

Land Grabbing by Farm Land of Guinea, Inc. in Faranah Region, Guinea

Description

Farm Lands of Guinea (FLG) is a company based in Gibraltar and registered in the British Virgin Islands. On September 16, 2010, with a military junta in control of the Government of Guinea, FLG signed two deals with Guineas Ministry of Agriculture for 99-year lease rights to more than 100,000 ha of agricultural land, where it intends to grow maize and soybeans. Under a subsequent protocol, signed while the junta was still in power, FLG agreed to survey and map roughly 1.5 million ha and to 'prepare it for third-party development under 99-year leases'. FLG maintains that in return the Ministry of Agriculture gave it exclusive marketing rights over the lands 'with a commission of 15% being payable on closed sales'. In November 2011, London -based Craven House Capital, formerly AIM Investments, bought US\$1,000,000-worth of FLG common shares. In July of 2012 FLG purchased the Indian company Buddhabarapu and its existing 220,000 ha of land under a Protocol d'Accord from the Government of Guinea, which leases the land from community owners for periods of 50 years. This land will be developed for rice, eucalyptus, and palm oil for export.

Basic Data

Name

Land Grabbing by Farm Land of Guinea, Inc. in Faranah Region, Guinea

Country

Guinea (/country/guinea)

Province

Faranah Region

Site

N†™ Dema, Konindou, Saraya

Accuracy of Location

HIGH local level

Source of Conflict

Type of Conflict (1st level)

Type of Conflict (2nd level)

Land acquisition conflicts

Intensive food production (monoculture and livestock)

GMOs

Specific Commodities

Corn/Maize (/commodity/corn-maize)

Soybeans (/commodity/soybeans)

Pulses

Eucalyptus (/commodity/eucalyptus)

Palm oil (/commodity/palm-oil)

Cotton (/commodity/cotton)

Rice (/commodity/rice)

Land (/commodity/land)

Project Details and Actors

Project Details

5,340 ha in N'Dema and 3,475 ha in Konindou are the pilot project for 98,400 ha in Saraya to be developed into monoculture plantations with manufacturing plants on-site. Expected yield is 4 tons of soybeans per ha, with 48% GMO soy. The project is through Land & Resources (Guinea) SA, a Guinea-registered subsidiary of Farm Lands of Africa, is 10% owned by the Guinea government and is not subject to income taxes in Guinea. Rice cultivation on former Buddhabarapu land has started on 400 ha, with 8 test varieties of rice imported from India.

Project Area (in hectares)

106 415

Level of Investment (in USD)

5,000,000

Type of Population

Rural

Company Names or State Enterprises

Farm Lands of Africa (/company/farm-lands-of-africa)

Land & Resources of Guinea SA (/company/land-resources-of-guinea-sa)

Craven House (/company/craven-house)

Craven House Capital (/company/craven-house-capital)

Relevant government actors

Guinea Ministry of Agriculture

International and Financial Institutions

National Agriculture Bank of Guinea (/institution/national-agriculture-bank-of-guinea) from Papua New Guinea (/country-of-institution/papua-new-guinea)

African Development Bank (AfDB) (/institution/african-development-bank)

The Conflict and the Mobilization

Intensity of Conflict (at highest level)

LATENT (no visible organising at the moment)

When did the mobilization begin

LATENT (no visible resistance)

Groups Mobilizing

International ejos

Forms of Mobilization

Creation of alternative reports/knowledge

Involvement of national and international NGOs

Impacts

Environmental Impacts

Visible: Food insecurity (crop damage), Loss of landscape/aesthetic degradation, Soil contamination, Soil erosion, Surface water pollution / Decreasing water (physico-chemical, biological) quality, Groundwater pollution or depletion

Health Impacts

Visible: Infectious diseases

Other

The area under farming concession was the epicenter of an Ebola spread (<https://noticiasdeabajo.wordpress.com/2015/08/02/ebola-neoliberal-los-origenes-agroeconomicos-del-brote-de-ebola/>)

Socio-economic Impacts

Visible: Displacement, Increase in violence and crime, Loss of livelihood, Loss of traditional knowledge/practices/cultures, Specific impacts on women, Land dispossession, Loss of landscape/sense of place

Outcome

Project Status

Proposed (exploration phase)

Do you consider this as a success?

No

Why? Explain briefly.

Details of the project are unclear, but it appears to be moving forward unhindered.

Sources and Materials

References

Oakland Institute, 2012, "Betting On World Agriculture" (p20)

http://www.oaklandinstitute.org/sites/oaklandinstitute.org/files/OI_report_Betting_on_World_Agriculture.pdf

Links

FarmLandGrab.org - Farm Lands of Guinea, Inc. finalise un placement privé d'un million de dollars US avec un investisseur stratégique

<http://farmlandgrab.org/post/view/19267>

FarmLandGrab.org - Farm Lands of Guinea invited to evaluate replicating its agricultural restoration model in neighboring West African countries

<http://farmlandgrab.org/post/view/19658>

Farm Lands of Africa - slide presentation of the company

http://www.farmlandsafrica.com/docs/about_fla_v4.3.pdf

PRweb.com - Farm Lands of Africa Announces Execution of an Agreement for the Acquisition of Buddhavarapu Farms SA

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/guinea/agriculture/prweb9768938.htm>

The Ecologist | 27 July 2015 - Neoliberal Ebola: palm oil, logging, land grabs, ecological havoc and disease

<http://www.farmlandgrab.org/post/view/25171>

Other Documents

Daily life in Conakry and Ebola warning board Daily life in Conakry, Guinea on 3rd December 2014. (Photo: Dominic Chavez / World Bank via Flickr)

<http://www.farmlandgrab.org/post/view/25171>

https://file.ejatl.org/docs/Conakry_Guinea.png

Other Comments

In February 2011 FLA acquired Kryptic Entertainment of Nevada, USA. FLA also owns land in Mali (10,000 ha), Sierra Leone (29,400 ha), and Gambia (unclear, under two subsidiaries: Farm Resources Africa (Gambia) Limited and Farm Lands of Gambia Limited). FLA also purchased Buddhavarupu Farms and their existing 220,000 ha in Guinea in August 2012.

Nigel Woodhouse, Director of FLA: "The bulk of the land will be put down to GM soy. It will be farmed on an industrial scale to produce profit for the company, part owned by the government. The element of profit being the driver to engage western investment."

Meta Information

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Last update

08/03/2016

Images



Daily life in Conakry and Ebola warning board

Daily life in Conakry, Guinea on 3rd December 2014. (Photo: Dominic Chavez / World Bank via Flickr) <http://www.farmlandgrab.org/post/view/25171>

