

## [GRAIN releases data set with over 400 global land grabs](#) [Download PDF](#) [Document Tools](#)

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Date: **23 February 2012**

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# Attachments

- [Grain Land Grab Deals Jan 2012 \(313 KB\)](#)



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Today GRAIN is making available a new data set documenting 416 recent, large-scale land grabs by foreign investors for the production of food crops. The cases cover nearly 35 million hectares of land in 66 countries.

The data set is available in HTML below, in [XLS](#) and [PDF](#) formats and in this [interactive global map of land grabs](#) created by Varun Mangla / [Circle of Blue](#).

This is not an exhaustive list of all land deals. It focuses only on those deals that:

- were initiated after 2006,
- have not been cancelled,
- are led by foreign investors,
- are for the production of food crops, and
- involve large areas of land.

Deals for sugar cane and palm oil production were included but not those for crops like jatropha or cotton.

The collection of deals provides a stark snapshot of how agribusiness has been rapidly expanding across the globe since the food and financial crises of 2008 and how this is taking food production out of the hands of farmers and local communities.

It confirms that Africa is the primary target of the land grabs, but it also underlines the importance of Latin America, Asia and Eastern Europe, demonstrating that this is a global phenomenon.

### Other recently released data sets from GRAIN on land grabbing

[Extent of farmland grabbing for food production by foreign interests: How much agricultural land has been sold or leased off?](#) (December 2011). *A table showing the percentage of the area grabbed by foreigners -- for the production of crops and livestock -- in terms of arable land, agricultural land and total land area per country.*

[Pension funds investing in global farmland for food production](#) (updated December 2011). *A table that shows which pensions funds are buying up farmland, where they are buying it and how much they are spending.*

[Land grabbing and the global food crisis - presentation](#) (December 2011). *A powerpoint presentation providing a general overview of the land grab trend, which includes maps and summaries of land grab cases.*

The data set also paints a clear picture of who the land grabbers are. While most of the 298 land grabbers documented are from the agribusiness sector, financial companies and sovereign wealth funds are responsible for about a third of the deals. And on many occasions there is overlap. For instance, the data set shows how Cargill, one of the world's largest agribusiness companies, has been acquiring hundreds of thousands of hectares of farmland through its hedge fund Black River Asset Management.

European and Asian based investors account for about two thirds of the land grabs within the data set. China and India are major sources of land grabbers, as are the UK and Germany. But the UK, much like Singapore and Mauritius, serves as a tax haven for land grabbers, and often the true operating bases of the companies reside elsewhere. Other major centres of land grabbers are the US, which tops the list at 41 cases, and the UAE and Saudi Arabia with 39 combined.

This table is based on data available to us, most of it collected from the website [farmlandgrab.org](#). It has not been verified against realities on the ground. It is also a summary, and as such doesn't capture all nuances and details. Sources are available on request.

The data set is available in HTML below and in [XLS](#) and [PDF](#) formats. This [interactive global map of land grabs](#) created by Varun Mangla / [Circle of Blue](#) is one example of how the data is being used. Please [contact us](#) if you know of others or would like to suggest one.

French and Spanish versions are also available.

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GRAIN - Land grab deals - Jan 2012 : Sheet1

Landgrabbed	Landgrabber	Base	Sector	Hectares	Production	Projected investment	Status of deal	Summary
Algeria	Al Qudra	UAE	Finance, real estate	31,000	Milk, olive oil, potatoes		Done	Al Qudra Holding is a joint-stock company established February 2008, the company told Le Matin that covering 31,000 ha of agricultural lands in Alger potatoes, olives and dairy. It also said that it was venture with Moroccan investors to produce olive. In September 2009, The National reported that buying land in Pakistan, Syria, Vietnam, Sudan and holdings to 400,000 ha.
Angola	AfriAgro	Portugal	Finance, real estate	5,000	Oil palm	US\$30-35 million	Done	AfriAgro is a subsidiary of the Portugal-based At acquired a 50-year lease on 5,000 ha of land near Province, Mozambique. It intends to expand to Z
Angola	CAMC Engineering Co. Ltd	China	Construction	1,500	Rice	US\$77 million	Done	CAMCE is a subsidiary of the China National M In April 2011, the Angolan Press Agency reports had approved CAMCE's proposed project to construct establish a 1,500-ha pilot rice farm in the area. Bank will be providing CAMCE with a credit line
Angola	ENI	Italy	Energy	12,000	Oil palm		In process	The project is a joint venture between Sonangol, company responsible for the exploration, production hydrocarbons in Angola, and ENI, one of the world December 2011, the two companies signed an agreement pilot project in food and biodiesel production.
Angola	Eurico Ferreira	Portugal	Energy, telecommunications	30,000	Sugar cane	US\$200 million	Done	In 2008, Portuguese conglomerate Eurico Ferreira subsidiary, Proef, announced that it was pursuing sugar-cane project in the Zaire Province of north
Angola	Lonrho	UK	Agribusiness	25,000	Rice		Done (50-yr lease)	In 2005, all that remained of Lonrho, once one of in Africa, was a hotel in Mozambique and £20 million Lenigas became the new CEO and, with the support White, an adviser to Qatari emir Sheikh Khalifa bin new wave of investments in Africa. The company infrastructure, but its focus is agribusiness. It runs Mozambique and runs a vertically integrated sugar farms in southern Africa for export to European recently been expanding its agricultural land holdings 50-year lease for 25,000 ha of farmland in Angola studies for 25,000 ha of agricultural land in Mali. White says that the company will focus on there's risk in non-cereal farming. If there's a failure our green peppers."
Angola	Quifel Natural Resources	Portugal	Agribusiness, energy	10,000	Oilseed		Done	Quifel Natural Resources is part of Portugal's Qu controlled by Portuguese aristocrat, businessman Miguel Maria de Sá Pais do Amaral, which is involved insurance and real estate to agriculture and energy farmland through the development of palm-oil plant prices rising in Brazil, the company turned its a