGS

AGRO ECOLOGY AFRICA

BIODIVERSITY EAST AFRICA

COUNTRIES

EAST AFRICA

MADAGASCAR



More on the same theme



BIODIVERSITY

AFRICA: AfDB report assesses feasibility of debt-for-nature/climate swaps



PRESERVATION OF THE RESOURCE

GHANA: food waste costs \$65 billion a year



INDUSTRIAL IMPACTS

We respect your privacy

When you browse on this site, cookies and other technologies collect data to enhance your experience and personalize the content you see. Visit our Privacy Policy to learn more. By clicking "Accept", you agree to this use of cookies and data.

Accept



SMART GRID & STORAGE

AFRICA: 70 million people electrified via off-grid solar in 3 years



COLLECTIVE SANITATION

AFRICA: Bayport secures \$12 million from WaterEquity for water and sanitation



ECO-BUILDING

AFRICA: GCF funding for energy efficiency in buildings in four countries



AFRIK 21 COMMUNITY

Join the green economy community in Africa, by becoming member of the Afrik 21 Group on LinkedIn
[> Join](#)

NEWSLETTERS

We respect your privacy

When you browse on this site, cookies and other technologies collect data to enhance your experience and personalize the content you see. Visit our Privacy Policy to learn more. By clicking "Accept", you agree to this use of cookies and data.

Accept

I accept the terms&conditions [Read](#)**SUBSCRIBE****AFRIK 21**

Afrik 21 is published by Publishing 21,
242 bd voltaire, 75011 paris, France
Siret 838399186 00077 Paris

[Write us](#)[> Editorial staff](#)

Editor in chief : Jean Marie Takouleu

[> Advertising](#)

Brand content & display : Appoline Chaminade

[> Management](#)

Publisher : Stephan Haushofer

INFORMATION[> Legal mentions](#)[> About us](#)[> Copyright and reproduction rights](#)[> Data processing and liberties](#)[> Cookies](#)[> Liability of the Publisher](#)**ARCHIVES**

- [October 2022](#) (102)
- [September 2022](#) (149)
- [August 2022](#) (132)
- [July 2022](#) (141)
- [June 2022](#) (145)
- [May 2022](#) (130)
- [April 2022](#) (139)
- [March 2022](#) (158)
- [February 2022](#) (133)
- [January 2022](#) (124)
- [December 2021](#) (110)
- [November 2021](#) (134)
- [October 2021](#) (113)
- [September 2021](#) (129)
- [August 2021](#) (118)

We respect your privacy

When you browse on this site, cookies and other technologies collect data to enhance your experience and personalize the content you see. Visit our [Privacy Policy](#) to learn more. By clicking "Accept", you agree to this use of cookies and data.

- [October 2022](#) (112/51)

- [October 2020](#) (122)
- [September 2020](#) (114)
- [August 2020](#) (108)
- [July 2020](#) (116)
- [June 2020](#) (114)
- [May 2020](#) (108)
- [April 2020](#) (117)
- [March 2020](#) (113)
- [February 2020](#) (96)
- [January 2020](#) (104)
- [December 2019](#) (76)
- [November 2019](#) (107)
- [October 2019](#) (121)
- [September 2019](#) (103)
- [August 2019](#) (92)
- [July 2019](#) (103)
- [June 2019](#) (102)
- [May 2019](#) (102)
- [April 2019](#) (92)
- [March 2019](#) (88)
- [February 2019](#) (81)
- [January 2019](#) (87)
- [December 2018](#) (58)
- [November 2018](#) (86)
- [October 2018](#) (81)
- [September 2018](#) (59)
- [August 2018](#) (58)
- [July 2018](#) (65)
- [June 2018](#) (55)
- [May 2018](#) (52)
- [April 2018](#) (19)

We respect your privacy

When you browse on this site, cookies and other technologies collect data to enhance your experience and personalize the content you see. Visit our [Privacy Policy](#) to learn more. By clicking "Accept", you agree to this use of cookies and data.

Accept