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the global rush for farmland and peoples' struggles against it

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## S.Korea to farm Tanzania site in early 2011

### <u>0</u> Published: 11 Nov 2010

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DAR ES SALAAM (Reuters) - Tanzania expects South Korea to begin farming 15,000 hectares of land in the east African country early next year for food production and processing, a senior official said on Thursday.

Aloyce Masanja, director general of Tanzania's state-run Rufiji Basin Development Authority (RUBADA), told Reuters the initial cost of the Korea Rural Community Corp. (KRC) project was estimated at \$50 million.

State-run KRC signed a memorandum of understanding in August and will develop the land in partnership with RUBADA over the next five years at a projected cost of \$50 million.



Tanzania has 44 million hectares of erable land, of which the government says about 10.8 million

"Tanzar ia is blessed wit<mark>h dillions of hectares of fert</mark>i e farm land, but most of this land has been under-unlised for long time," said Masanja.

The proposed KRC land is 160 km (100 miles) south of the commercial capital Dar es Salaam, part of a site covering 100,000 hectares reserved for large-scale farming, he said.

### EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE

"The land will primarily be used for paddy fields to produce rice through irrigation farming. We will also grow othe crops such as maize, cassava and simsim in upland areas," he said.

Masanja said Tanzania was in talks with other investors from Britain, the United States, Singapore, Incide and the United Arab Emirates who have shown an interest in setting up commercial farming and food process no factories at the Rufiji basin.

In 2009, Saudi investors asked the country if they could lease 500,000 hectares of farmland for wheat and rice farming, part of a plan to boost the desert kingdom's food supplies.

"An American company wants to invest in a 5,000-hectare cassava plantation and build a factory to produce stare for the export market," he said.

He said the government also planned to set up an export processing zone (EPZ) within the Rufiji basin area to weo investors for agro-processing factories.

"RUBADA is charged with promoting and regulating development activities at an area that covers 17.7 million hectares. The size of this area stretches 177,000 square kilometres, so there is a huge potential for investment," I said.

Source: <u>Reuters</u>

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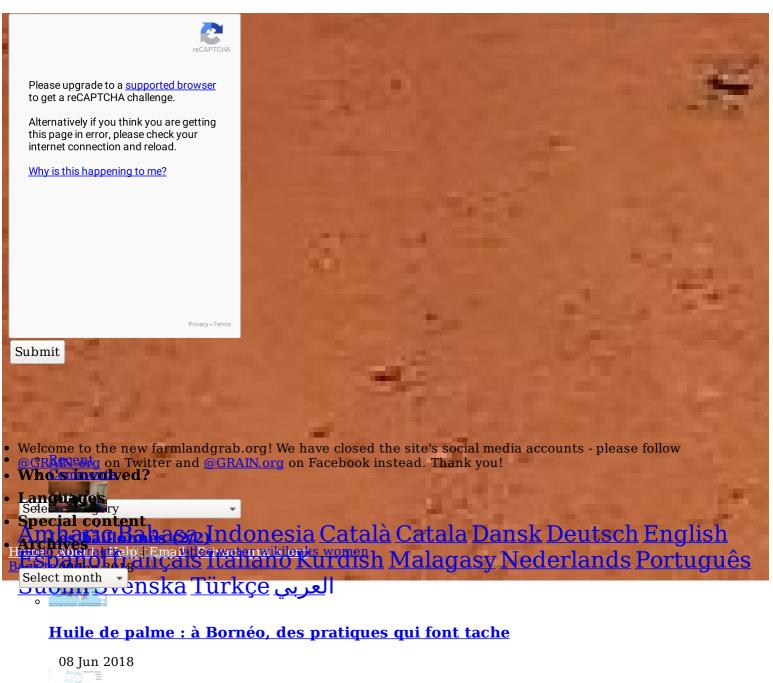
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#### • 🖷 <u>Kerry</u>

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

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