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the global rush for farmland and peoples' struggles against it

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Qatar in talks to buy Argentina, Ukraine farmland

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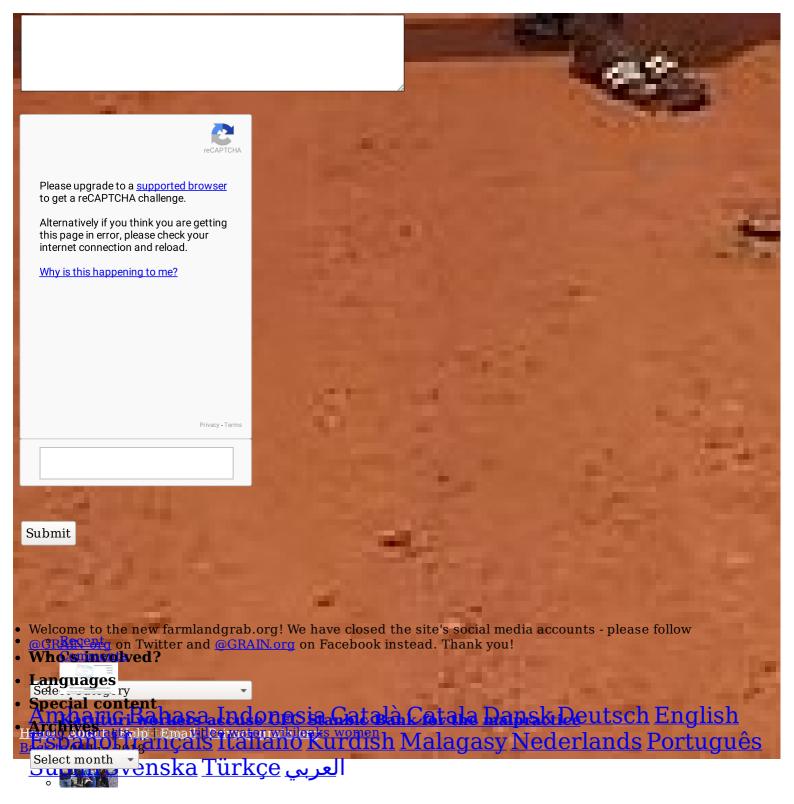
FOOD PLANS: Qatar
wanted to seal
partnerships with host
countries under which not
more than 40 percent of
the food production would
be shipped back to the
Gulf Arab state. (Getty

Reuters | Wednesday, 13 October 2010

Qatar is in preliminary talks with the governments of Argentina and Ukraine to buy farmland for cereals production, the head of the Gulf Arab state's national food security programme said on Wednesday.

rts 95 percent of its food and has only two days' worth of water stantly looking at eptions to gain additional food and water resources through Ha ah, director of Qatar National Food Secur now we are in negotiations with Argentina He added: "These are cou villing to sell their land to grow ce years of so-called "land-grab" deals, where As criticism has mounted over countries buy land in proper nations. Oatar had focused on richer countries with vestments would be less controversial, Shah said. islation, where i<mark>ts in</mark> to develop partnerships with target countries, which would foste mprove the liveliho heir strategy. If you are being criticised for transferring food sai<mark>d: "I think</mark> a lot of coun**t**r insecurity from your own country to another one, then you may want to go where there is less criticism. He added: "On the other hand, the countries that really, desperately need agricultural investment are in Africa." Hassad Food was established in 2008 by the Qatar Investment Authority with \$1 billion capital, as a spike in food prices led rich oil states as well as countries like China and South Korea to look for additional food supplies and farmland abroad. This year it has planned to invest between \$500 million and \$700 million in agricultural projects, Shah sa t that there was flexibility to increase its financial war chest. With international prices of wheat, maize and rice rising over the past few weeks on the back of drought and flooding in Pakistan, Shah said Qatar's strategy had proved far sighted. He said: "Food is becoming a big business. We had the first shock in 2008 and now what happened over s proved that this kind of shocks will be repeated and that we were right." le predicted: "Investing in land and water is the future." <mark>Shah s</mark>aid Q<mark>atar w</mark>as also studying a proj<mark>ect to raise sheep for meat production in Sudan, where last year</mark> joint venture to cultivate up to 250,000 acres of land for wheat, corn and possibly soya. Shah was speaking on the sidelines of a high level intergovernmental meeting of the UN's Committee on Foo Security in Rome, where land rights and sustainable agricultural investments are top of the agenda. He said Qatar wanted to seal partnerships with host countries under which not more than 40 percent of the production would be shipped back to the Gulf Arab state, in order to promote local development and help far hers **Source: Reuters TWITTER**





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<u>Les paysans varois manifestent devant le vignoble de Vincent Bolloré à la Croix-</u> Valmer

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• F Kerry

<u>Very interesting work/list.</u> So what is the pathway forward? What are the policy options? Social movement? 25 May 2018

。 🗖 <u>John</u>

Of all the agricultural land in Australia suitable for growing food what percentage is now owned by foreign investors? 5, 10, 15% or more and when do y...
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boucard

Comment se procurer ce film pour des débats publics. Peuples solidaires, association à laquelle j'appartiens, a organisé la semaine dernière une r...

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• 🟴 Elijah

Was pleased to read your article. I am however surprised that the story of the frustration that DFL is going through with the investor being harassed b...

10 Feb 2017

• P sebastian

Excelente trabajo de investigación. Se los agradezco mucho. Consultarè todas las funtes que ustedes proporcionan para tener un informemàs acabdado c...

09 Dec 2016

• Anonymous

La critique est facile mais l'art difficile; j'ai rarement vu des ONG créer des emplois et contribuer au développement socio-économique autant que d...
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• P Christopher Ajua

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