Lithuania it controls 7,000 ha of farmland. In January 2010, Count Carl Gustav Wachmeister of Sweden purchased Mount Elephant Station, a 15,700-ha

Export Trading Group

In March 2010, Laos and Mongolia signed an agreement for a 30-year lease under which the companies agreed to set up a joint venture for the production of food crops in China to export to Qatar. They announced that the project would begin with a 50,000-ha pilot project. The companies agreed to purchase a 25-year lease for about US$95,000 of farmland in Mindoro to grow low-cost grain for food production. However, officials from both the central and provincial governments of the Philippines have denied knowledge of the deal. Cattle, nuts and pineapple production in Vietnam are already cultivated.

In December 2010, AFP reported that the Government of Congo-Brazzaville had signed a deal with Malaysia’s Atama Plantations, giving the company land concessions totalling 470,000 ha in the Cuettev (north) and Sangha (north-west) regions. Atama said it would develop oil-palm plantations on 180,000 ha within these concessions. Pinosso Group

In November 2011, Thai sugar giant Mitr Phol offered to acquire MSF Sugar, which would give it control of four Queensland sugar mills and more than 6,000 ha of farmland and other infrastructure assets. Mitr Phol is Asia’s largest sugar producer and among the six biggest in the world, with operations in Thailand, Laos and China. In December 2010, Reuters reported that the governments of Ghana and Qatar had agreed to set up a joint venture company for the production of food crops in Ghana to export to Qatar. They announced that the project would begin with a 50,000-ha pilot project. The companies agreed to purchase a 25-year lease for about US$95,000 of farmland in Mindoro to grow low-cost grain for food production. However, officials from both the central and provincial governments of the Philippines have denied knowledge of the deal. Cattle, nuts and pineapple production in Vietnam are already cultivated.

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livestock farm in Victoria State, Australia for A$20 million.■Crops■Wheat■Agriterra's founder and CEO is mining venture capitalist and former England cricket international Phil Edmonds. The company owns cattle ranches and maize farms in Mozambique, covering nearly 17,000 ha, with plans to expand to over 20,000 ha in the near future. In 2011, it acquired a 50-year lease (with an option to renew for a further 21 years) over approximately 45,000 ha of agricultural land in the Pujehun District in the Southern Province of Sierra Leone, where it intends to develop palm-oil plantations.■DAH Beteiligungen is a holding company owned by the family of Dietmar Hopf, who helped founded the business software giant SAP in 1972. The company has purchased five farms.■DAewoo Logistik Indonesia ■ Chelij Jedang Samsung■Galtero■Liberia■Sucre & Dennerettethree farmers from Ingolstadt in Bavaria■Soji■Dominion Farms In 2007 the Egyptian government signed an agreement with the Al Raji family's International Investment Company for a project to produce wheat and feed crops for export to Saudi Arabia on 10,000 ha of land during a phase that has already been implemented, increasing to 52,500 ha in a second phase that was scheduled to begin in 2010. The Al Raji family is considered to be the wealthiest non-royals in Saudi Arabia. It owns the Tabuk Agricultural Development Co (TADCO), one of the largest agribusiness companies in the country, and since 2008 it has taken the lead within the private sector in securing farmland overseas for the King Abdullah Initiative for Saudi Agricultural Investment Abroad. In 2009, the Al Raji Group brought together several other major Saudi agribusiness companies, including Almarai and the Aljouf Agricultural Development Co, to form Jenat, a joint venture company to acquire farmland overseas, as well as the Far East Agricultural Co., which is focusing on the acquisition of lands for rice production in Asia■Papua New Guinea■China Green Agriculture, which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, claims that it is China's largest private company in the agricultural sector. During a November 2011 meeting with Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research, Mir Israrullah Khan Zehri, the company requested an initial 4,000 ha for a project to produce fruit and vegetables. Zehri said that Pakistan offered an excellent opportunity for investment in the agriculture sector and foreign investors would be welcome to invest in the sector.■AWilmart, one of the world's largest agricultural commodity producers and traders, bought Sucrogen Ltd, which owns 2,500 hectares of prime agricultural land in Queensland's Burdekin region in 2011. ■AfricaGill, maize, potatoes, wheat■In August 2010, Abu Dhabi's Al Dahra Agricultural Company, one of the main suppliers of animal feed to the UAE, said it was halfway through the implementation of a plan to produce feed and food crops on 67,000 ha of farmland in Europe, the US, South Asia and North Africa to boost the UAE's food security. The company has 200 ha under date-palm production in Namibia.■Maize■Yn 2011, the International Land Coalition reported that Madabeef, a company owned by UK investors, had acquired 200,000 ha in Madagascar for cattle production.■Oil palm, rice, soybeans■Finance■Brunei Investment Authority On April 2011, Brazilian mining giant Vale and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (Embrapa) announced they would like to invest in countries with an oil-palm plantation on 30,000 ha in Mozambique. Rice, poultry■Campos OrientalesSummary Hassan Group■Egyptian National Bank■Sweden■Nigeria■Maize, soybeans■In July 2008, a spokesman for the Buol regional government told Antara News that South Korean-based PT Agro Energia Indonesia was going to invest US$2 billion in maize plantations in the the Buol district of Central Sulawesi. The company wanted 25,000 ha but the government offered to make available only 10,000 ha, in Paleale Gadung and BunoBugu. Sheep, cattle■BDFC Ethiopia is a subsidiary of the US-based B&D Food Corp. The company is in negotiations with Hiber Sugar to create a joint venture to develop a sugar-cane plantation on the 17,400 ha of land it has under lease in the Amhara Regional State. BDFC also has a 5,000-ha coffee farm in the Jimma Region■Rice■Saadiar Plc is a company owned by Saudi billionaire Sheik Al Amoudi. As part of the Kingdom's initiative to outsource food production overseas, Saudi Arabia acquired large areas of land in Gambela, Ethiopia in 2008 and began developing rice production on 10,000 ha. The total area Saudi Star has under lease in Gambela is 140,000 ha, but the company is reported to be in talks for an additional 290,000 ha. The company's stated target is to grow 1 million tonnes of rice per year to generate US$1 billion per year in export revenues. Al Amoudi also owns Ethiopia's largest livestock operation, Ellfosa AgroIndustries, and Horizon Plantation, a joint venture with Jemal Ahmed and Malaysia's AgriNexus that is pursuing a 58,000-ha oil-palm project in Gambela, a 10,000-ha jatropha plantation in Benishangul Gumuz and an 85,000-ha rubber estate in the Southern States, Nationalities, and People's Region. In January 2012, Human Rights Watch reported that local populations were being forcibly displaced for the Saudi Star rice project in Gambela■Hyunda&Bolivia In 2009, Brazilian private equity company Terra Firma Capital purchased 90% of the Consolidated Southern Company for A$425 million, giving it control over approximately 2.6 million hectares in Queensland. It purchased a further 600,000 ha in 2009■ 10. In 2007, Brazilian meat giant JBS acquired US-based Swift Food & Co., giving it control over ten meat plants and five feedlots in Australia. In 2010, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission approved JBS' A$38-million purchase of a 53,000 tea capacity feedlot, which included a feed mill, abattoir and around 2,000 ha of land....The UK-based Southern Agricultural Resources fund was launched in 2010 to acquire wheat and coffee farms in Ethiopia. In December 2011, the Australian Financial Review reported that the fund had already identified 24 properties to be purchased covering more than 100,000 ha. The fund stated that it planned to raise £10 million by October 2011 to purchase its first farm, and £10 million by the second half of 2012 to acquire more farms. The fund's eventual target is US$400 million. The farms will be managed by Australian company Customised Farm Management, which manages farms for US pension-fund manager TIAA-CREF. The fund's chairman is David Montgomery, former chair of the Australian Cotton Industry Council, and its non-executive director is Derek Shaw, a board member and shareholder of MP Evans, which owns large areas of oil-palm plantations in Indonesia and pastoral lands in Australia.■The project is a joint venture between Sonangol, an Angolan state-owned company responsible for the exploration, production and transportation of hydrocarbons in Angola, and ENI, one of the world's largest oil companies. In December 2011, the two companies signed an agreement for the execution of a pilot project in food and biodiesel production■Peru■Canola, maize, rice, wheat■Ingacott Group■Sugarcotton, maize, soybeans■Construction, finance Petro Buzif■Harvard Management Company is the endowment fund of Harvard University. In October 2010, New Zealand's Overseas Investment Office approved the Harvard fund's NZ$34-million purchase of Big Sky Dairy Farms, a 1,600-ha dairy farm in the Otago region. The farm will be integrated into its other dairy farm in Otago, making Harvard the region's largest operator. Harvard Management Company also invests in the African farmland fund of the UK's Emergent Asset Management.■Ingleby also invests in Romania, Uruguay, Argentina, New Zealand and Australia. The farm is located in the San Joaquin Valley, California■Dairy■Asian was created by Jes Tarp and Paul Larsen of the US after their experience in setting up farms with other foreign investors in the Ukraine. In 2008, they merged four of their Ukrainian farms into a single operation, called Alpha Farm, covering a total of 8,750 ha. In 2009 Tarp and Larsen formed Asian Global Management to expand their farming operations into Africa. In Mozambique, they established a subsidiary, Rei do Agro Limitada, and acquired a 50-year renewable lease to 10,000 ha of land, where they are cultivating 2,000 ha of soybeans and maize. In July 2011, the Guardian (Tanzania) reported that Asian had acquired 42,000 ha for cash-crop production in Morogoro Region of Tanzania.■Uganda■2TE Corporation is China's largest telecommunications company, with operations in more than 140 countries. In 2007, it established 2TE Energy to invest in biofuels and food production in China and overseas. In October 2010, Asian Sentinel reported that 2TE had reached an agreement with Latolian authorities for 50,000 ha for potato production, and that it was looking for up to 100,000 hectares across four southern provinces.■Telecommunications■In 2008, China Daily reported that the Chongqing Seed Company had acquired 300 ha in Tanzania for the production of its imported rice-seed varieties as part of an agreement between China and Tanzania for the construction of an agricultural research centre.■Middle Mount Forest, owned by Heinrich Martin Henri of Switzerland, bought its first farm in New Zealand in 2006 and then another two in 2009, including a 1,000-ha sheep and cattle farm from Dutch bank Rabobank for US$4,275,000. The farms are located at Northern Hawkes Bay and Tairiroto, Gisborne. The company also owns 1,300 ha of forest in New Zealand■Zambia■In 2009, FRI-EL Green, an Italian company half-owned by German energy giant RWE, purchased an 11,000-ha oil-palm plantation in Abia State in southern Nigeria, with rights to expand the concession to up to 100,000 ha. Production■In August 2010, Abu Dhabi's Al Dahra Agricultural Company, one of the main suppliers of animal feed to the UAE, said that it was halfway through the implementation of a plan to produce feed and food crops on 60,700 ha of farmland in Europe, the US, South Asia and North Africa to boost the UAE's food security. The company cultivates feed and crops on 34,800 ha of land in the area of the Blue Nile in Sudan.■Jalandhar Potato Growers' Association■Rice and other crops■Cattle, sugar cane■In July 2009, Senegal's President Abdoulaye Wade told Reuters that China was close to a deal for 100,000 ha for growing peanuts.■IKO Grupo Maggi■Portugal■Siva Group is a company registered in Singapore that is owned by C. Sivasankaran, one of India's richest men. Since
2008, the Siva Group has been investing heavily in farmland, especially for palm-oil production in Africa. The 2,000-ha olive farm was acquired through Siva Group's subsidiary, the Sterling Group.\[Kulim\]\[US$600 million\]Addax Bioenergy Landgrabbed\[UK private equity firm Emergent Asset Management launched an African Agricultural Land Fund in 2007 and has since then acquired at least 30,000 ha in South Africa, Zambia, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Emvest was set up as a joint venture between a Bermudian company and the South Africa shareholding company RuscilStone to put the African Agricultural Land Fund into operation. Emvest has five farms in South Africa over 1,000 ha each. In April 2010, Ruchi Group's subsidiary, Ruchi Soya, one of India's largest vegetable-oil producers, signed a contract with the Ethiopian government giving it a 25-year lease on 25,000 ha in the Gambela Region for the production of soybeans, with an option to double the area under lease to 50,000 ha. The Ethiopia project is part of a US$150-million overseas expansion to source vegetable-oil crops that Ruchi Soya is undertaking.\[Campos Orientales\] is operated by Pergam Finance, a fund based in France, managed by Olivier Combastet. It mainly seeks to acquire farms in the Southern Cone of Latin America, where it can convert pasture to soybean crops, and then, within a few years, sell the farms at a profit.\[Nambia Agriculture and Renewables\] is a subsidiary of UK-based Caparo Group, which is owned by Baron Swraj Paul, an Indian-born, British-based businessman and Labour politician close to former Prime Minister Gordon Brown. NAR originally planned to grow jatropha on 100,000 ha in the Caprivi Region of Namibia, but decided it was not viable. It is now pursuing a US$250-million deal to produce grains, pastures, fruit, vegetables, nuts, and herbs on 30,000 ha of irrigated lands in the same area. In October 2010, NAR project manager François Waal told Insight Magazine that his company had been waiting for over a year for the final go-ahead from the Ministry of Lands. Caparo also controls over 40,000 ha of farmland in Sierra Leone for oil palm.\[Through a joint effort between the Government, IFAD, the World Bank and Wilmar's subsidiary Oil Palm Uganda Ltd, Wilmar has been allocated a total of 40,000 ha for nucleus oil-palm plantations in the three different areas of Uganda.\[Kingdom Agricultural Development Holding\] is owned by Saudi Prince Alwaleed bin Talal. Initially, in 1998, the project covered 42,000 ha, but in 2011 the Egyptian public prosecutor declared the sale illegal, and the Saudi company was forced to reduce its holdings to 4,200 ha, while agreeing to cultivate on another 6,300 ha of which it would take ownership at a later date. Landgrabber\[Palm oil Los Grobo\] EkoSem-Agrar\[Gruppi Maggi\] is one of the world's largest soybean producers, with around 200,000 ha under production in Brazil, disclosed to Valor Econômico in 2011 that it would be expanding outside Brazil, beginning with 7,000 ha in Argentina in 2011, and looking for opportunities in Africa and Colombia.\[volga-Holding\], LLC\[Société de Cultures Légumières Real estate\]Finance, real estate\[Livestock, rice, vegetables\]CAMS Group\[In August 2010, Abu Dhabi's Al Dabra Agricultural Company, one of the main suppliers of animal feed to the UAE, said it was halfway through the implementation of a plan to produce feed and food crops on 60,700 ha of farmland in Europe, the US, South Asia and North Africa to boost the UAE's food security. The company has 10,300 ha under production in Egypt, but says its landholdings will ultimately encompass 48,500 ha.\[Green Future Innovations\] is a joint-venture sugar-cane and ethanol project between Itochu Corp. and JGC Corp. of Japan, Bioethanol and Energy Investments Corp. of the Philippines and GCO of Taiwan. The project includes the development of an 11,000-ha sugar-cane plantation in the Province of Isabela that local groups say is already leading to the displacement of more than 1,000 farming families.\[JPT Capital Agrifund\]\[Aquila Capital's AgrarInvest fund manages investments for around 1,000 German investors. The fund focuses on the acquisition of dairy farms in New Zealand and cattle farms and sugar-cane plantations in Brazil. Through a German consortium with Neuseeland Milchfarm Investitions and Alceda Star and with the support of New Zealand's MyFarm, AgrarInvest acquired at least 11 dairy farms in New Zealand in 2010-11, making it one of the largest dairy producers in the country. Aquila is also targeting farmland in Brazil. Adecoagro\[ZAMB\]\[Romania\]\[Alpocat Agro\] is a Swedish company established in 2006 to acquire farmland in Russia and Ukraine. In December 2011, the company purchased another major Ukraine farmland operator, UK-based Landkom, giving it control of a further 74,000 ha in Ukraine and pushing its total landbank to over 270,000 ha. The company says that it will launch an IPO on the London Stock Exchange.\[Bunge Madagascar\]\[ETG\]\[owned by Kenya's Patel family, is incorporated in Singapore but its farming operations are run through its Mauritius subsidiary, ETG Holdings. The company is one of the largest farmland owners in Africa, with extensive holdings in Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia and the DRC. It has recently received heavy financial backing from the World Bank's International Finance Corporation and the Standard Chartered Bank of the UK. Some of ETG's farms are structured through Bio-Energy Investments (BEI), a joint venture established in 2006 with South African corporate farm operator Verus Group, in which ETG has a 66% stake. BEI operates a 57,000-ha farm in Zambia that it is in the process of selling to Zambeef, and an 8,000-ha rice farm in Tanzania with 3,500 ha under production. BEI CEO Justin Vermaak says that the company aims to develop 10 more corporate farms in Africa over the next 7 years.\[Congo Agriculture\]\[Fodder\]Paraguay-Barley, cotton, hay, maize, sugar cane, sunflowers, wheat\[Jeonnam Feedstock\]\[TIAA-CREF\] is one of the largest managers of retirement funds in the US. In Brazil, its farmland investments are made through a holding company, called Mansilla, which invests in the farmland fund, Radrop Propriedades Agrícolas. Radar buys agricultural land for conversion to sugar-cane soybean production and for speculation. The fund is 81.1% owned by TIAA-CREF, but entirely controlled by COSAN, which owns the remaining stake, and which is the largest sugar producer in Brazil and one of the largest in the world. At the end of 2010, <\[Radar had spent US$440 million to acquire over 180 farms in Brazil, covering 84,000 ha, with plans to spend another US$800 million to acquire 60 more farms, covering 340,000 ha. Radar says that it will seek farms in other countries in Latin America and that Cosan may increase its stake in the company, after its major ethanol alliance with Shell.\[In 2009, ZTE set up a China-Sudan Agricultural Experimental Park in Melouve, Sudan, to study the production of wheat and maize. The following year, the Sudan News Agency reported that the Government of Sudan had allocated ZTE 10,000 ha within the "framework of the joint cooperation between the two countries in the agricultural field toward moving from the stage of successful agricultural experiences to the stage of commercial production", reported Louis Dreyfus\[Done\]Prince Badr is the son of HRH Crown Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia. Norwegian People's Aid reports that he signed a 25-year lease with the Unity State government of South Sudan in 2010 covering 105,000 ha at a cost of US$125,000 per year.\[Heilongjiang Province\]\[Clean Energy Brazil\] is an investment company based in the UK and registered in the Cayman Islands that was launched in 2006 by London financial house Numis and Mexican sugar trader Czarikov, with over US$100 million in committed funds to invest in Brazilian sugar-cane production and processing. Through the acquisition of several Brazilian sugar-cane companies, it has acquired and leased land for sugar-cane plantations that, when put into production, will cover more than 30,000 ha.\[Far East Holdings\] Beradley Barley, maize, sunflower, wheat\[Louis Dreyfus, a privately owned French company, is one of the largest agricultural commodity traders in the world, and one of the world's largest sugar producers. In October 2009, LDC Bioenergia of Louis Dreyfus Commodities merged with Santelsia Vale, a major Brazilian sugar-cane production company, to form LDC-SEV, with Louis Dreyfus holding 66% of the company. Through the deal, Louis Dreyfus now controls 329,000 ha of sugar-cane plantations in Brazil Caparo group\[Done Rice, crops\]Cereals, oilseeds\[The PNG newspaper the National reports that Meeko Hinterland Holdings was granted a 99-year special agricultural lease on 30,000 ha in the DRC.}\[Canada\] is one of the world's largest commodity traders and is investing heavily in farming operations and contract farming schemes, particularly in Africa and Latin America. Olam cultivates 12,000 ha of peanut farms and another 5,000 ha of soybeans and maize in Rio Cuarto area in Córdoba province, Argentina. Olam says that it has plans to continue the increase in acreage and grow other crops such as wheat, soya and pulses, which could be exported to India. Agrarius AG South Korea\[Foras has completed a pilot study on 5,000 ha it has under a...
long-term lease in the Office du Niger, and now intends to expand to 50,000-100,000 ha, as part of a larger project to cultivate rice on 700,000 ha in various African countries. Foras acts as the investment arm of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Its main shareholders and founders are the Islamic Development Bank and several conglomerates from the Gulf region, including Sheikh Saleh Kameel and his Dallah Al Barakah Group, the Saudi Bin Laden Group, the National Investment Company of Kuwait and Nasser Kharafi, the world's 48th-richest person and owner of the Americana Group, Chongqing Seed Corp, Agrisol, through a joint venture with Pharos Financial of Dubai and Summit Group of the US, is developing a massive agricultural project on lands identified by the Government of Tanzania in Katuma (80,000 ha) and Mishamo (220,000 ha) in Rukwa province and Lugufu in Kigoma province (25,000 ha). These lands are all former refugee settlements still occupied by refugee families who entered Tanzania decades ago. MoUs have been executed and leases are being negotiated for the Rukwa lands, while an MoU is being prepared for the lands in Kigoma. Two of the three sites (Katumba and Mishamo) are inhabited by Burundian refugees displaced by war in 1972.  

In January 2012, Shanghai Construction Investment told AFP that it had signed an MoU with the Government of Sierra Leone for a US$1.3 billion project to develop rice and rubber production. The project, located in the northern region of Tonkili, includes the construction of railroads and irrigation, as well as 30,000 ha of land. Sierra Leone's Agriculture Minister Sam Sesay told AFP that the land had already been secured for the project. SIAAT is a Belgian company with extensive agricultural operations in Africa. In Gabon, it has a 7,300-ha oil-palm plantation, a 12,100-ha rubber plantation, and a 100,000-ha cattle farm. It also has palm-oil operations in Nigeria and Ghana. In 2006, IKO, a subsidiary of Shahani Land Reclamation General Corporation (also known as Shahani State Farm), signed a US$120-million investment agreement with the Government of Cameroon, giving it the Nanga-Eboko rice station and a 99-year lease for another 10,000 ha of land (2,000 ha in Nanga-Eboko (close to the rice farm), 4,000 ha in nearby Ndjoré District, and 4,000 ha in the west of the country in Sanotchou. The company has begun trials of rice and maize, and also plans to grow cassava. Date palm.  

According to a an article in the Journal of Peasant Studies, Appledigger is a private UK company that controls over 27,000 ha in Russia. Reports from Russia indicate that the company is registered in the British Virgin Islands and that it is closely connected with Russian billionaire and farmland owner Roman Avdeev.  

Al Dakhla Cattle, potatoes, sugar cane AgribusinessSouthern Global Inc.  

The DWS GALOF fund is offered by Deutsche Bank but the day-to-day management of the fund is delegated to Duxton Asset Management based in Singapore. It was launched in 2007, with a running time until 2016, and assets of ~110 million. The Oakland Institute reports that India's Romton Agri has a lease for 10,000 ha for tomato production in Ethiopia's Oromia Province. In October 2009, the Hebei Company told the Ugandan daily The Observer that it would establish farms for cereals and horticultural crops on 540 ha in Uganda, as well as poultry and sheep farms. It said it plans to expand its operations to 41,000 ha within 10 years. Senegal: The DWS GALOF fund is offered by Deutsche Bank, but the day-to-day management of the fund is delegated to Duxton Asset Management, based in Singapore. It was launched in 2007, with a running time until 2016, and assets of ~110 million. Alpco Agro is a Swedish company that was established in 2006 to acquire farmland in Russia and Ukraine. In December 2011, the company purchased another major Ukraine farmland operator, UK-based Landkom, giving it control of a further 74,000 ha in Ukraine and pushing its total landbank to over 270,000 ha. The company says that it will launch an IPO on the London Stock Exchange. Dairy and grain farmsNFDOgro  

Los Grobo has seen 22,000 ha. In Brazil, Los Grobo had 60,000 ha under production by 2011, and says it plans to triple its land holdings over the next few years by way of a joint venture company called LG AgroExportas & Participações SA, which will involve Brazil's Grupo Vinci Partners, an investment company set up by former Banco Pactual SA partner Gilberto Sayao. Mitus. In May 2008, the Government of Mali and the Kadhafi Government of Libya signed an investment agreement giving Malibya, a subsidiary of the Libyan sovereign wealth fund's Libyan African Investment Portfolio, a 50-year renewable lease covering 100,000 ha in the Office du Niger. The land was given for free on condition that Malibya develop the lands for irrigated agricultural production. Malibya was also given unlimited access to water for a small user fee. By 2009, Malibya had completed a 40-km irrigation canal and had announced plans for the production of hybrid rice, but the project was suspended when the Kadhafi regime collapsed in 2011. In January 2012, representatives of Libya's new government, the National Transitional Council, stated that they would maintain "good" investments in Mali and pursue agricultural projects in Africa, referring only to Sudan and countries "close to Libya".  

Black River, a hedge fund owned by US agribusiness giant Cargill, is targeting farmland acquisitions, mainly in South America and Asia. In November 2010, Reuters, referring to Brazil and Argentina, reported that the fund controlled 50,000 ha in the "region" and was seeking to expand its holdings. Reuters also reported that Black River was launching a food-focused fund in 2010 that will include investments in dairy farming in Asia and aquaculture in Central and South America. Caparao GroupBrazil: US$1.5 billionUruguay: NACEDC operates several large-scale dairy and crop farms in Saudi Arabia. In recent years, it has begun to invest in overseas farmland projects. In Sudan, in February 2010, it announced that it has acquired 42,000 ha in Sudan's Nile province. Investors in Nacdec include the Al-Rahj family and the Saudi Ministry of Finance's Public Investment Fund. Brookfield Asset Management is a Canadian fund manager that invests in farmland in Brazil through its US$330-million Brookfield Brazil AgriFund.ii: the Fund was established to invest in African, mainly in the Horn of Africa, sub-Sahara Africa and South Asia, with a special focus on countries with high growth potential and a strong commitment to economic development, food security and social inclusion. The Fund is managed by a consortium of three leading global asset managers: Resona Bank, Tokyo, Japan; Nordea Investment Management, Copenhagen, Denmark; and PGIM, the asset management arm of Prudential Financial Inc., Newark, New Jersey. The Fund was launched in 2012 and has a target size of US$500 million, with an initial capital of US$100 million raised from a diverse group of investors, including the World Food Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the United Nations Children's Fund. The Fund also benefits from the support of a group of leading partners, including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the European Investment Bank, and the European Union. The Fund will provide capital to a broad range of projects and activities, including agricultural and food security, renewable energy, sustainable forestry, and climate change adaptation. The Fund will focus on investments in smallholder and family farms, and will provide financing for the purchase of land, agricultural inputs, and other productive assets. The Fund will also support the development of agribusiness enterprises and value chains, as well as the provision of technical assistance and capacity building. In addition, the Fund will work closely with governments and other stakeholders to ensure that its investments are aligned with national priorities and contribute to the long-term economic and social development of the countries in which it invests. The Fund will be managed by a team of experienced professionals with a strong track record of investment success in the region. The Fund is committed to a rigorous due diligence process to ensure that its investments are socially and environmentally sustainable. The Fund will also be committed to the highest standards of governance and transparency, and will be subject to strict financial and social responsibilities. The Fund is a valuable addition to the growing portfolio of investment vehicles dedicated to addressing the global food security crisis and promoting sustainable development in Africa. The Fund is expected to have a significant impact on the food security and economic growth of the countries it invests in, and will be a valuable contribution to the global effort to address the global food security crisis.
abroad forced the company to back down from its projects, and in 2009 SEKAB sold all its African projects to its former CEO Per Carstedt for a token sum of ¬40. Carstedt has revived the Tanzania project and is setting up a sugar company, with an 8,000-ha sugar-cane plantation and a refinery in Bagamojo. The project in Mozambique is now being run under the name AgroEconomy. Information technology: Les Cultures du Cap Est: UAE: Michaël Laurent of France established Société de Cultures Légumières SA (SCL) in 2006. It operates farms in the St. Louis region of Senegal, where it produces horticultural crops for export to the UK. SCL is backed by the Belgian Investment Company for Developing Countries, Southern Agricultural Resources: Black Earth Farming operates in the Voronezh, Lipetsk, Tambov, Samara, Kursk, and Ryazan Regions, on 326,000 ha, of which it owns 256,000 ha. The company's biggest shareholders are Vostok Nafta and another Swedish fund, Investment AB Kinnevik (24.8% and 24.9%, respectively). Alecta Pension Fund holds another 9.3%. FELISA: Energy $Cassava, pineapple, rice, vegetables: $Crops, forestry, livestock: $Jim Rogers Fund: $Done (50-yr lease): $Middle Mount Forest: $Herakles Farms is an affiliate of Herakles Capital, a venture capital firm based in New York City. It is pursuing the acquisition and development of oil-palm plantations on over 80,000 ha in West and Central Africa. In south-western Cameroon, the company acquired a 99-year lease for 73,000 ha adjacent to several important reserves, including the Korup National Park, where it will develop oil-palm plantations that environmental NGOs say will destroy forests and small farms in the area. In Ghana, the company has acquired over 4,000 ha in the Volta and Doduo Pepusu regions for oil-palm plantations. $Jamaica: $Datong Trading Enterprise: $Dutch: $In 2008, Swedish Alcohol Chemistry AB (SEKAB), a corporation owned by three municipalities in northern Sweden, began the implementation of a massive, 200,000-ha project in Tanzania to cultivate sugar cane for the production of ethanol for export to SEKAB. It was also implementing a 15,000-ha sweet-sorghum project in the Cabo Delgado province of Mozambique. Opposition at home and abroad forced the company to back down from its projects, and in 2009 SEKAB sold all its African projects to its former CEO Per Carstedt for a token sum of ¬40. Carstedt has revived the Tanzania project and is setting up a sugar company, with an 8,000-ha sugar-cane plantation and a refinery in Bagamojo, Tanzania. His company, Bagamojo EcoEnergy Ltd., is registered in Mauritius. Carstedt has said that he intends to expand eventually to the original 200,000 ha, and has applied for a credit guarantee from the Swedish International Development Agency of FELISA, a Tanzanian-Belgian joint venture, has established an oil-palm plantation on 4,258 ha in the Kigoma Region of Tanzania. It is also pursuing another 5,000 ha of production through the development of an outlier scheme with small-scale farmers. Oil palm, rice: Industrial, real estate: Citrus and olives Suspended: MedEnergy Global is a UK-based holding company owned by Italy's Bellelli family, which made its fortune in the energy sector. MedEnergy is pursuing a 10,000-ha oil-palm plantation project in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado Province. In 2011, Justiça Ambiental & União Nacional de Camponeses reported that the South African company Servir Moç had acquired a 2,000-ha mixed farming operation in Mozambique. In February 2011, ADM, one of the world's largest agricultural commodity traders, announced that it would be establishing a processing plant and an oil-palm plantation on 12,000 ha in the northern Brazilian state of Pará. This will be ADM's first directly owned oil-palm plantation, although it is invested in oil-palm plantations in Asia and Africa through a minority stake in Singapore's Wilmar, one of the world's largest palm-oil companies. Rolnyvik: Libya African Investment Portfolio Singapore Vale-Embrapa in March 2011, India's Ruchi Group told the Hindu Business Line that it had signed an MoU with the Government of Cambodia to cultivate oil palm on 20,000 ha. The Cambodia project is part of a US$150-million overseas expansion to source vegetable-oil crops that the group's subsidiary Ruchi Soya is undertaking. Hassad Food: Alfalfa Shanghai Construction Investments: In August <2010, Goldtree Holdings, a company registered in Mauritius, signed an MoU with the Government of Sierra Leone to set up a large-scale oil-palm plantation in the Kailahun district. The project will be backed by the Agence Française de Développement, which has committed US$10 million to the project through the African Agriculture Fund, and FinnFund: Rolnyvik is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Swedish company Kinnevik, which operates two farms in Poland. In June 2009, Kinnevik acquired 30% of the shares in the Ukrainian farming company RawAgro, from the local investment company TAS, for a purchase consideration of about US$4 million. RawAgro leases 13,000 ha in five regions of Ukraine and also owns 24.9% of Black Earth Farming, which controls 326,000 ha of farmland in Russia. In 2011, the Alberta Investment Management Company (AIMCo), through a joint venture with Australia's New Forest, purchased 252,000 ha of land, covering a number of titles across several Australian states, from Great Southern Plantations. AIMCo, another of the world's largest palm oil companies, says that it expects to develop a mix of forestry and agricultural production on the lands. US$250 million: Citadell Capital Oil-Alert: A subsidiary of the Portugal-based Atlantica Group. The company acquired a 50-year lease on 5,000 ha of land near the city of Ambriz in Bengo Province, Mozambique. It intends to expand to 20,000 ha. Almonds: Animal ranching, coconut oil (export), jatropha, pineapple: Cassava: In December 2011, the Property Observer reported that Chinese investors had bought the 2,800-ha Mount Falcon Station, which runs sheep and cattle, from entrepreneur Sean Howard for A$6 million. US$4 In October 2009, Dubai-based Pharos and London-based Miro Holdings International launched the US$350-million Pharos Miro Agricultural Fund to focus on rice farming in Africa and cereal cultivation in eastern Europe. The Fund has a minimum subscription of US$1million and is actively seeking joint ventures with Gulf family-owned conglomerates and sovereign wealth funds. In January 2010, Pharos said that the fund was in the process of securing a 98-year lease on 50,000 ha of land in Tanzania to grow rice in order to secure food supplies for the Gulf countries. Tirso Euro Arab: Matanuska is a Mozambique-based company owned by UK-based Saxion Estates subsidiary Rift Valley Holdings, one of the largest African farmland owners, and Matanuska Mauritius, which appears to be a shell company. Norlund has invested US$3.7 million in the company, giving it a 33.3% share, and provided it with US$4 million in loans. In a first phase of the company's operations, Matanuska established a 3,000-ha banana plantation and secured a 12-year supply agreement with Quito. In a report by Mozambique's national farmers organisation UNAC, the company has made repeated labour-law violations. UK: Maize, rice, sugar: The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is a US government programme that provides overseas assistance to countries that meet specific criteria. In Mali, the MCC is pursuing and financing a project on over 20,000 ha in the Office du Niger to convert land mainly used for pastoralism to irrigated intensive farmland. Agribusiness, energy: According to a 2010 report by Benin's farmers organisation Synergie Paysanne, the Nigerian company BETEXCO acquired 1,500 ha of land in Zogiebdomey for cassava production. Agro-énergie Développement (AgroEd) is a company set up to invest in vertically integrated biofuels and food production in developing countries. It is 51% owned by France's LMBO Finances, with France's former Minister of Defence Charles Million as a director (although LMBO launched a legal suit against Million in 2010 for mismanaging funds for the benefit of other companies he was involved in). The company's acquisitions of farmland in West Africa are said to be a shell company. Norlund has invested US$3.7 million in the company, giving it a 33.3% share, and provided it with US$4 million in loans. In a first phase of the company's operations, Matanuska established a 3,000-ha banana plantation and secured a 12-year supply agreement with Quito. The company's biggest shareholders are the Auckland Institute, which has leased 43,000 ha on a 45-year renewable lease in the Port Loko District, where the company plans to establish oil-palm plantations on 40,000 ha by 2017. Carapo is also pursuing 30,000 ha in Namibia. Base: Dem-Inter International Gambia, The Eayt Oilfield Services: In April 2010, the Secretary of the Mamuju agriculture and animal husbandry agency told the ANTARA news agency that Chinese investors were planning to develop 1,000 ha of rice fields in Tommo subdistrict, Mamuju regency, West Sulawesi province. He did not disclose the name of the investor. The DWS GALOF fund is offered by Deutsche Bank, but the day-to-day management of the fund is delegated to Duxton Asset Management, based in Singapore. It was launched in 2007, with a running time until 2016, and assets of ¬110 million. It is currently expanding its 5,000-ha commercial farm in Tanzania, called Mountainside, which produces wheat and barley, as well as 1,200 sheep. DWS claims that the farm yields returns of 30-35%. Cresud was a small farmland operator managing 20,000 ha when it was taken over by George Soros and Argentinian real-estate tycoon Eduardo Elsztain in the 1990s. Within a few years, the company grew to control nearly half a million ha in Argentina. After Soros sold his shares in the company in 1999, Elsztain continued to expand its landholdings. By 2011, Cresud was Argentina's largest landholder, controlling over 628,000 ha, on which it produces mainly soybeans and cattle, as well as lands in neighbouring countries. Cresud controls 17,000 ha in Bolivia, 142,000 ha in Paraguay, and 175,000 ha in Brazil through its controlling interest in farmland operator BrasilAgro. Added up, Cresud's farmland bank stands at 962,000 ha. Elsztain typically finances Cresud's expansions through share sales on the
In June 2011, it inked a deal for a joint venture with China’s largest farming company, Heilongjiang Beidahuang Nongken Group, to buy land in Argentina and farm soybeans for the Group. The world’s largest producer of milk. Over the past few years it has begun to establish large-scale dairy farms overseas, in China, India and Brazil. In May 2011, it announced that it had purchased an 850-hectare dairy farm in Goias State, Brazil, where it would establish a pilot farm with a view to developing its own production base in the country. In 2005, all that remained of Lonrho, once one of the largest foreign companies in Africa, was a hotel in Mozambique and $20 million in cash. Then David Lenigas became the new CEO and, with the support of the chairman Geoffrey White, an adviser to Qatari emir Sheikh Khalifa Al Thani, Lonrho launched a new wave of investments in Africa. The company took over hotels, airlines and infrastructure, but its focus is agribusiness. It now exports fish from Mozambique and runs a vertically integrated subsidiary that grows produce on farms in southern Africa for export to European supermarkets.

Lonrho has recently been expanding its agricultural holdings. In 2009, it acquired a 25,000-hectare lease for farmlands in Angola, and commenced feasibility studies for 25,000 ha of agricultural land in Malawi and up to 100,000 ha in Mali, where the company has a lease on 20,000 ha. White says that the company will focus on horticulture. We don’t think there’s a risk in non-cereal farming. If there’s a famine, people won’t come after our green peppers. In October 2009, Dubai-based Pharos and London-based Miro Holdings International launched the US$350-million Pharos Miro Agricultural Fund to focus on rice farming in Africa and cereal cultivation in eastern Europe. The Fund has a minimum subscription of US$1 million and is actively seeking joint ventures with Gulf family-owned conglomerates and sovereign wealth funds. In November 2009, it announced that the fund had a team in Romania seeking to identify 50,000 ha of farmland for acquisition.

The Quifel National Fund is part of Portugal’s Quifel Group, a holding company controlled by Portuguese aristocrat, businessman and amateur racing-car driver Miguel Maria de Sá Pais do Amaral, which is involved in multiple sectors, from insurance and real estate to agriculture and energy. Quifel began investing in farmland through the development of palm-oil production in Brazil. With land prices rising in Brazil, the company turned its attention to Africa in 2007, where it decided to focus on acquiring large land concessions in coastal East African countries for oilseeds, and West African countries for fruit and vegetables. So far Quifel has acquired land in Mozambique, Angola and Sierra Leone. In Sierra Leone, it has three 49-year leases covering 126,000 ha in Upper Kowa, Loko Masoma and the Lower Masimera Chiefdom. Abu Dhabi acquired 29,400 ha through the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development. The fund will work in partnership with the Arab Authority for Agricultural Investment and Development, a pan-Arab agency based in Kartoum (Ref 2). Rice, wheat, Lotus Group, Calyx Agro was established by Louis Dreyfus Commodities as a fund to purchase and turn over farmland in the Southern Cone of Latin America. Other key investors are PineBridge Investments (subsidiary of the Hong-Kong-based Pacific Century Group), TRG Management, Worldstar Ltd, Pictet Private Equity Investors and Solivia Investment Management. In 2011, the World Bank’s International Finance Corporation rejected an application from Calyx Agro to finance its activities.

The World Agro Fund is managed by Omega Euro Pacific Management, which is based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. The fund was founded in 2006 by four private investors from the Netherlands and Denmark, and its goal is to acquire and manage agricultural assets in developing countries. The fund has already acquired land in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and is currently investing in projects in Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico and the Philippines. The fund has a capital base of US$350 million and has invested in a number of projects around the world, including the acquisition of a 4,000-hectare palm-oil plantation in Liberia, the development of a 5,000-hectare rice farm in Cambodia, and the construction of a 5,000-hectare sugarcane plantation in Thailand. The fund has also invested in a number of property developments, including the construction of a 10,000-hectare shrimp farm in Myanmar and the development of a 5,000-hectare sugarcane plantation in Thailand.

In 2010, the company reported that it had acquired 34,000 ha of farmland in Brazil, including 3,000 ha of soybeans, 10,000 ha of sugarcane, 8,000 ha of corn, and 2,000 ha of rice. The company also expects to acquire an additional 6,000 ha of farmland in Brazil in 2011, bringing its total holdings to 40,000 ha. The company plans to invest US$50 million in the project, which will be financed through a mix of debt and equity.

In January 2012, the website of US-based CAMS Global stated that the company was negotiating for a long-term lease of 20,000 ha in Tanzania for the development of a pilot project to cultivate sweet sorghum for ethanol production in the districts of Handeni and Bagamoyo. The project involves the establishment of a 5,000-hectare sugarcane plantation, which will be processed at a new ethanol plant to be constructed by Redland Farming. The project is expected to produce 300,000 liters of ethanol per year, which will be used to produce biodiesel for the local market.

In 2011, Nakeen Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of ABERDI, A. Brown Co’s agribusiness division, announced its intention to develop a 600-ha oil-palm plantation in Singapore. The company plans to invest US$10 million in the project, which will be financed through a mix of debt and equity. The company expects to produce 30,000 tons of palm oil per year, which will be sold to local and international markets.

In 2010, Malaysia’s Prosper Group, which has oil-palm operations, announced its intention to invest US$50 million in a new oil-palm plantation in Malaysia. The company plans to acquire 2,000 ha of land in the Sabah state, which will be developed into a new oil-palm plantation. The project is expected to produce 60,000 tons of palm oil per year, which will be sold to local and international markets.

In 2011, the World Agro Fund announced that it had acquired a 20,000-hectare palm-oil plantation in the Philippines, which will be developed into a new oil-palm plantation. The project is expected to produce 60,000 tons of palm oil per year, which will be sold to local and international markets.

In 2010, the company reported that it had acquired 3,000 ha of farmland in Brazil, including 1,000 ha of soybeans, 1,000 ha of sugarcane, 500 ha of corn, and 500 ha of rice. The company also expects to acquire an additional 6,000 ha of farmland in Brazil in 2011, bringing its total holdings to 4,000 ha. The company plans to invest US$50 million in the project, which will be financed through a mix of debt and equity.

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In 2011, the Scottish Morning Herald reported that Black River’s subsidiary BFJ Pty Ltd was buying a 2,100-ha grain farm in the Bland shire, Australia.

In 2011, Papua New Guinea’s Strategic Development and Investment Corporation (SDIC) reports that the company has invested $60 million in a 50,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $100 million in a 10,000-ha rice farm in Cambodia.

In 2011, the company has invested $150 million in a 50,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $200 million in a 100,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $250 million in a 250,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $300 million in a 50,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $350 million in a 100,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $400 million in a 200,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $450 million in a 300,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $500 million in a 500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $550 million in a 750,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $600 million in a 1,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $650 million in a 1,500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $700 million in a 2,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $750 million in a 2,500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $800 million in a 3,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $850 million in a 3,500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $900 million in a 4,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $950 million in a 4,500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $1 billion in a 5,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $1.5 billion in a 7,500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $2 billion in a 10,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $2.5 billion in a 12,500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $3 billion in a 15,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $3.5 billion in a 17,500,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.

In 2011, the company has invested $4 billion in a 20,000,000-ha oil-palm plantation in the country’s Eastern Highlands province.
Bank was teaming up with large Indian rice, wheat and edible-oil processing companies to produce crops in Africa. A company executive told Reuters that the bank was pursuing the acquisition of 30,000-50,000 ha for rice and wheat production in Tanzania, and the construction of a processing plant near the farm. He also said that Yes Bank was considering projects in Mozambique, Malawi, Madagascar, Angola and Namibia, and in Mozambique, Uganda and other African countries by Chinese investors, publicly stating that the lands are available for 99-year leases at US$1 or less per ha. In 2008, The UK's Daily Telegraph reported that Liu Jianjun himself had acquired 4,000 ha in Uganda for farming.

Under an agreement with the Government of Bulgaria, China's Tianjin State Farms Agribusiness Group acquired 2,000 ha of land in May 2011 to grow maize, alfalfa and sunflower for export to China. The company is pursuing negotiations for a further 10,000 ha. According to a report by Justiça Ambiental and the União Nacional de Camponeses and a report by IIED, a company called Sabilo is pursuing the production of sugar cane and coconut and palm oil on 29,000 ha of land in Mozambique.

The Grain Alliance-Cereals, vegetables-The project is located in Kandiourou and Touaraba districts of the Office du Niger. The Western Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) will bring irrigation to the lands, and private investors will then be involved in the production of rice.

Colombia-Ingelby Company-US$200 million-Hyundai is one of several South Korean transnational corporations that are pursuing overseas farmland acquisitions for the production of food crops to export to South Korea. In Russia it has secured a lease for 10,000 ha to produce cereals, and plans to invest an additional US$9 million to expand production to 50,000 ha in 2012.

In November 2010, China's Hunan DFY Agriculture Co. Ltd signed a contract with Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture giving it a 40-year lease to 25,000 ha of land in the Region of Gambela for a sugar-cane production project. Hunan DFY Agriculture is a joint venture between the ErShiSanYe Group and one of China's largest seed companies, Long Ping High-tech. Olam is an Indian non-resident company, based in Singapore. It is one of the world's largest commodity traders and is investing heavily in farming operations and contract farming schemes, particularly in Africa and Latin America. In January 2012, Olam announced a US$250-million investment to develop a 50,000-ha oil palm plantation in Gabon.

State-owned Beidahuang is the largest farming company in China, managing over 2 million ha of farmland in the Province of Heilongjiang. Since 2008, the company has been expanding its farming operations overseas. It is in negotiations for large farmland deals in Argentina and the Philippines, and the Austrailian Broadcasting Corporation reports that, in 2011, the company had made offers on a number of farms in Western Australia, amounting to about 80,000 ha of land to produce food for export to China.

Cattle, palm oil-Sepahan Africa-Monica Semillas-Maize, peanuts, sorghum, sunflowers-Bangalore-based Karuturi Global Ltd, founded by Sai Ramakrishna Karuturi, is the world's largest producer of cut flowers. In 2008, Karuturi started to invest in farmland and agricultural production in Africa through it's Dubai holding company, Karuturi Overseas. It began by acquiring a long-term lease on 11,000 ha in the Oromia Region of Ethiopia and a 50-year renewable lease on 100,000 ha in the Gambela Region, with an option for another 200,000 ha. It intends to produce palm oil and sugar, but primarily rice and wheat for export, and has already worked out a 40,000-tonne-per-year supply agreement with Djibouti, and is negotiating similar deals with other African countries. Beyond Ethiopia, Karuturi has announced intentions to acquire farmlands in Tanzania and Sudan.

US$4/ha/yr (lease)-The Korean and Philippine governments signed an MoU for the creation of a Multiple Industry Cluster, under which the Philippines will identify and make available 100,000 ha of private farmland for South Korean investors, with the Korean International Cooperation Agency providing technical assistance. In April 2011, Trade Under-secretary Cristino Panilii said that an inter-agency task force was working on the identification of both private and government land for the project.

Volga-holding is a major grain producer in Kazakhstan, where it operates on more than 560,000 ha. It is also involved in storage and processing, and is one of the main importers of agricultural commodities in Kazakhstan. Its Russian farms are situated in the far east of the country. Maize, rape, sunflowers, wheat-Bermuda-ACapital Partners was founded by five Irish entrepreneurs to acquire farms overseas and then sell them at a profit after 5-7 years. The fund manages farms in Serbia, Lithuania, Australia and the USA.

Tiba Agra was created by two former Brazilian executives of the Bank of America, Fabio Greco and Amauri Fonseca Junior, who now own 25% of the company. Around 45% of the company is held by US and European private equity funds that have committed a total of US$300 million to Tiba, and the remaining 30% is held by Brazil's Francioni Brothers and the Golin Group, major farmland owners that handed their farmlands over to Tiba in exchange for major shares in the company. By 2010, the company had already taken control of 320,000 ha in the Brazilian Cerrado. Food crops-Addax Bioenergy Sierra Leone Ltd is a subsidiary of Addax & Orxy, a Swiss-based energy corporation. In 2010, the company acquired long-term lease rights to over 15,000 ha of land in Bombali District, Northern Province, Sierra Leone, where it intends to establish sugar-cane plantations, mainly for the production of ethanol for European markets.

Over half of the investment in the project has been provided by development banks, including the European Investment Bank, Swedfund and the African Development Bank. A 2011 report by the Switzerland's Pain pour le Prochain uncovered a number of fiscal exemptions, social and environmental impacts and illegitimate agreements with local authorities that contradict the company's efforts to paint its project as socially and environmentally responsible.

Chayton Capital is a US$300-million London-based private equity fund created in 2006 by former Goldman Sachs director Neil Crowder, to set up agribusiness ventures in six African countries. Chayton has begun with Zambia, where it has acquired a 14-year lease on 20,000 ha in Mkhushi, which it intends to aggregate into a single farm under its "Chobe Agrivison" project. The project is backed by US$50 million in political risk insurance from the World Bank-Japan-Karuturi-Agro-énergie Développement-United Arab Emirates Oil seeds, pulses, rice, wheat-US$250 million-In 2007, Principle, which is listed on central London's private equity funds, alongside a group of hedge funds, began a project to develop a sugar-cane plantation on more than 20,000 ha in the Dornibe District of Mozambique that will provide feedstock for what it says will be one of the world's five largest ethanol plants. Shareholders of Principle include Nicholas Trust (Australia), Jupiter (UK), Deutsche Bank (Germany) and SVM Asset Management (UK). Adecoagro is a publicly traded company launched and controlled by the fund of US billionaire George Soros, with Dutch pension manager PGGM Investments also owning a major stake. As of December 2010, the company owned 287,884 ha of farmland in Brazil, 15,000 ha in Brazil for sugar-cane plantations and 74,000 ha on long-term leases in Brazil for grazing its cattle.

Sheep, cattle, forest Nagatham Fund-T4M claims to have completed negotiations for a 25-year lease on 100,000 ha in Ghana and 300,000 ha in Nigeria. It is working in partnership with the government of Vietnam and is supported by the UK government. It is looking for investors to inject US$425 million for each 10,000-ha farm it plans to establish on the lands it has leased. In May 2010, the Sudan News Agency reported that an Emirate investor had been allocated 38,400 ha in Um-Jawaseer for a US$15-million irrigated agricultural project. Mitr Phol Group-GADCO-US$400 million-In August 2010, Abu Dhabi's Al Dhabi Agricultural Company, which owns one of the most significant animal herds in the UAE, said it was halfway through the implementation of a plan to produce feed and food crops on 60,700 ha of farmland in Europe, the US, South Asia and North Africa to boost the UAE's food security. The company has 4,000 ha under production in Russia and intends to bring that to 10,100 ha before 2013. The Ingacot Group, which produces soybeans and maize on large areas of land that it rents in Argentina, began operations in Colombia in 2009. It rents farmlands in the Magdalena Central area of Colombia, where it reproduces its soybean-maize rotation model of large-scale farming. Shanghai real-estate mogul Jiang Zhaobai, Chairman and owner of the Penxin Group, has been investing heavily in farmland over the past few years. In China, it acquired 650 ha of farmland near Shanghai, used for sheep, wheat and soybeans, and has another 930-ha sheep farm in Shandong Province. Outside China, the company invested more than US$20 million in a Bolivian soybean and maize-farm, established large-scale farms in Cambodia and Argentina, and is negotiating to buy 200,000 ha of land in Brazil to grow soybeans and cotton. In January 2011, it made an offer to buy Crafer farms in New Zealand, which encompasses 16 dairy farms, following an unsuccessful bid by China's Natural Dairy (NZ) Holdings Ltd. The sale was approved by New Zealand's government in January 2012. Banana, maize, wheat-Huvel SFAC-Rabobank-Al Rajhi International Investment Company-El April 2011 the Zambia Development Agency and South Africa's AGZAM Project Developers signed an MoU to develop a sugar-processing plant and 15,000 ha of sugar-cane plantations in the south of Zambia. In March 2008 Nile Trading and Development (NTD), a Texas-based company, entered into a 49-year lease agreement with Mukaya Payam Cooperative, a organisation that presents itself as the representative of the local community. The project is located in Lainya county, Central Equatoria State. The Oakland Institute reports that the Mukaya Payam Cooperative is a fictitious cooperative. A 2011 petition
handed to the state governor in Juba states that, we the chiefs, elders, religious leaders and the youth of Mukaya Payam, unanimously, with strong terms condemn, disavow and deny the land lease agreement reached on 11 March 2008 between the two parties". Sugar cane. In 2010, Reuters reported that Egypt and Sudan had signed a deal giving the Government of Egypt access to 400,000 ha of land within the Al Gezira project in Sudan for it to offer to private companies. Companies striking agreements with Egypt for portions of the land would also have to sign deals with the Government of Sudan, as is the case with an earlier deal between Jordan and Sudan. Swaziland—Brazil—The Ingleby Company, which is owned by Denmark's Rausing dynasty, began purchasing farms in New Zealand in 1999 and by 2011 it had acquired 17 farms, some of which have been amalgamated. The company recently sold two of its farms on the East Coast and is seeking more in King Country as a way to spread climate risks. The Rausings are also buying farmland in Argentina, Romania, USA, Uruguay and Australia. Australia—Cassava and oil palm—Cereals, pulses, rice. The land was made available by the Burmese government upon request by the Government of Bangladesh in June 2008. Around 10,000 Bangladeshi farmers from the Chittagong region are expected to be brought in as labourers for the project. US$34.1 million—Egli is a US-based hedge fund formed by a former trader at Cargill. The company launched the Galttere Global Farmland Fund in 2007 in conjunction with the Galttere Global Farmland Fund and a joint venture between Galttere Ltd and Harvest Capital Group LLC. In September 2010, Galttere said it would raise US$1 billion to buy farms in the US and Brazil. In Brazil it owns two farms, producing rice and soybeans on 25,000 ha, with another 22,000 ha in development. Qatar—Oil palm—US$45.3 million—Israel—US$23 million—Grain, dairy, livestock—Vietnam—Sosucarm—Equatorial Palm Oil—US$4.8 million—US$40 million—Landmark Cereals, rice—Australia—Netherlands—US$43 million—Sullus Capital—El Tejar began as an association of Argentine cattle farmers in the 1980s, but then became involved in grain production in the 1990s. By the end of the decade it was one of the largest soybean producers in the country, farming on rented land. After 2006, foreign investors entered the company, such as London-based hedge fund Altima Partners, which now owns 40% of the company, the World Bank's International Finance Corporation and US private equity firm Capital Group, and El Tejar started to acquire its own farms in Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil, where it is now the largest farm operator. In 2006, El Tejar was farming around 200,000 ha, and today they are farming close to 800,000 ha. The company intends to launch an IPO on New York or São Paulo stock exchanges to access more capital to expand its landholdings. Pforas’ acquired the land in Mauritania to conduct its initial studies of rice production, as part of a larger project to cultivate rice on 700,000 ha in various African countries. Foras acts as the investment arm of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Its main shareholders and founders are the Islamic Development Bank and several conglomerates from the Gulf region, including Sheikh Saleh Kamel and his Dallah Al Barakah Group, the Saudi Bin Laden Group, the National Investment Company of Kuwait and Nasser Kharafi, the world's 48th-richest person and owner of the Americana Group. US$7 million—Sime Darby—US$15 million—Lithuania—US$166 million—In December 2007, Libyan African Investment Portfolio, owned by Libya's sovereign wealth fund, invested US$30 million in a rice project in Libya managed in partnership with the Government of Liberia and a local NGO created to implement the project, Foundation for African Development Aid (ADA). ADA was granted a 20-year concession on 15,000 ha of land where it intended to grow hybrid rice varieties from China. In May 2010, Liberia's President Sirleaf announced that the project had collapsed, owing to the overthrow of the Kadafi regime, and that her government was in the process of identifying a new investor to replace ADA. —Société Fondiaria Industriale Romagnola—In June 2010, Noble Group, one of the world's largest global commodities traders, acquired a 51% stake in the Indonesian palm-oil company PT Henrishon Inti Persada, a subsidiary of the Kayu Lapis Indonesia Group, giving it control of the 32,500 ha of forested lands in Sorong Regency, West Papua Province where Henrishon Inti Persada is developing oil-palm plantations. Local communities were reported to have been paid as little as US$2.50 per hectare when the lands were acquired by Henrishon Inti Persada. US$5 million—Energy—US farmer David Sweere established Kyiv-Atlantic Ukraine in the early 1990s, but the company did not get involved in farming in Ukraine until 2000, when it created a subsidiary, Atlantic Farms, and took over three bankrupt farms. In 2006, the company did not get involved in the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development and three wealthy Danish agribusiness families to restructure the company and inject new funds, allowing the company to expand its farmer holdings to 10,000 ha of cropland and 4,000 ha of head of cattle. —Grain—The Zuellig Group, headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, is one of the largest privately held conglomerates in the world, with an annual turnover of over US$12 billion. In March 2011, the company said that it was test-growing maize in the Philippines, where it plans to set up a 30,000 ha plantation to grow maize to supply its subsidiary Gold coin, one of Asia's largest feed producers. Mehta Group—ARS Agrofoods Asparagus, squash, sweetcorn—Symbol—KS Oils—Southern Global Inc., incorporated in Albertville, Alabama, US, intends to produce rice in the Office du Niger as part of President Amadou Toumani Toure's "Initiative Riz". —Envest—Serving—MoçAfrica—JUICE—Oilsseed Sannati Agro Farm Enterprise—Foras has told the Government of the Russian Republic of Tatarstan that it is interested in leasing 10,000 ha for crop production. Foras acts as the investment arm of the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Its main shareholders and founders are the Islamic Development Bank and several conglomerates from the Gulf region, including Sheikh Saleh Kamel and his Dallah Al Barakah Group, the Saudi Bin Laden Group, the National Investment Company of Kuwait and Nasser Kharafi, the world's 48th-richest person and owner of the Americana Group. Pistachios—Maize, oilseeds, pulses, sugar cane—Barley, cattle, maize, soybeans, wheat—Norwegian People's Aid reports that Eyat Oilfield Services, a company owned by Northern Sudanese investors, acquired a 99-year lease in 2010 on 162,000 ha of land in the Ezo and Tambura counties of West Equatorial State, Sudan. Bangladesh—Vita Grain is a Singaporean company owned by portfolio investor Intrasia Capital that has been investing in hybrid rice development and production in Asia, Africa and Australia. The company's African investments in Mauritius, Mozambique and Mauritius are undertaken through a Mauritius holding company. In Mauritius, the company, by way of a subsidiary in which the Mauritian government holds a minority stake, is developing a 2,500 ha rice farm that it says will be capable of supplying 25% of the domestic rice market. The Government of Mauritius is also sub-leaseing 10,000 ha of lands that it leases in Mozambique to Vita Grain for rice production, some of which will also be intended for the Mauritius market. Crops, sugar cane—Jenam—Long Van 28 Company—US$83 million—Joakim Helenius, the fourth-richest man in Estonia and former investment banker with Goldman Sachs and Merrill Lynch, founded Trigon Capital as an Estonian-registered company in 1994. Trigon launched its Trigon Agri Fund, with registration in Denmark, in 2006. By January 2012, the fund had acquired over 170,000 ha of land for cereal farming in the Black Earth region of Russia and Ukraine, and several dairy farms in Estonia and Russia. It trades on the Nasdaq OMX Stockholm—Nitto-Niloy Group—San Carlos Bio-Energy—in May 2011, Mittsu bought Swiss-based Multigrain AG. Multigrain, through its subsidiary XinguAgri, owns over 100,000 ha of farmland in the states of Maranhão, Minas Gerais and Bahia, where it produces soybeans, cotton and maize predominantly for export. Biotelu and food crops—Far Eastern Agricultural Investment Company—ZTE Corporation is China's largest telecommunications company, with operations in more than 140 countries. In 2007, it established ZTE Energy to invest in biofuels and food production in China and overseas. In 2008, ZTE purchased 258 ha in Menkao, near Kinshasa, to study the potential for agriculture five degrees north and south of the equator, and then purchased a 600-ha farm in 2010. It has a 100,000 ha concession for an oil-palm plantation from the Government of the DRC, but it has put this project on hold. As of April 2011, it was reported that South Korea's Lotte group was pursuing a sugar-cane project involving around 10,000 ha in Central Luzon and the construction of a sugar mill. China's Wahaha Group has also indicated its interest in these same lands. AgroGeneration—in 2005, Prio Foods, a subsidiary of Group Marfaier, began investing in farmland as a way to secure supplies for its food operations. It currently operates farms in Brazil, Romania and Mozambique. It began investing in farmland in Mozambique in 2008. By 2011, it had nearly 25,000 ha under concessions, although it was only culturing sunflower on 3,000 ha. The company intends to expand production and begin cultivating cereals and soybeans. US$786 million—ATM Plantations is a subsidiary of TM Global Holdings, an investment fund set up by Tony Tan that is registered in Delaware, US and that focuses on investments in emerging markets. In July 2007, TM Plantations paid preliminary survey fees to the Kasulu District government of Tanzania to investigate the feasibility of establishing an oil-palm plantation on 50,000 ha, and the company is also pursuing land acquisitions for forestry. In 2007, Colonial Kabenga Nsa-Kaisi, former chief counselor to Tanzanian President Benjamin Mkapa, was appointed to the board of TM Plantations. Farm Lands of Guinea (FLG) is a company based in Gibraltar and registered in the British Virgin Islands. On 16 September 2010, with a military junta in control of the Government of Guinea, FLG signed agreements with Guinea's Ministry of Agriculture giving it 99-year lease rights to over 100,000 ha of agricultural land, where it intends to...
grow maize and soybeans. Late in 2011, FLG reported that its representatives had been in The Gambia prospecting for lands, and that it had made a proposal to Malis's Minister of Agriculture for 10,000 ha in the Office du Niger. In Sierra Leone, FLG is pursing the acquisition of 11,900 ha to the west of the River Tai for the large-scale production of rice.

In March 2011, the Overseas Investment Office approved Australia’s The Trust Company's purchase of The New Zealand Guardian Trust, which in a trustee capacity, owns or controls a freehold interest in 13,691.73 ha of land at various locations around New Zealand, Maize, potatoes, spring wheat, sugar beets, sunflowers, sweet potatoes) Bananas, palm oil, rice, sugar cane, tea.

In January 2012, Der Spiegel reported that three German farmers were operating a 4,000 ha farm south of Moscow that they are now planning to expand. In 2010, GTZ reported that Les Cultures du Cap Est, a company controlled by Indian investors, had acquired 9,100 ha in Madagascar for palm oil production.

US$100 million in 2008, Portuguese conglomerate Euriro Ferreira’s renewable energy subsidiary, Proef, announced that it was pursuing a US$200 million, 30,000 ha sugar-cane project in the Zaire Province of northern Angola.

In April 2011, two Shawi communities and one Kechea community from the provinces of Alto Amazonas and San Martin, Peru, became aware that the South Korean company Ecomerica had applied for the registration and titling of more than 72,000 ha of land, at a price of US$0.80 a hectare, for crop production, logging and livestock raising on lands within their territories. The communities have contested the concession, and the application has been put on hold, pending a decision by the Constitutional Court. Agriterra/ In October 2010, Indian rice exporter the Amirga Group announced it was in talks with local partners to set up a rice-processing plant in Cambodia, its first outside India, and to acquire 25,000 ha of land to produce rice for export, taking advantage of Cambodia’s participation within ASEAN and ASEAN-Australia/New Zealand free trade agreements. Herakles Farms is an affiliate of Herakles Capital, a venture capital firm based in New York City. It is pursuing the acquisition and development of oil-palm plantations on more than 80,000 ha in West and Central Africa. In south-western Cameroon, the company acquired a 99-year lease for 73,000 ha adjacent to several important reserves, including the Korup National Park, where it will develop oil-palm plantations that environmental NGOs say will destroy forests and small farms in the area. In Ghana, the company has acquired over 4,000 ha in the Volta and Dodek Pepesu regions for oil-palm plantations. In 2010, Tunde Lakoju, the Edo State Commissioner of Agriculture, said that an MoU had been signed with Chinese investors to cultivate 6,000 ha of cassava in the state. The identity of the Chinese investors was not disclosed.

Hancock Agricultural Investment Group, a unit of Toronto-based Manulife Financial Corp., Canada’s largest insurer, manages US$1.4 billion in real estate, covering 93,000 ha of farmland in the US, as well as 2,500 ha in Australia and 420 ha in Canada. %Cereals, grapes, soybeans, sugar beets%Hops, maize, oilseed rape, sugar beet, wheat, wine, winter barley%Agribusiness, industrial, real estate%Crops (mostly wheat)

■DAB Beteiligungs■India■Neha International is a Hyderabad-based company founded by G Vinod Reddy, and is one of India’s leading producers of cut flowers. It expanded operations into Africa in the 2000s, where it has recently moved to focus on its business development strategy. ■In 2005, China’s Hubei State Farm Agribusiness Corp established a demonstration farm on 1,000 ha provided by the Government of Mozambique. Hubei SFAC subsequently formed Lianfang Overseas Agricultural Development Co Ltd to expand its activities in Mozambique and other countries in Africa.

■US$10 million■Tata Chemicals%Amity Technology■Olam is an Indian non-resident company, based in Singapore. It is one of the world’s largest commodity traders and is investing heavily in farming operations and contract farming schemes, particularly in Africa and Latin America. New Zealand Farming System, which was bought by Olam in 2011, owns several dairy farms covering 28,786 ha, and leases a further 5,093 ha of agricultural land across Uruguay.

Ukrainian Agrarian Investments (UAI) is a Cyprus-based company controlled by Moscow investment bank Renaissance Capital, which was taken over by Russian billionaire Mikhail Prokhorov in 2008. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development provided the company with loan facilities worth a total of US$60 million. US$35 million Almarai Co.■Hyundai is one of several South Korean transnational corporations that are pursuing overseas farmland acquisitions for the production of food crops to export to South Korea. In Brazil, Hyundai is looking for farmland in various states to cultivate soybeans.■Agriars began acquiring farmland in Romania in 2009. Today it operates on over 3,000 ha, mainly in the Banat region, where the soils are fertile and comparatively cheap. It intends to expand its land holdings to 4,000 ha by the end of 2011 and to move into sugar-beet production. The company’s shares trade on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange.

The Kuwait Ministry of Agriculture is considering a proposal from the Government of the Philippines for an agricultural project involving 10,000 ha for the cultivation of rice and 10,000 ha for maize. National Agricultural Development Co (NADECO)■Singbridge, a unit of Singapore state investor Temasek, signed a series of agreements with China’s Jinli to construct the China Jinli (Singapore) Modern Agricultural Cooperation Food Zone. The US$16-billion project in north-east China will cover an area of 145,000 ha and will produce both maize and soybeans for the domestic market, and rice, pork, beef and dairy products for export to Singapore, Japan and South Korea. Al Futtaim Group and other UAE companies have been invited to join Singapore’s Temasek in the project. The project includes a joint venture with Taiwan’s DaChan Group, one of the largest meat producers in China, to build a massive integrated pig farm capable of processing 1 million pigs a year, mainly for export to Singapore.

Symbol is a key supplier of vegetable oil to the operators of co-generation plants in Germany. It began operations in Ghana in 2007 for the production and export of palm oil, and has acquired 7,000 ha under a 49-year lease with an option to expand to 13,500 ha. It also plans to invest in oil-crop production in Russia.

Quifel Natural Resources■Malaysia■Some Darby is the world’s largest agribusiness company and palm-oil producer. In 2009, the company was granted a 63-year lease for a 220,000-ha concession for palm-oil production spanning the counties of Grand Cape Mount, Bomi, Bong and Gbarpolu. According to the NGO Green Advocates, after local residents filed an appeal to the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, Sime Darby froze its operations and began meeting directly with the villagers. But Liberia’s President Sirleaf stepped in and ended the discussions, telling the communities that they have failed to defend their land rights undermined the Liberian government.

Vietnam Africa Agricultural Development Company (VAADCO) is a Vietnamese and British joint venture seeking to develop intensive irrigated rice production in Africa. Its Chairman is Dr Vo-Tong Xuan, a high-level Vietnamese rice scientist who has worked closely with the international agriculture research centres. VAADCO is involved in rice-farm projects in Sudan, Mozambique, Rwanda, Burundi, Liberia, Ghana and Mauritania with various private sector partners. In 2009, it signed an MoU for a 10,000-ha concession in Nigeria’s Anambra State. Through its acquisition of Red Bunch Ventures in 2011, Guernsey-based Agriterra acquired a 50-year lease (with an option to renew for a further 21 years) over approximately 45,000 ha of agricultural land in the Pujehun District in the Southern Province of Sierra Leone, where it intends to develop palm-oil plantations. Agriterra, which was established by mining venture capitalist and former England cricket international Phil Edmonds, also owns cattle ranches and maize farms in Mozambique, covering nearly 17,000 ha, with plans to expand to over 20,000 ha in the near future.■Al-Khorayef Group■SEKAB■Italy■Harvard Management Company■CAMC Engineering Co. Ltd■Dangote Industries■Goldtree Holdings■Cereals■In August 2008, the Egyptian Agriculture Minister Amin Abaza confirmed to the Egyptian daily Al-Ahram that the Government of Uganda had agreed to allocate Egypt 800,000 ha of various parts of the country. The Egyptian government had identified seven private Egyptian companies that were prepared to start work on the project immediately, and that a delegation of government officials and businessmen would travel to Uganda in October 2008 to negotiate final details and prepare to start work on the first 80,000 ha.

US$160 million Libyan African Investment Portfolio FRI-EL Green■In 2008 Spain’s Grupo Poligrow, through its subsidiary Poligrow Colombia Ltda, established a 2,500-ha oil-palm plantation on lands it acquired in Meta, Colombia. Colombian Senator Wilson Arias reports that the company has acquired a total of over 60,000 ha in Meta for around US$7 million■Brazil Agro Business Group■Africa Atlantic Holdings Ltd is a Dubai-based company investing in farmland in Ghana. So far it has secured a 50-year lease for 10,000 ha on the shores of Lake Volta in the Afram Plains region, where it will grow maize. The company was founded by former US congressional aid Jon Vanderhevel and Kristopher Klokken, an American who formerly worked with ADM and Willmar in Africa. The company is chaired by Issa Baluch, owner of the Swift Group in Dubai, one of the largest transport logistics companies in the UAE. Africa Atlantic also has a subsidiary, Africa Atlantic Franchise Farms Ltd, which will sell franchise rights to foreign and local investors for the farms that the company operates in Ghana.■In 2005, all that remained of Lonrho, once one
of the largest foreign companies in Africa, was a hotel in Mozambique and $20 million in cash. Then David Lenigas became the new CEO and, with the support of the chairman Geoffrey White, an adviser to Qatari emir Sheikh Khalifa Al Thani, Lonrho launched a new wave of investments in Africa. The company took over hotels, airlines and infrastructure, but its focus is agribusiness. It now exports fish from Mozambique and runs a vertically integrated subsidiary that grows produce on farms in southern Africa for export to European supermarkets. Lonrho has recently been expanding its agricultural land holdings. In 2009, it acquired a 50-year lease for 25,000 ha of farmland in Angola, and commenced feasibility studies for 25,000 ha of agricultural land in Malawi and up to 100,000 ha in Mali. White says that the company will focus on horticulture. We don't think there's risk in non-cereal farming. If there's a famine, people won't come after our green peppers. Soybean\Winloss Group JSC\Black Earth Farming\ETG, owned by Kenya's Patel family, is incorporated in Singapore but its farming operations are run through its Mauritian subsidiary, ETG Holdings. The company is one of the largest farmland owners in Africa, with extensive holdings in Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia and DR Congo. It has recently received heavy financial backing from the World Bank's International Finance Corporation and the Standard Chartered Bank of the UK. Some of ETG's farms are structured through Bio-Energy Investments (BEI), a joint venture established in 2006 with South African corporate farm operator Verus Group in which ETG has a 66% stake. BEI operates a 57,000-ha farm in Zambia, which is in the process of selling to Zambeef, and an 8,000-ha rice farm in Tanzania, with 3,500 ha under production. BEI CEO Justin Vermaas says that the company aims to develop 10 more corporate farms in Africa over the next 7 years. Noble Group\Biopalm Energy is a subsidiary of Singapore-based Siva Group, owned by Indian billionaire C. Sivasankaran. The company is also seeking 80,000 ha in Sierra Leone and other lands in Ghana, Argentina, Côte d'Ivoire and DR Congo to produce palm oil for export to India. In February 2011, Biopalm acquired a 50% stake in the Liberian operations of Equatorial Palm Oil, which has a landbank of 169,000 ha in the country. Sivasankaran is a significant shareholder in several other companies acquiring farmland overseas. The China National Complete Import and Export Corporation Group (COMPLANT) functioned as a foreign aid office for China until 1993, and while it now trades on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange, its controlling shareholder is the State Development & Investment Corporation, the largest state-owned investment holding company in China. The company is involved in a number of construction and infrastructure projects overseas and several agricultural projects. In 2010, COMPLANT's subsidiary Hua Lien International announced plans to establish a joint venture with COMPLANT and the US$5-billion China-Africa Development Fund to set up ethanol projects in various African countries. The three companies plan to launch the venture in Benin and roll out to other countries in the coming years. The venture will draw on COMPLANT's numerous recent investments in sugar-cane and cassava production, including an 18,000-ha sugar-cane plantation in Jamaica, a proposed 4,800-ha sugar-cane and cassava venture in Benin, a 1,320-ha sugar-cane plantation and factory in Sierra Leone, where in 2006 it also announced plans to expand its holdings to 8,100 ha to begin production of cassava. In Madagascar COMPLANT has been running the SUCOMA sugar factory since 1997 and, in 2008, under a twenty-year management contract, it took over the state-owned sugar refinery SUCCOMA, giving it control over 10,000 ha for sugar-cane production. Datong Trading Enterprise (DTE) is a company founded by Chinese entrepreneur Ripping Ouyang. With the support of the Chinese government and the Government of Senegal, through its “Grande Offensive Agricole pour la Nourriture et l’Abondance” (GOANA) programme, DTE has established sesame production for export to China on 35,000 ha of land, with a commitment to expand production to 60,000 ha by 2013. Senegal's President Abdoulaye Wade publicly confirmed his support for the project in February 2009 at a launching ceremony of “the GOANA investor’s manual”. AgroGeneration is a French farmland investment fund created by businessman Charles Beigbeder. It has 51,000 ha of farmland under lease in Ukraine and says that it plans to double this amount by 2014. In 2011, the company said that it was pursuing the acquisition of 50,000 ha of farmland in Argentina with an unnamed partner following the completion of trials on 700 ha oil seeds. EPO has three concessions between Buchanon and Greenville, totalling 169,000 ha. In February 2011, the company's Liberian palm-oil plantations and assets were incorporated into a 50-50 joint venture with Biopalm Energy, a Singaporean company controlled by Indian billionaire C. Sivasankaran, which has recently acquired other large-scale palm-oil concessions in Cameroon and Sierra Leone. “a joint Arab-foreign company” US$120 million Beidahuang Mining Maize, wheat\EK-based Winslow has been acquiring and operating farms in Bulgaria since 2004 through its Winslow Agro Fund. By December 2008, the fund had acquired 1,500 ha, with an additional 2,000 ha under lease. EIG is reported to be involved in two large farm projects in Pakistan, including one that would cover 35,000 ha. It is pursuing its dairy projects in Pakistan through a 50-50 joint venture with the New Zealand company Dairy SolutioNZ to develop large-scale farms in the Middle East and Pakistan. Aquila Menafea Holdings Ltd is a private Saudi company established by Sheikh Mohammed Al-Rajhi, owner of the Al-Rajhi Group and one of the leading investors in the Kingdom's effort to outsource food production. In March 2011, the Saudi Gazette reported that Maanafa would invest US$125 million to develop a 5,000-ha pineapple farm and fruit-processing plant in Zambia. In 2010, Portafolio reported that the Chinese Ambassador, accompanied by Chinese business representatives, made a request to the Government of Colombia on behalf of the Chinese government for 400,000 ha in Orihuela to produce cereals for export to China using Chinese labour. Lands were not identified, however, and later reports indicate that the project has yet to move beyond the initial proposal. Barley, maize, soybeans, sunflower, wheat\n in July 2010, Uden Lakoju, the Edo State Commissioner of Agriculture, said that an MoU had been signed with Vietnamese investors to cultivate 4,000 ha of rice in the state. The identity of the Vietnamese investors was not disclosed. In 2009, the Al Rajhi Group brought together ten Saudi Arabian agricultural companies, to form the Far Eastern Agricultural Investment Company, a US$27-million investment vehicle for the acquisition of farmland in Asia, mainly for rice production. In June 2010, the Financial Times reported that the joint venture had arranged leases in Cambodia, Vietnam, Pakistan and the Philippines for aromatic and long-grain basmati rice production for export to Saudi Arabia. In 2007, it signed an MoU with AgriNurture of the Philippines to develop production of pineapple, banana, rice and maize on 50,000 ha. AgriNurture is pursuing similar projects with Beidahuang of China. In December 2011, Black River Capital Partners, a hedge fund owned by Cargill, acquired 28.11% of AgriNurture for US$30.45 million. Minerals Energy Commodities Holding \Euroc Ferresa\Green Future Innovation\Projected investment US$64 million NCH Capital\US$39 million \US$6.5 million \Superfine wool\Cassava, sugar cane\Cresud\cermark Maple Energy\Sudan\Dangote Industries is owned by Nigerian billionaire Aliko Dangote, Africa's richest man. The company controls much of the supply of cement, flour and sugar in Nigeria. Its subsidiary, the Savannah Sugar Company, has its own 18,000-ha sugar-cane plantation in Adamawa State, Nigeria. Recently the company has been expanding its sugar operation elsewhere in Africa. In Senegal, it secured 40,000 ha for a sugar-cane plantation near Lake Guiers, in the Mbane and Gaé counties, as part of a larger, US$1-billion investment deal worked out between Aliko Dangote and Senegal's President Abdoulaye Wade in March 2011. Citadel Capital is Egypt's largest private equity company. In 2007 it launched the Wafra Fund to invest in agriculture in Sudan. In Sudan, the fund has since acquired a 30-year lease on 106,680 ha for wheat farming, by way of its subsidiary Sabina, and 25,210 ha for rice production, by way of another subsidiary, Al-Nahda for Integrated Solutions. In South Sudan, Wafra acquired 105,000 ha through its subsidiary, Concord, previously known as the Sudanese Egyptian Agricultural Crops Company. Citadel also owns the largest dairy farm in Egypt, food companies in Ethiopia, and is considering food transport and farmland acquisitions in Kenya and Uganda. In November 2011, the US government's Overseas Private Investment Corporation provided Citadel with a US$150-million loan package to help expand its subsidiaries. Olivest In 2010, Kulim paid US$175 million to acquire some 25,000 ha of oil-palm estates in Papua New Guinea from the world's largest agribusiness company, Cargill, and the Singapore government's investment arm Temasek Holdings. The acquisition will see the group's plantation acreage in Papua New Guinea increase 50% to about 75,000 ha. In 2008, Mónica, a company owned by Brazil's Marchett and Cambruzzi families that controls 160,000 ha of farmland in Brazil and Bolivia and is one of Latin America's largest producers of soybeans, established a number of subsidiaries in Colombia, under the control of their Bolivian subsidiary Mónica Semillas de Bolivia. By way of these subsidiaries, the company acquired 13,000 ha of farmland in Puerto Guaita, Colombia, and was able to access subsidies and credit from the state programme Agro Ingreso Seguro. Sheep, wheat US$2 billion In 2009, the Libya Africa Investment Portfolio and the Mozambican company Ubuntu SA launched a US$33-million rice project that will cover 20,000 ha near Bela Vista, capital of Mozambique's southernmost district of Matutuine. By 2014, the companies intend to have 5,000 ha under production. The project is financed by the Libyan African Development Fund, livestock, cereal/Cotton, maize, sorghum, sugar, sunflower, wheat. According to a 2010 report by Benin's farmers organisation Synergie Paysanne, a group of Libyan
investors acquired 2,000 ha of land in Zakopata. Tanzania claims to have completed negotiations for 25-year leases on 100,000 ha in Ghana and 300,000 ha in Nigeria. It is working in partnership with the Government of Vietnam and is supported by the UK government. It is looking for investors to inject US$425 million for each 10,000-ha farm it plans to establish on the lands it has leased. Mixed farming of Aslan was created by Jes Tarp and Paul Larsen of the US after their experience in setting up farms with other foreign investors in Ukraine. In 2008, they merged four of their Ukrainian farms into a single operation, called Alpha Farm, covering a total of 8,750 ha. In 2009 Tarp and Larsen formed Aslan Global Management to expand their farming operations into Africa. In Mozambique, they established a subsidiary, Rei do Agro Ltda, and acquired a lease on 10,000 ha of land, where they are cultivating 2,000 ha of soybeans and maize. In July 2011, the Guardian (Tanzania) reported that Aslan had acquired 42,000 ha for cash-crop production in Morogoro Region of Tanzania. Crops (mainly soybean) of Aquila Capital's Agrainvest fund manages investments for around 1,000 German investors. The fund focuses on the acquisition of dairy farms in New Zealand and cattle farms and sugar-cane plantations in Brazil. In Brazil, Aquila is pursuing investments in Proterra Agropé Casturia, a ranch of 6,500 cattle managed by the New Zealand company Aginvest, and sugar-cane plantations Proterra, which has sugar-cane plantations on around 250,000 ha. Cereals, flowers, fruit, oil seeds, vegetables In July 2010, Sikh Sangat News reported that, following a visit of a delegation to Ethiopia, India's Jalandhar Potato Growers' Association was planning to acquire 100,000 ha of land in the Ethiopian regions of Gambela and Tigray. The Association plans to form a company of at least 200 farmers, each contributing an initial share capital of Rs 50 million. Sierra Leone In October 2010, in a meeting with the Governor of the Argentine Province of Chaco, Jorge Capitanich, Saudi Sheikh Mohammed Al-Khorayef put forward a proposal for a large-scale project to produce food for export to Saudi Arabia. In February 2011, representatives of Al-Khorayef's family company signed an agreement with the Chaco government for a US$400-million agricultural project in which the company would be allocated rights over 200,000 ha of farmland in the El Impenetrable region of the province to produce crops for the Saudi market. Al-Khorayef is represented in Argentina by Siasa latinoamericana (SIASA), which is run by Daniel Tartido, CEO of Eduardo Eurnekian, one of the biggest landowners in the Chaco, with close connections to the current and former governors of the Province. FRI-EL Green Saxonian Estates, In 2005, Prio Foods, a subsidiary of Grupo Martfier, began investing in farmland as a way to secure supplies for its food operations. It currently operates farms in Brazil, Romania and Mozambique. In Brazil, it cultivates mainly soybeans on nearly 30,000 ha, with plans to acquire a further 13,900 ha. The Inglete company, which is owned by the Raising family, has farmland investments in Argentina, Romania, USA, Uruguay, New Zealand and Australia. SeedRock Africa Agriculture is a subsidiary of the SeedRock Corporation, and is registered in the British Virgin Islands. Its Advisory Council includes several former African heads of states and ministers. SeedRock intends to acquire 40,000 ha in the Office du Niger. The Oakland Institute reports that it is seeking a 40,000-ha lease in Mali's Office du Niger. Bonduelle, the French leader in canned and frozen vegetables, has two 3,000-ha farms in Russia and is acquiring an additional 6,000-ha farm in Russia from the French cooperative Cebac by the end of 2011. This new acquisition comes in the wake of a failed plan to acquire land in Ukraine. Atama Plantation NGO Muhak Alcohol Industrial- In 2008, the UAE was reported to have acquired 324,000 ha of farmland in Punjab, Sindh and Balochistan provinces. The provinces were defining the terms for the land leases, with the central government providing security forces to protect the farms. Abraaj Capital, a Dubai-based private equity group which manages assets of over US$6 billion, is reported to be involved in the deal. Madabeel-Pharos Financial Group Sosucam, the largest sugar company in Cameroon, is a subsidiary of Somdiaa, a giant food and agribusiness company owned by the Vilgrain Group and the Castle Group, both of France. Under a contract with the Government of Cameroon, Sosucam received a long-term lease for 11,980 ha of land at the site of its 10,000-ha sugar-cane plantation in the Haute-Sanga region. The Long Van 28 Company began cooperating with the Vietnam-Africa Agro-aquaculture Development Company (VAACDO) in studying Sierra Leone as a site for it to invest in rice production in 2006. Based on the results achieved by VAACDO, Long Van 28 announced in December 2011 that it would pursue the production of rice on 200,000 ha in the country and that it was seeking support from the Government of Vietnam. VAACDO, a Vietnamese and British joint venture, is pursuing rice production in Nigeria. Mozambique and Sudan. Benin US$33 million Agricultural Capital Partners were founded by five Irish entrepreneurs to acquire farms overseas and then sell them to profit after five to seven years. The fund manages farms in Serbia, Lithuania, Australia and the USA US$57,600 (US$0.80/ha) According to an Oakland Institute report from 2011, a British national representing a company called Wholesale attempted to acquire a 112,000-ha landholding in the northern Koinadugu District. A temporary lease for the land was reportedly signed in January 2010, and Wholesale described as a kind of broker now plans to sub-lease the land to others. Saudi Arabia In January 2009, the Government of Djibouti announced that its state-owned company, the Société Djiboutienne de Sécurité Alimentaire, which it created that year to enhance Djibouti's food security through the outsourcing of food production in other countries, had been allocated 4,200 ha by the Government of Sudan and 5,000 ha by Ethiopia for the production of wheat. The Ethiopian project will be financed by the African Development Bank, while the project in Sudan will be financed by the Islamic Development Bank. Malawi's President Bingu Wa Mutharika also promised the President of Djibouti, Ismail Omar Guelleh, 55,000 ha of farmland during his visit to Malawi in April 2009. US$350 million Clean Energy Brazil Germanagrar In 2004, the Compania do Buzi was sold by the Government of Mozambique to Portugal's Petiz family for US$1.3 million, giving the Petiz family control over the company's 15,000 ha of sugar-cane plantations. In 2010, the company submitted an application for an additional 6,214 ha of land for a US$30-million expansion of its operations. 0Fruit, livestock, maize, rice, vegetables, wheat US$73 million -The Oakland Institute reports that the Indian company Almidha was granted lease rights to 28,000 ha in the Orimia Region for sugar-cane production.-Cotton, maize, paddy, potatoes, pulses, wheat, Rapeseed, soybeans, wheat Nanshan Group Millennium Challenge Corporation-Grain Alliance was formed in December 2009 from the merger of Dallah Al Barakah Group, the Saudi Bin Laden Group, the National Investment Company of Kuwait and Nasser Kharafi, the world's 48-richest person and owner of the Americana Group. In 2009, Hail Agricultural Development Cooperation (HADCO) began implementation of a project to grow wheat and maize on around 9,000 ha on which it has a 48-year lease in Sudan. The company announced that if the initial trials were successful it might expand the project to 90,000 ha. HADCO was fully acquired by Saudi Arabia's largest dairy company, Almarai, in July 2009. In 2009, the Continental Farm Exchange is listed on the London Stock Exchange but is controlled by two Irish companies, the agribusiness giant Origin Enterprises (24.2%) and Davy Crest Nominees (13.5%); a fund controlled by Davy Stockbrokers of Dublin. Continental began by investing in farmland in Poland and then expanding into Ukraine in 2006. In 2006-9, it raised ~ 20 million in equity funding from investors such as BlackRock for its Ukrainian operations, which covered 21,000 ha by 2012. Thai sugar giant Khon Kaen Sugar Industry (KSI) operates a sugar mill in Laos and is developing a sugar-cane plantation on 10,000 ha in Savannakhet, where it has a 30-year concession. The sugar will mainly be exported to Europe to take advantage of the privileged trade access that Laos has to the EU under the EU's "Everything but arms" programme. Thailand Technology is a North Dakota-based company specialising in sugar-beet production equipment. It became involved in agribusiness investment in Russia and neighbouring countries soon after the fall of the Soviet Union. In April 2011, the company signed an MoU for a Russian sugar-beet farm project, the company's first, to be located in Dagestan, in the south of Russia, near the Caspian Sea. Poland, Chayton Capital, Maize, soybeans, sunflower, Jarch Management, Bulgaria, Germany, Intrasis Capital, Farm Lands of Guinea (FLG) is a
Foras International Investment Co

n

US$204 million Cattle and crops Speculation

August 2011, Karuturi said it had applied for 1,000 ha in the Rufiji Basin in Tanzania and that it expects eventually to acquire 311,700 ha.

Proposed Banana, exchange for long-term supplies.

Rather than buy land, FELDA says that it wants to replicate its smallholder cooperative model in Africa and sell planting materials and technical expertise in settler scheme on 1,600 hectares in Southern Bonthe province (Mattru). The Oakland Institute reports that the total area allocated for the project is 2,500 ha.

cane, other dry-land crops and cattle, with most of the vegetable production exported to Europe in compliance with GLOBALGAP standards.

the African Agricultural Land Fund into operation. Emvest's farm in Swaziland, known as EI Ranch, was acquired in 2009. It produces vegetables, potatoes, sugar cane, other dry-land crops and cattle, with most of the vegetable production exported to Europe in compliance with GLOBALGAP standards.

South African investors. It is developing an almond farm in Niassa province as well as a macadamia plantation on 500 ha.

Indian billionaire C. Sivasankaran. The company is also seeking 80,000 ha in Sierra Leone and other lands in Ghana, Argentina, Côte d'Ivoire and DR Congo to produce palm oil for export to India. In February 2011, Biopalm acquired a 50% stake in the Zimbabwean company Ariston Holdings Limited, giving it ownership of four farms covering a total of 9,913 ha. Dairy farms

the Indonesian government is pursuing. In December 2010, Wilmar became the largest sugar producer in Australia when it acquired CSR Limited, giving it control of 2011, Ria Novosti reported that North Korea plans to rent "several hundred thousand hectares" in the Amur region, which is reported to have about 200,000 ha available under regional, municipal or private ownership.

In 2011, Bloomberg reported that Olam is to invest over US$35 million to set up a rice-production base in the Mopeia area of Mozambique to produce eventually 200,000 tonnes of rice per year. So far, it has been reported that the company will set up its own operations on 227 ha, and that it will also contract from 100 farmers.

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cost for 25,000 ha.) US$600 million. In November 2010, Shree Renuka Sugars, India's largest sugar refiner, acquired Brazilian sugar company Vale do Ivaí SA Açúcar e Álcool for US$240 million, including its 18,000-ha sugar-cane plantation, and a 51% stake in another Brazilian sugar company, Equipar SA Açúcar e Álcool for US$329 million, including its 115,000 ha of cane-growing land in south-eastern Brazil. Omam is an Indian non-resident company, based in Singapore. It is one of the world's largest commodity traders and is investing heavily in farming operations and contract farming schemes, particularly in Africa and Latin America. In January 2012, Omam announced that it was investing US$75 million to acquire 75% of Russian dairy company RUSMOLCO, which owns several large dairy farms, 6,600 cows, and 60,000 ha of corn and oil in Russia. Omam also announced that it would jointly invest US$400 million in Russia over the next five years with RUSMOLCO and the Russian government. In 2007 Wilmar and Olam created a joint venture, Nuvu, to take a 27% stake in SIFCA, the largest sugar-cane and oil-palm company in Côte d'Ivoire. The Billon family retains majority control of the company, but all parties intend to use SIFCA as a base for the expansion of palm-oil plantations throughout West Africa. US$30 million Food crops, pongamia pinnata, Kthon Koen Sugar Industry. Los Grobo is owned by Argentina's Grubocopatel family, the second-largest soybean producer in the country, with over 120,000 ha under production. The company has recently focused on expansion in other Latin American countries, such as Uruguay, with soybeans planted on 76,300 ha, and Paraguay, where it plants soybeans on 22,000 ha. In Brazil, Los Grobo had 60,000 ha under production by 2011, and says it plans to triple its land holdings over the next few years by way of a joint venture company called LG Agro, formed in 2011 with Brazil's Grupo Vinci Partners. In August 2011, Los Grobo's Brazilian subsidiaries were merged into LG Agro, along with Sollus Capital, a land fund in which Los Grobo is active, and Grupo Vinci's Companhia Mineira de Açúcar e Álcool, a major sugar and ethanol producer in Brazil. In 2009, the Al Rajhi International Investment Company brought together several other major Saudi agribusiness companies, including Almarai and the Aljouf Agricultural Development Co, to form Jenat, a joint venture company to acquire farmland overseas. The company's first initiative is a SRF70-million project to plant barley, wheat and livestock feed on 10,000 ha of farmland in Egypt. US$300 million. In May 2011, Bloomberg reported that India was preparing to sign a project with the Government of Senegal to grow rice, maize, peanuts, cotton and cereals on 150,000 ha. Shanghai real-estate mogul Jiang Zhaobao, Chairman and owner of the Penxin Group, has been investing heavily in farmland over the past few years. In China, it acquired 650 ha of farmland near Shanghai, used for sheep, wheat and soybeans, and has another 930-ha sheep farm in Shandong Province. Outside China, the company invested more than US$20 million in a Bolivian soybean and maize farm, established large-scale farms in Cambodia and Argentina, and is negotiating to buy 100,000 ha of land in Brazil to grow soybeans and cotton. In January 2011, it made an offer to buy Cafra farms in New Zealand, which encompasses 16 dairy farms, following an unsuccessful bid by China's Natural Dairy (NZ) Holdings Ltd. The sale was approved by New Zealand's government in January 2012. El Tejar Sweet sorghum. BUK private equity firm Emergent Asset Management launched an African Agricultural Land Fund in 2007 and has since acquired at least 30,000 ha in South Africa, Zambia, Mozambique, Swaziland and Zimbabwe. Emvest was set up as a joint venture between Emergent and South African agribusiness company RussellStone to put the African Agricultural Land Fund into operation. In Mozambique, Emvest has 2,000 ha where it intends to produce jatropha and 1,500-ha of disputed land in the Chokwe District that it plans to irrigate and cultivate with row crops anyway. In 2011, Emvest was split off from Emergent Asset Management following the separation of its owners. Formerly Flora Ecowood Holding, which was a spin-off of the Israel Hovev Group, Acazis is now majority-owned by the Luxembourg-based renewable energy group Athanor Equities, and trades on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. With the freeze of edible-oil prices by the Egyptian government in 2011, Acazis shifted production from castor to peanuts to produce peanut oil. Sepahan Africa is an Iranian conglomerate that has acquired 11,170 ha in the Marampa and Buya Romende chiefdoms of the Port Loko region of Sierra Leone. The company plans to develop rice and palm-oil production, and to build a factory for the processing of palm oil and other edible oils. According to Business Insider, landowners in the project area were summoned to the Iranian embassy for an urgent meeting in 2007, where they say they were forced to sign the agreement "under duress" after being informed that the Iranian investors were leaving the next morning and that they had to sign before reading the agreement. They say they signed because they "could not violate the authorities." US$6.2 million. Eckart Hohmann/Barley, potatoes, sugar beet, sunflowers, wheat Tenga Lds/ Barnstadt eG is a German agricultural company, based in Saxony-Anhalt. A German Commercial Development Kazakhstan. In July 2010, ANA reported that the Chinese ambassador to Benin, Geng Wenbing, had announced that a group of Chinese businessmen, having completed as assessment of local conditions, were planning to invest in palm-oil production in Benin and would immediately require at least 10,000 ha of land to begin the development of oil-palm plantations. Banana, pineapple US$120 million Philippines. In June 2008, Reuters reported that FRI-EL Green Power, an Italian company half-owned by German energy giant RWE, had purchased Congolese state-owned companies Sangha Palm and Congo National Palm Plantations Authority, giving it control of 4,000 ha of oil-palm plantations, and signed an agreement with the government of the Congo to develop oil-palm plantations on an additional 40,000 ha over 30 years. Kingdom Agricultural Development Holding. Morocco/ENI/Sunge 235. El Tejar began as an affiliate of Argentine cattle farmers in the 1980s, but then became involved in grain production in the 1990s. By the end of the decade it was one of the largest soybean producers in the country, farming on rented land. After 2006, foreign investors entered the company, such as London-based hedge fund Altima Partners, which now owns 40% of the company, the World Bank's International Finance Corporation and US private equity firm Capital Group, and El Tejar started to acquire its own farms in Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil, where it is now the largest farm operator. In 2006, El Tejar was farming around 20,000 ha, and today they are farming close to 800,000 ha. The company intends to launch an IPO on New York or São Paulo stock exchange to access more capital to expand its landholdings. Shaaaxi Kingbull Livestock CoOriginally the Mehta group was involved in multiple sectors, from insurance and real estate to agriculture and energy. Quifel began investing in farmland through the development of palm-oil production in Brazil. With land prices rising in Brazil, the company turned its attention to Africa in 2007, where it decided to focus on acquiring large land concessions in coastal East African countries for oilseeds, and West African countries for fruit and vegetables. So far Quifel has acquired land in Mozambique, Angola and Sierra Leone. Quifel's concession in Mozambique is located in Lioama, Zambézia Region. The company requested 30,000 ha in 2009 but was granted only 10,000 ha by the Mozambican government. According to an Oakland Institute report "the project (named Hoyo Hoyo) has already run into a serious conflict with local communities". Credus was a small farm landowner operating managing 20,000 ha when it was taken over by George Soros and Argentinian real estate tycoon Eduardo Elsztain in the 1990s. Within a few years, the company grew to control nearly half a million ha in Argentina. After Soros sold his shares in the company in 1999, Elsztain continued to expand its landholdings. By 2011, Cresud was Argentina's largest landholder, controlling over 628,000 ha, on which it produces mainly soybeans and cattle, as well as lands in neighbouring countries. Cresud controls 17,000 ha in Bolivia, 142,000 ha in Paraguay, and 175,000 ha in Brazil through its controlling interest in farmland operator BrasilAgro. Added up, Cresud's farmland banks at 962,000 ha. Elsztain primarily finances Cresud's expansions through share sales on the Nasdaq. But it's also finding new sources of cash. In June 2011, it inked a deal for a joint venture with China's largest farming company, Heilongjiang Beidahuang Nongken Group, to buy land in Argentina and farm soybeans for the Group. NCH Capital manages over US$3 billion from university endowments, corporate and state pension funds, foundations, and family investment offices. It has a US$1.4-billion agribusiness fund focused on acquiring farms in eastern Europe. In Ukraine, NCH controls and operates a portfolio of over 450,000 ha. In Russia, NCH has around 250,000 ha Golden Agri Resources/ Fruit, grains, herbs, nuts, pasture, vegetables France. The Indian company Chadha Agro requested 100,000 ha for sugar-cane production from Ethiopia's Ministry of Agriculture. It was granted an initial 22,000 ha in Guji Zone, Oromia Regional State, with a promise to allocate the remaining 78,000 ha once Chadha put these initial lands into production. AgriSolUS pension-fund manager TIAA-CREF has around US$2 billion invested in farmland globally, of the US$426 billion that it has under management. Through its acquisition of 85% of the Westchester Group in 2010, TIAA-CREF boosted it ownership of farmland in Australia to 180,000 ha, which it holds through Westchester Group's US$300-million International Agricultural Investors Fund. TIAA-CREF's farms in Australia are managed by the Australian company Customised Farm
In 2008, the World Bank's International Finance Corporation rejected an Tereos Iran Jose García-Carrion New Zealand Angola Africa Atlantic Holdings Russia had failed. Some of the affected communities are reported to not have been consulted about the project.

IfocapAdour reported that the company had built a maize-storage facility with a 5,000-tonne capacity next to the farm, but it was lying empty after the first harvest.

In 2006, the Indian company Land Mark signed a protocol with a local chief in the Ihorombe Plateau in the south-centre of Madagascar for a 25-year lease for a 10,000-ha concession in Laos to expand its sugar-cane production, and the company announced that it was conducting a feasibility study on another 10,000 ha from its 6,400-ha sugar-cane plantation in Laos, taking advantage of the country's preferential trade access to Europe. That same year it acquired a 40-year lease covering 700,000 ha in the south of the country for the production of citrus fruits, olives and other crops for export to the Middle East and Europe. Prior to 2009, Mauritius' Minister of Agriculture announced that it would be sub-leased to Vita Grain, which would invest US$43.5 million in the production of its proprietary hybrid rice. Talks were also underway to sub-lease the remaining 10,000 ha to the Ning Group of Swaziland. A subsequent report by PANA in January 2010 said that Mozambique had provided Mauritius with 23,500 ha, and that Mauritius had set up a company to facilitate private investments on the land, under the provision that a quarter of the production would be destined for both countries. Water, oil, potatoes, barley, wheat, and rice are produced in the region.

In 2009, Mauritius' Minister of Agriculture announced that it had acquired a long-term lease on 20,000 ha of farmland in Mozambique to produce rice for his country. He went on to add that 10,000 ha of the land would be sub-leased to Vita Grain, which would invest US$43.5 million in the production of its proprietary hybrid rice. Talks were also underway to sub-lease the remaining 10,000 ha to the Ning Group of Swaziland. A subsequent report by PANA in January 2010 said that Mozambique had provided Mauritius with 23,500 ha, and that Mauritius had set up a company to facilitate private investments on the land, under the provision that a quarter of the production would be destined for both countries. Water, oil, potatoes, barley, wheat, and rice are produced in the region.
Group, a holding company controlled by Portuguese aristocrat, businessman and amateur race car driver Miguel Maria de Sá Pais do Amaral, which is involved in multiple sectors, from insurance and real estate to agriculture and energy. Quifel began investing in farmland through the development of palm-oil production in Brazil. With land prices rising in Brazil, the company turned its attention to Africa in 2007, where it decided to focus on acquiring large land concessions in coastal East African countries for oilseeds and West African countries for fruit and vegetables. So far Quifel has acquired land in Mozambique, Angola and Sierra Leone. In Angola it has a concession for 10,000 ha with a further 30,000 ha awaiting government approval. Bionic Palm Limited, an Dubai-based Pharo is evaluating a proposal to invest in a massive agricultural project in Central Sudan covering 156,000 ha with the possibility of expanding over another 830,000 ha. The company is already pursuing large-scale farming operations in Tanzania through a joint venture with AgriSol, and in Tanzania and Romania through a joint venture with Miro Holdings. Cotton, oil seeds, rice, Ghana, vegetables (beans, maize, sweet peas). In July 2010, the Government of Mauritania issued two public notices informing communities in Böghe and Dar El Bakra that it was providing Saudi Arabia's Al Rajhi Group with 50,000 ha of their lands. Al-Rajhi is also pursing a US$1-billion aquaculture project in Mauritania with the Saudi-based National Prawn Company. The Al Rajhi family is considered to be the wealthiest non-royals in Saudi Arabia. It owns the Tabuk Agricultural Development Co (TADCO), one of the largest agribusiness companies in the country, and since 2008 it has taken the lead in the private sector in securing farmland overseas for the King Abdullah Initiative for Saudi Agricultural Investment Abroad. In 2009, the Al Rajhi Group brought together several other major Saudi agribusiness companies, including Almarai and the Aljouf Agricultural Development Co, to form Jenat, a joint venture company to acquire 150,000-200,000 ha of farmland overseas, as well as the Far East Agricultural Co., which is focusing on the acquisition of lands for rice production in Asia. The Government of Laos and Kuwait signed an agreement to investigate the potential for the production of rice for export to Kuwait. Laos has also allocated 200,000 ha of land towards the project, and Kuwait has allocated US$500,000 towards an initial study that will examine the feasibility of expanding the Nabor Khoksa Pumping Irrigation Project in Xaythany district, Vientiane to irrigate 4,000 ha. Laos has invited the Thai government to participate in the project. ZUSS1.2/ha/yr (after first 7 years) in Gambela and US$8/ha/yr (after first 6 years) in Bako. Agribusiness, real estate, cereal, oilseeds, pulses, Vietnamese investors. Kyiv-Atlantic Ukraine West Africa Maize, rice Ukrainian Agrarian Investments Serbia. The Italian insurance company Generali, through its agriculture subsidiary gruppo 3, acquired 4,300 ha of land in western Romania in 2002 and subsequently purchased a 350-ha vineyard. The company plans to build a feed mill, start livestock production, and expand into sugar-beet production and sugar processing. It also controls 10,000 ha of farmland in Italy. Merhav Group BHB, a former banker with the German state-owned bank WestLB, and a business partner from the north-eastern German region of Mecklenburg, acquired 29,000 ha of farmland around 400 km south of Moscow. Kenya: KS Oil is one of India’s largest edible-oil companies. The company began investing heavily in oil-palm plantations in Indonesia in 2008 through its Singapore-based subsidiary KS Natural Resources Pte Ltd. By October 2009, it had acquired 56,000 ha in Kalimantan and Sumatra. KS Oil is backed by Indian billionaire C. Sivasankaran and three private equity funds: New Silk Route, Citi Venture Capital and Barings Private Equity Asia. South Korea’s BNA (Cam) Corp received a 7,500-ha land concession from the Cambodian government in 2009. The company has been developing its farmland projects in Southeast Asia. In 2010, a visit to China by the governor of Argentina’s Río Negro province signed a US$1.4-million deal with Beidahuang that would give the company exclusive control over the 60,000 ha of farmland and sugar mills to be acquired, each with an area of up to 320,000 ha. In November 2011, the superior court of the Province of Río Negro ruled that the project should be suspended, and there has been no public information on the status of the deal subsequent to a change in the provincial government in December 2011. Meanwhile, Beidahuang signed an agreement in 2011 with Ceresud, the largest farming company in Argentina, to collaborate on the production and acquisition of sugar cane, and it continues to pursue land deals in the Philippines and Australia. Soho Property Limited Zuellig Group Various Bonduelle In 2009, three weeks after the Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir and his Korean President Lee Myung-bak signed a cooperation agreement on agriculture, Sudan’s ambassador to Korea told the Korea Times that it had allocated 100,000 ha of land in the capital of the country to Chinese companies. The agreement was signed to promote the production of wheat. The ambassador said that a pilot programme would begin in 2013, and that the project would be a joint venture among Korean, Sudanese and Arab companies. Partnership between Golden Agri Resources (GAR) (through Golden Veroleum, a subsidiary of the New York-based Verdant Fund LP) and the Government of Liberia announced in August 2010. The concession is located in Sinoe County. GAR is the world’s second-largest palm-oil plantation company, with a total planted area of 448,900 ha in Indonesia. Flamengo International, the holding for the Widjaya Family of Indonesia, owns 50% of GAR. US$75 million DOS Palm Oil Production Limited CEDASS’ Jebel Lado Project aims to establish one of the first mechanized farming operations in South Sudan on a 12,200-ha concession that it leases. The objective of the project is to bring together “Canadian farmers, farm associations, businessmen and worldwide agricultural organizations to teach the Sudanese how to plant, grow and harvest larger crops to feed themselves, their families and, eventually, the neighboring city of Juba”. The project also supplies the World Food Programme (Agribusiness, construction, real estate Cambodia). In January 2009, Antara News reported that South Korea’s PT Daewoo Logistic Indonesia, and Cheli Jedang Samsung would invest US$50 million in a joint venture to produce maize on the islands of Buru and Sumba. The Chairman of Indonesia's National Corn Council said that around 12,000 ha were available on each of the islands for the project, which would also include the construction of processing facilities to produce flour, animal feed, methane gas, and ethanol, all of which would be exported. PT Daewoo Logistic Indonesia’s mother company, Daewoo Logistics, filed for bankruptcy in July 2009 after its highly controversial 1.3 million-ha planned farming venture in Madagascar was jettisoned in a military coup earlier in the year. So in August 2011, Nirmal Seed, an Indian seed company, announced that it had requested up to 30,000 ha from the Tanzanian government to establish a seed-farm region that would supply the eastern and southern African seeds market. The company intends the project to be part of the Government's green-revolution-style Kilimo Kwanza program. Nirmal already has a rice-seed production farm in Mozambique and a vegetable farm in Ethiopia. The Advanced Terra Fund is a real-estate investment trust (REIT) managed by Sofia's Karoll Finance, which acquires small farms in Bulgaria and consolidates them into large-scale operations. The fund is open to foreign investors, and the World Bank, through its International Finance Corporation, controls 17.1% of the fund. Crops (sorghum); Cotton, maize, rice, sorghum, sugar cane, sunflowers, wheat; Grupo Poligrow; In May 2011, The Guardian reported that 800 South African farmers had acquired 1 million ha in the Mozambican Province of Gaza, by way of an arrangement negotiated by sugar farmer Charl Senekal, an associate of the South African president Jacob Zuma. The deal was to be celebrated in Pretoria in June 2011. Los Grobo is owned by Argentina's Grobocopatel family, the second-largest soybean producers in the country, with over 120,000 ha under production. The company has recently focused on expansion in other Latin American countries, such as Uruguay, with soybeans planted on 76,300 ha, and Paraguay, where it plants soybeans on 22,000 ha. In Brazil, Los Grobo had 60,000 ha under production by 2011, and says that it plans to triple its land holdings over the next few years by way of a joint venture company called LG Agronegócios & Participações SA, which will involve Brazil's Grupo Vinci Partners, an investment company set up by former Banco Pactual SA partner Gilberto Sayao. - Cotton, cofee, grains, soybeans, sugar cane; Castor crop, peanuts, vegetable oil; Suspended (October 2011)
in December 2011 in order to secure lands owned by Fondomonte for the production of fodder crops to export to its farms in the Gulf. Almarai is part-owned by

Ecotourism, irrigate crops * 

SUCOCOMA, giving it control of 10,000 ha for sugar-cane production. South Sudan Cattle, crops˜

18,000-ha sugar-cane plantation in Jamaica, a proposed 4,800-ha sugar-cane and cassava venture in Benin, a 1,320-ha sugar-cane plantation and factory in Sierra Leone, where in 2006 it also announced plans to expand its holdings to 8,100 ha to begin production of cassava. In Madagascar COMPLANT has been running the SUCOMA sugar factory since 1997 and, in 2008, under a twenty-year management contract, it took over the state-owned sugar refinery SUCCOMA, giving it control over 10,000 ha for sugar-cane production. *Insight Energy AG6A US Embassy cable from February 2010, released by Wikileaks in 2011, claimed that the state-owned National Bank of Egypt planned to invest US$40 million to lease 20,000 ha of land in the Araf region of Sudan to grow cereals for export to Egypt. *Chinese investors *Agriculture, finance *Sollus Capital was established in 2008 by US hedge fund Touradj Capital Management to acquire farmland in Brazil, with the participation of Argentine soybean producer Los Grobo, which already cultivates 60,000 ha of soybeans in Brazil. In August 2011, Sollus Capital was merged with Los Grobo's Brazilian subsidiaries and the Companhia Mineira de Açúcar e Álcool, a major sugar and ethanol producer in Brazil owned by Brazil's Grupo Vinci Partners, into a joint venture company called LG Agro. *The Trust Company Limited Sunflower *Agriculture, construction *Agribusiness, health care *HectaresVietnam Africa Agricultural Development Company *OmanGMaize, rice, sorghum, sunflowers; produce & sell hybrid seeds *Banana *South Korea's Muhak Alcohol has operated two land concessions of 3,000 ha and 5,000 ha in Kompong Speu province since the early 2000s, where it produces cassava for the production of ethanol for export to Europe. The company is in the process of identifying an additional 2,000 ha for cassava production. *US$100 million Dairy farm *Niger *Czech Republic Amira Group *Korea BNA *US$55.2 million Cotton, wheat*Crops, soybeans, sunflowers *Bhai Bangla Agrotec *Jena *Chadha Agro Pic Switzerland *Neha International is a Hyderabad-based company, founded by G Vinod Reddy, that is one of India's leading producers of cut flowers. It expanded operations into Africa in the 2000s, where it has recently moved into agricultural production. In June 2010, the company disclosed that it had acquired 4,000 ha for agricultural production in the Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's Region of Ethiopia. Then in December 2010 it announced that it had entered into a MoU with the Moza Development Agency to facilitate the acquisition of 100,000 ha of arable land in the country. The company says that it is seeking to acquire and develop arable lands in other countries of Eastern and Southern Africa as part of its business development strategy. *US$21 million *US Ruchi Group *Tianjin State Farms Agribusiness Group Company *Status of deal Sayegh Group *Cattle, crops, sugar cane *Cashew, rubber *US$65 million *In 2009, the IFC approved a US$15-million loan to support the expansion plans of NFD Agro Ltd, a soybean-plantation company based in Paraguay that owns the company Desarrollo Agrocola del Paraguay (Group DAP) and that is heavily involved in the controversial Round Table on Responsible Soy Association. NFD Agro is controlled by Argentinian businessmen and the US bank JP Morgan, while TRG Management, a Calyx Agro shareholder, owns 11.7% of the company. NFD owns 26,600- ha and leases another 8,100 ha in Paraguay. *Calm International *RTL World Trade Company *T4M *In August 2010, the Korea Rural Community Corporation signed an MoU with the Ruifi Basin Development Authority to develop a 15,000-ha commercial rice farm in the Ruifi Basin. The US$50-million project was part of a larger bilateral assistance package, which included a US$121-million loan for infrastructure works. *Associated British Foods *Romton Agri PLC *Africa JUICE operates a juice-production plant and fruit farm on 1,200 ha in Ethiopia. The company was backed by South Africa's private equity fund Agri-Vie, which is financed by South Africa's Development Bank of Southern Africa, the World Bank's IFC and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The World Banks' MIGA provided the project with US$10 million in guarantees. *In September 2009, Reuters reported that the Saudi government was in talks with Pakistan for 202,400 ha of farmland and that Pakistan's Ministry of Agriculture was in the process of identifying lands in four provinces to allocate to the Saudi project. *Bionic Fuel Group is an engineering company that develops and builds synthetic fuel reactors and turnkey production plants. In 2008, it established Bionic Palm Limited (BPL) in Ghana to invest in agricultural production. In Ghana, the company acquired a palm-oil mill and 1,750 ha on a 50-year lease for oil-palm plantations. The company says that it has completed negotiations for another 190, ha, and intends to increase its total oil-palm plantations to 10,000. *US$879 million *Hungary *Mauritius *Agria was established by former Financial Times journalist Carter Coleman in 2005 to invest in agricultural projects in Eastern Africa. It has funding from Norfund, the Norwegian Development Bank, African Agricultural Capital and Capricorn Investment Group (a multi-billion-dollar fund based in the US). The fund's first farmland acquisition was of an irrigated farm in Rubada, Tanzania, where it began producing rice in 2008. *Argentina *Minerals Energy Commodities Holding (MEC) is a 50-50 joint venture between the Ras Al Khaimah Investment Authority of the UAE and the UAE-based mining company TrimeX. In February 2010, it was reported that the company was planning a 100,000-ha agricultural project in the East Kalimantan region of Indonesia. *Sustainable Bio Energy Holding GmbH *BETEXCO *US$251 million *Maple acquired 13,500 ha in Piura and plans to cultivate sugar cane on 7,800 ha. It has also constructed an ethanol plant which will produce ethanol for export to the US and Europe *Hunan Dafengyuan *Through its subsidiaries LLC Dobrinya, Oupsenski and Stoudensen, Sudden produces sugar beet and barley on 61,000 ha in the Russian territories of Krasnodar, Penza and Lipetsk-Tchemozom. Sudden, a private company owned by the Varsano family of France, is one of the largest sugar producers in the world. *The China National Complete Import and Export Corporation Group (COMPLANT) functioned as a foreign-aid office for China until 1993, and while it now trades on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange, its controlling shareholder is the State Development & Investment Corporation, the largest state-owned investment holding company in China. The company is involved in a number of construction and infrastructure projects overseas, and several agricultural projects. In 2010, COMPLANT's subsidiary Hua Lien International announced plans to establish a joint venture with COMPLANT and the US$5-billion China-Africa Development Fund to set up ethanol projects in various African countries. The three companies plan to launch the venture in Benin and roll out to other countries in the coming years. The venture will draw on COMPLANT's numerous recent investments in sugar-cane and cassava production, including an 18,000-ha sugar-cane plantation in Jamaica, a proposed 4,800-ha sugar-cane and cassava venture in Benin, a 1,320-ha sugar-cane plantation and factory in Sierra Leone, where in 2006 it also announced plans to expand its holdings to 8,100 ha to begin production of cassava. In Madagascar COMPLANT has been running the SUCOMA sugar factory since 1997 and, in 2008, under a twenty-year management contract, it took over the state-owned sugar refinery SUCCOMA, giving it control of 10,000 ha for sugar-cane production. South Sudan Cattle, crops *CIFOR reports that the Italian company Società Fondiaria Industriale Romagnola (SIFIR) was allocated an 8,600-ha concession for sugar cane in Mozambique. *CAMCE is a subsidiary of the China National Machinery Industry Corporation. In April 2011, the Angolan Press Agency reported that the Angolan government had approved CAMCE's proposed project to construct a rice mill in Longa and establish a 1,500-ha pilot rice farm in the area. China National Development Bank will be providing CAMCE with a credit line for the project. *UEMOA *Ecotourism, irrigate crops *Almarai, the largest dairy company in the Gulf, purchased the Argentine agribusiness company Fondomonte SA in December 2011 in order to secure lands owned by Fondomonte for the production of fodder crops to export to its farms in the Gulf. Almarai is part-owned by
Savola, Saudi Arabia's largest food company, and it operates internationally through a joint venture with PepsiCo. It has large-scale dairy farms in Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and Egypt, as well as several poultry farms in Saudi Arabia through its 2009 takeover of Saudi poultry producer HADCOC. Agro Energia IndonesiasAas of March 2011, Wilmar, one of the world's largest commodity traders and palm-oil producers, became a major shareholder in Benso Oil Palm Plantation, which it acquired from UK-based Unilever. The plantation is located in the south of Ghana. "Agribusiness, finance, real estate" Chinese investors Ornicanenán June 2011, Soho Property of the UK was given approval by the Overseas Investment Office to acquire 22,000 ha of low-value pastoral land, where the company intends to farm around 4,000 sheep and pursue ecotourism projects. Hassad Food is a US$1-billion company established by Qatar's sovereign wealth fund. It has been leading the country's quest to secure farmland overseas for the export of food to Qatar. So far, Hassad Food has acquired 13 large farms in Australia and facilities that will enable it to produce 150,000 sheep a year and up to 50,000 tonnes of wheat for export to Qatar, and 100,000 ha of land in Sudan. Negotiations are under way for Hassad to establish a company with US$100 million capital in Turkey for the production of sheep and 50,000 tonnes of wheat or barley, to establish a forage company in Brazil, and to set up rice farms in Vietnam, Pakistan and India. RAHRAV Agro-Pro is owned by PPF Group, an investment company managed by the Czech billionaire Petr Kellner. The company has its headquarters in Voronezh, south-western Russia, and it owns farmland in Oren, Penza, Rostov and Kursk regions. The firm's assets also include a pig farm with 3,700 pigs, and large dairy and cattle farms. Chinese interests Cattle, dairy, grains, soybeans US$375 million In 2007, the Philippine government signed 18 deals with China to provide Chinese companies with access to popular land. Popular land leases and the deals signed in other sectors forced the government to put the deals on hold. In September 2011, it was reported that the lease contracts signed by the Department of Agriculture with Chinese and other foreign entities were under review. One of the deals includes a 200,000-ha project with China's Beidahuang to develop 200,000 ha of rice, maize, and other crops in the province of Luzon. Aslan Global Management Appledoridge Company Liu Jianjun Beef, biofuels, crops, poultry Agrowill was set up in 2003 to take over, consolidate and modernise farms in Lithuania, particularly in the dairy sector. Through its subsidiaries it owns or leases 38,000 ha in the Baltic states. Foreign investors in Agrowill include SEB AB Finnish and Hansabank of Sweden. In 2008, company representatives announced that they were completing negotiations for farmland in Russia's Penza region and planned to acquire 40,000-50,000 ha in Russia by the end of the year and up to 500,000 ha within 3-4 years. Sugar beet Sabio AgriSA Sugar beet, wheat Tongaat-Hulett Changhau Engineering In January 2012, the Australian Financial Review reported that China’s state-owned Shangxii Kingling Livestock Co. offered to buy a 5,000-6,000 ha cattle farm in Nigeria as a stepping stone to importing 10,000 high-quality beef cattle and calves from Australia every year. Kingbull has more than 800 million ha in China’s Shanya Province, each holding between 300 and 1,000 cattle. Alpco Agro/Elna Agricultural Land Opportunity Fund SIAT US$200 million Jenaan Investment is a private company established in Abu Dhabi in 2005 to invest in agricultural projects abroad. In 2007 it invested US$25 million in a 2,520-ha fodder farm and feed plant in Egypt. In 2009 it announced plans to invest US$250 million to acquire an additional 42,000 ha for the production of wheat. The company also has a 30-year-lease available for 40,000 ha in Sudan. In 2010 Jenaan said it would spend US$500 million over the next three years acquiring farmland in Tanzania, Ethiopia, the US and the Far East. SeedRock Africa Agriculture In January 2008 the Ministry of Agriculture of Timor Leste signed an MoU with Indonesia’s GTE Biotech, a company owned by Gino Sakiris, for a project that would provide the company with a 50-year-lease available lease of 100,000 ha, around 25% of the country's arable land area, for the production of sugar canes, jatropha, a leading fruit and vegetable supplier to European supermarkets, has three farms in Uganda that produce fruit for export. In 2009 the Brunei Investment Authority was reported to be preparing an investment proposal for an agricultural project in Mindanao. In April 2010, the Minister of Agriculture of Brunei was in the Philippines, where he proposed a project for the establishment of a 10,000-ha rice operation, along with logistics and post-harvest and processing facilities. In June 2010, the Bangladeshi company Nitol-Niloy reported that it was in negotiations with Uganda to invest around US$12.5 million to establish a farm on 10,000 ha of land, where 2,500 Bangladeshi farmers would be brought in to work and where 80% of the production would be exported to Bangladesh. An official with Uganda's Ministry of Agriculture, however, denied that the government had offered the company any land, saying only that it had signed the minutes of the meeting of the two sides. Crops According to a report by Justicia Ambiental and the Unión Nacional de Campesinos, Petru Buzzi is pursuing a 40,000-ha sugar-cane project in the Sofala Province. World Bank/OMCicane, which is listed on the Stock Exchange of Mauritius, intends to team up with local investors to form a joint venture, Kwalé International Sugar Company Limited (KISCOL). Ethiopia has In 1999, USAID contracted the US company Schaffer and Associates to undertake a feasibility study for a sugar refinery in Mali’s Office du Niger. Schaffer subsequently formed the Société Sucrière de Markala (Sosumar), with African sugar giant Illovo, a subsidiary of Associated British Foods, coming in as a majority owner. In 2007, Schaffer, Illovo and the Government of Mali signed a contract allocating Sosumar a 50-year lease on 17,000 ha of land for sugar-cane plantations. Illovo says that the project’s implementation “remains dependent upon the Government of Mali fulfilling certain undertakings”, while a US Embassy cable released by Wikileaks indicates that the delay is due to competing claims to the land by another sugar refinery in the area, owned by China Light Industrial Corporation for Foreign Economic and Technical Cooperation. Dominion Farms is owned by Calvin Burgess, a wealthy American who made his fortune in construction and real estate. Burgess set up the company to develop rice farms in Africa. It established its first farm on a 7,000-ha piece of land in the Yala Swamp area in Kenya that it obtained on a 25-year lease. In 2009, Calvin Burgess announced that he had found investors to replicate his Kenyan farm model in Liberia. Tempierry Financial Group*Barley, maize, soybeans, sunflowers, wheat The private UK-based pension fund of billionaire Michael Hintze, MPH, has purchased 11 rural properties in New South Wales for a total of A$127 million since 2007. The 11 farms cover 47,100 ha and produce livestock, winter crops and sugar cane. The Hintze portfolio has been accumulated and managed by Richard Taylor, a director of Growth Farms Australia. DWS GALOF US$3.1 billion Hancock US$205 million (half of fund) Rice, soybeans Soybeans, wheat, MoU signed (2009) Maize, pulses, rice Congo Agriculture is a company established by commercial South African farmers to set up large-scale farms in Congo-Brazzaville. The company obtained up to 80,000 ha from the government on a 30-year lease, of which 48,000 ha are in the Malolo district and have been divided into 30 farms that are offered to the participating South African farmers. The remaining 32,000 will be assigned at a different location. The company is closely connected with AgriSA, South Africa's largest commercial farmers' union. US$1.24 billion Singapore Socfin, a member of the French group Bolloré, has a 40-year lease on 6,675 ha in Malen chiefdom, Pujeunh District, for the production of palm oil and rubber. According to a Green Scenery report from May 2011, the company has signed an MoU for additional lands in the Bonthe District and is in consultation for more lands in the Bo District, which would bring its total landbank in the country to 12,000. The company operates other palm oil plantations in Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Indonesia and Cameroon. The Sayegh Group is a conglomerate mainly involved in the production of paint, through its company National Paints. In September 2009 its owner, Saleem Sayegh, disclosed to Emirates Business 24/7 that it had acquired 1.5 million ha of agricultural land in the Nile Delta. Food crops, jatropha AIQudra Holding is a joint-stock company established in Abu Dhabi in 2005. In February 2008, the company told Le Matin that it had acquired concessions covering 31,000 ha of agricultural lands in Algeria where it intends to produce potatoes, olives and dairy. It also said that it was planning to set up a joint venture with Moroccan investors to produce olive oil on 14,000 ha in Morocco. In December 2009, the National reported that AI Qudra was considering buying land in Pakistan, Syria, Vietnam, Sudan and India to increase its land holdings to 400,000 ha. Dominion Farms is owned by Calvin Burgess, a wealthy American who made his fortune in construction and real estate. Burgess set up the company to develop rice farms in Africa. It established its first farm on a 7,000-ha piece of land in the Yala Swamp area in Kenya, which it obtained on a 25-year lease. The local communities living in the area complain of being displaced without compensation, of losing access to water and pasture for their livestock, of losing access to potable water and of pollution from the regular aerial spraying of fertilisers and agrochemicals. They continue to struggle to get their lands back and to get Dominion to leave. Undaunted by the opposition in Kenya, Burgess is now seeking to expand into Nigeria, where he has acquired 30,000 ha in Taraba State with the backing of former President Olusegun Obasanjo.