



*If we take care of the Earth,  
the Earth will take care of us.*

## Forum for Environment (FfE)

### *Greenbites: Environmental News*

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#### *National news*

##### *Electricity starts generating dollars for Ethiopia*

Addis Ababa, Capital- After a long await, the supply of electricity power has become one of Ethiopia's largest foreign currency earners, fulfilling the aim to make it one of the major foreign currency earners in a short period of time. On October 5, the 283km long Ethio-Djibouti electric power transmission project was officially inaugurated in Djibouti. The 230kv power transmission line will enable to export up to 60 megawatts of electricity. Ethiopia in return would obtain up to 1.5million dollars a month from the power export.

(For the full article [www.capitalethiopia.com](http://www.capitalethiopia.com) October 09, 2011)

##### *Karaturi to fence farm half the size of Addis*

Addis Ababa, Fortune- Karaturi Global Ltd. is to construct embankments around 25,000ht of farmland, half the size of Addis Ababa, in Gambella Regional State

at a cost of 15 million dollars following a report of loss of 15 million dollars due to flooding. The loss incurred was due to the destruction of maize planted on 12,000ht of farmland in Jicao and Pulldong weredas. Fresh floods from the river banks of Alwero and Baro submerged the farmland, destroying crops that would potentially have produced 60,000tn of maize.

(Source [www.addisfortune.com](http://www.addisfortune.com) October 09, 2011)

##### *Karaturi to outsource Ethiopian land to Indian farmers*

Business Standard- Karaturi Global, the city-based publicly-held floriculture major and one of the world's largest exporter of roses which is aggressively rolling out an agriculture business venture in Ethiopia, is looking at outsourcing 20,000 hectares of farm land in the African nation to Indian farmers on a revenue-sharing basis. The company has leased 300,000 hectares in Gambela, in the western corner of Ethiopia. It has been looking to develop a bouquet of crops such as paddy, maize, cereals, palm oil, and sugarcane, among others, to cater to the huge demand in Africa and also look at the export market. According to senior officials of Karaturi, they have taken possession of 100,000 hectares, and after the completion of this, they will be able to take possession of another 200,000 hectares. "We have got a decent response. We intend to give land and the necessary infrastructure to farmers

who have the expertise in specific crop cultivation and get into a revenue share (65:35) with them. We hope to have agreements reached for around 20,000 hectares in the near future as part of the first phase. The first phase will be over by the end of this financial year. As part of its expansion plans in this sector, Karuturi had earlier this year held discussions with farmers from Punjab interested in this venture. For the second phase, Karuturi is understood to have initiated discussions with some farmers in South India and a few agri-commodity majors. It hopes to outsource as much as 50,000 hectares over a period of time.

(Source <http://farmlandgrab.org/post/view/19438>)

**MoA, Turkish co sign for cotton production**

**Fortune-** The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) has signed a 23.7 million br land lease contract with a Turkish company for a large scale production of cotton. The 25 year agreement with a lease price of 158 br for a hectare was signed by the minister of MoA. The irrigable land is located in Gambella Regional State adjacent to Gillo River where the company plans to divert water. The MoA has identified a total of 2.6 million hectares of land for cultivation of cotton, which is equivalent to what Pakistan, the fourth largest cotton producer in the world, uses for the same purpose.

(Source [www.addisfortune.com](http://www.addisfortune.com) October 09, 2011)

**International news**

**Fishing film nets documentary prize**

British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)- A film about the effects of overfishing has won a new award set up to honor films that have made a significant impact on society. The End of the Line received the first Puma Creative Impact award, worth 50,000 Euros (£43,737), at a London ceremony hosted by newsreader Jon Snow. Director Rupert Murray said he hoped the prize would "inspire more people to make films that make a difference". Another contender, Burma VJ, received a special commendation from the jury. The Oscar-nominated film, about video journalists who go undercover to report on human rights abuses in the country, received 25,000 euros (£21,889). US film-maker Morgan Spurlock, Christian Aid director Loretta Minghella and Queen Noor of Jordan sat on the panel that selected the winners. Environmental documentary The Age of Stupid, starring the late Pete Postlethwaite, was among the five finalists.

(Source  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-15270216>)

Many thanks for reading and see you in the next issue!

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