



“Land Grabbing” by Foreign Investors in Developing Countries: Risks and Opportunities

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Table of media reports on overseas land investments to secure food supplies, 2006-09
A. GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT¹

| Region | Target country | Investor country | Nature of deal | Status of deal | Date announced/signed | Source | Article date |
|--------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| Africa | Democratic Republic of Congo | China (ZTE International) | 2.8 million ha secured for biofuel oil palm plantation | Unknown | n.a. | http://news.mongabay.com/bioenergy/2007/07/dr-congo-chinese-company-to-invest-1.html ; http://www.iht.com/articles/ap/2008/05/04/asia/AS-FEA-GEN-China-Farming-the-World.php | Jul-07 |
| | Ethiopia | India | US\$4 billion invested, including in agriculture, flower growing, and sugar estates | Unknown | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | Mar-09 |
| | Kenya | Qatar | 40,000 ha leased for fruit and vegetable cultivation in exchange for funding US\$2.3 billion port | Signed | Nov-08 | http://www.nation.co.ke/News/-/1056/513528/-/view/printVersion/-/3wecp8z/-/index.html ; www.arabianbusiness.com/543415?tmpl=print&page= | Jan-09; Jan-09 |
| | Malawi | Djibouti | Unknown area of farmland leased | Signed | Apr-09 | http://www.coastweek.com/3216-15.htm | Apr-09 |
| | Mali | Libya | 100,000 ha secured for rice | Signed | n.a. | http://www.lemonde.fr/planete/article/2009/04/15/secure-alimentaire-2-5-au-mali-les-nouvelles-mises-en-culture-beneficiaire-surtout-aux-investisseurs-libyens_1180879_3244.html#ens_id=1178742 | Apr-09 |
| | Mozambique | China | US\$800 million investment to expand rice production from 100,000 to 500,000 metric tons; political opposition to deal | Discontinued | n.a. | http://forums.csis.org/africa/?p=120 | Late 2008 |
| | Sudan | Egypt | Land secured to grow 2 million tons of wheat annually | Signed | n.a. | http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/articleshow/msid-3092250,prtpage-1.cms | Jun-08 |
| | Sudan | Jordan | 25,000 ha secured for livestock and crops | Signed | n.a. | http://www.jordantimes.com/?news=12422 ; http://www.jordantimes.com/?news=12484 | Nov-08; Nov-08 |
| | Sudan | Kuwait | "Giant" strategic partnership; no further information | Signed | Sep-08 | http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/printArticle.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=240524&version=1&template_id=48&parent_id=28 | Sep-08 |
| | Sudan | Qatar | Joint holding company set up to invest in agriculture | Signed | Jul-08 | http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/article.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=231463&version=1&template_id=57&parent_id=56 | Jul-08 |
| | Sudan | Saudi Arabia (Hail Agricultural) | 9,200-10,117 ha leased for wheat, vegetables, and animal | Signed | Feb-09 | http://articles.latimes.com/2008/sep/28/world/fg-food28?s=o&n=o&sessid=0e7c6eb6e53f67fceb588fa4fae5 | Sep-08; Mar-09 |

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|------|-------------|--------------------------------------|---|----------------------|--------|--|-------------------|
| | | Development Co) | feed; 60% paid by Saudi government | | | d361ef214fa3&uuid=14b1c8e3172d15ada60954a128f2a6d1d3afe0fc&pg=0&pgtp=article&eagi=&cat=finance+%26+insurance&pe_id=4321477&page_type=article&exci=2008%7C09%7C28%7Cworld%7Cfood%7C; http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | |
| | Sudan | South Korea | 690,000 ha secured for wheat | Signed | May-08 | http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/special/2008/09/139_25874.html | Jun-08 |
| | Sudan | United Arab Emirates (UAE) | 378,000 ha total invested in by UAE | Under implementation | n.a. | www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article28180 | Aug-08 |
| | Sudan | UAE (Abu Dhabi Fund for Development) | 30,000 ha secured for corn, alfalfa, and possibly wheat, potatoes, and beans | Signed | n.a. | http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/jul/02/food.sudan | Jul-08 |
| | Tanzania | Saudi Arabia | 500,000 ha requested for lease | Requested | n.a. | http://af.reuters.com/article/tanzaniaNews/idAFLF5136420090415?feedType=RSS&feedName=tanzaniaNews | Apr-09 |
| | Tanzania | China (Chongqing Seed Corp) | 300 ha secured for rice | Signed | n.a. | http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/bizchina/2008-05/09/content_6674352.htm ; http://www.vub.ac.be/biccs/documents/Freeman,%20Holslag%20and%20Weil%20%282008%29,%20China%27s%20foreign%20farmong%20policy,%20BICCS%20Asia%20Paper,%20vol.%203%20%289%29..pdf - pg 17 | May-08; late 2008 |
| | Zambia | China | 2 million ha requested for jatropha (biofuel) | Requested | n.a. | http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/262712,zambias-opposition-condemns-reported-chinese-biofuels-project.html | Apr-09 |
| Asia | Cambodia | Kuwait | Land leased for rice | Signed | Aug-08 | http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKBKK33108620080822 ; http://www.atimes.com/atimes/Southeast_Asia/JI26Ae01.html | Aug-08 |
| | Cambodia | Vietnam | 100,000 ha secured for rubber | Unknown | Mar-09 | http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=a6BtzqiiCFJU | Mar-09 |
| | Indonesia | Saudi Arabia (Bin Laden Group) | 500,000 ha secured in US\$4.3 billion investment for rice; put on hold by Bin Laden Group | Discontinued | n.a. | http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/business/article/11843.html | Mar-09 |
| | Laos | Vietnam | 100,000 ha secured for rubber | Unknown | Mar-09 | http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=a6BtzqiiCFJU | Mar-09 |
| | Pakistan | UAE (Abraaj Capital) | 324,000 ha purchased | Under implementation | n.a. | http://www.ft.com/cms/s/c6536028-1f9b-11dd-9216-00007b07658,dwp_uuid=fc3334c0-2f7a-11da-8b51-00000e2511c8,print=yes.html ; http://viewswire.eiu.com/index.asp?layout=VWArticleVW3&article_id=83461793&text=food%20outsourcing&rf=0 | May-08 |
| | Philippines | Bahrain | 10,000 ha secured for agro-fishery | Signed | Feb-09 | http://english.bna.bh/?ID=76356 ; http://www.manilastandardtoday.com/?page=business5mar30_2009 | Feb-09 |
| | Philippines | China (company unknown) | 1.24 million ha leased; deal put on hold | Discontinued | n.a. | www.pambazuka.org/en/category/africa_china/52635 ; http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/inquirerheadlines/nation/vie | Dec-08; Jan-09 |

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|--------------|-------------|-----------------------|---|---------|--------|--|----------------|
| | | | | | | w/20090105-181407/Rich-states-target-poors-farmland | |
| | Philippines | Qatar | 100,000 ha leased | Unknown | Dec-08 | http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/inquirerheadlines/nation/view/20090105-181407/Rich-states-target-poors-farmland | Jan-09 |
| Other | Turkey | Bahrain (Agricapital) | US\$500 million agricultural project; may rise to US\$3-\$6 billion | Signed | Apr-09 | http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/NewsDetails.aspx?storyid=248249 | Apr-09 |
| | Ukraine | Libya | 247,000 acres or hectares secured | Signed | Nov-08 | http://archives.chicagotribune.com/2008/dec/14/nation/chi-global-land_bddec14 ; http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/nov/22/food-biofuels-land-grab | Dec-08; Dec-08 |

Table of media reports on overseas land investments to secure food supplies, 2006-09
B. PRIVATE SECTOR TO GOVERNMENT

| Region | Target country | Investor country | Nature of deal | Status of deal | Date announced/signed | Source | Article date |
|---------------|------------------------------|--|--|----------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| Africa | Angola | Lonrho (UK) | 25,000 ha leased for rice. Lonrho is negotiating for a further 125,000 ha in Mali and Malawi | Signed | n.a. | http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/63460024-e342-11dd-a5cf-0000779fd2ac.html ; | |
| | Democratic Republic of Congo | Agriculture South Africa (South Africa) | 10 million ha offered to farmers' union | Unknown | n.a. | http://af.reuters.com/article/investingNews/idAFJ0E53E0GL20090415 ; http://www.witness.co.za/index.php?showcontent&global[_id]=21838 | |
| | Ethiopia | Unknown private investors (Saudi Arabia) | Land leased in exchange for US\$100 million investment | Signed | Mar-09 | http://af.reuters.com/article/investingNews/idAFJ0E5350BS20090406?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0 | |
| | Madagascar | Daewoo (South Korea) | 1.3 million ha secured for maize | Discontinued | Nov-08 | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLU18138720090320?sp=true | |
| | Nigeria | Trans4mation Agric-tech Ltd (UK) | 10,000 ha secured | Signed | n.a. | http://greenbio.checkbiotech.org/news/firm_plans_rice_cassava_production | |
| | Sudan | Jarch Capital (USA) | 400,000 ha in Southern Sudan signed with local army commander | Signed | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | |

Table of media reports on overseas land investments to secure food supplies, 2006-09
C. PRIVATE SECTOR TO PRIVATE SECTOR

| Region | Target country | Investor country | Nature of deal | Status of deal | Date announced/signed | Source | Article date |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------|
| Africa | East Africa Agri-business (Ethiopia) | Dubai World Trading Company (UAE) | 5,000 ha secured in joint venture for tea | Signed | Apr-09 | http://www.ethiopianreview.com/news/2009/04/ethiopian-firm-signs-300-million-tea-deal-witth-dubai-company/ | |
| Other | Khorol Zerno (Russia) | Hyundai (South Korea) | 10,000 ha secured in company takeover; Hyundai has plans to purchase another 40,000 ha in Russia by 2012 | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/biz/2009/04/123_43334.html | |

Table of media reports on overseas land investments to secure food supplies, 2006-09
D. PRIVATE SECTOR TO UNKNOWN

| Region | Target country | Investor country | Nature of deal | Status of deal | Date announced/signed | Source | Article date |
|--------|----------------|--------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------|
| Africa | Cameroon | Unknown company (China) | 10,000 ha secured for rice production | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://www.bonaberi.com/ar,cameroun_la_chine_exploite_le_riz,4204.html | |
| | Egypt | Jenat (Saudi Arabia) | 10,000 ha secured for barley, wheat, and livestock feed | Unknown | n.a. | http://www.gulfbase.com/site/interface/NewsArchiveDetails.aspx?n=89376 | |
| | Ethiopia | Flora EcoPower (Germany) | 13,000 ha secured for biofuel crops; contract farming arrangement | Signed | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true ; http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20026854.200-rich-countries-carry-out-21st-century-land-grab.html?page=2 | |
| | Ethiopia | Sun Biofuels (UK) | Land secured for jatropha (biofuel) | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | |
| | Mozambique | Skebab (Sweden) | 100,000 ha secured for biofuel crops | Unknown | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | |
| | Mozambique | Sun Biofuels (UK) | Land secured for jatropha (biofuel) | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | |
| | Tanzania | CAMS Group (UK) | 45,000 ha purchased for sweet sorghum (biofuel) | Deal implemented | 2007 | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | |
| | Tanzania | Sun Biofuels (UK) | 5,500 ha secured for jatropha (biofuel) | Unknown | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | |
| Asia | China | Goldman Sachs (USA) | 10 poultry farms purchased for US\$300 million and pig farms purchased for between \$150 and \$200 million | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://www.thepoultrysite.com/poultrynews/15725/goldman-sachs-buys-chinese-poultry-farms ; http://www.thepigsite.com/swinenews/18902/all-eyes-on-the-chinese-pork-industry | |
| Other | Brazil | Mitsui (Japan) | 100,000 ha secured for soybeans | Deal implemented | 2007 | http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/News/International_Business/Japan_trading_firms_bet_big_on_food_eye_Asiarssarticleshow/3383572.cms | |
| | Ukraine | Morgan Stanley (USA) | 40,000 ha purchased | Deal implemented | Mar-09 | http://blogs.reuters.com/global/2008/06/25/enter-the-new-farmers/ ; http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSNOA33740020080313 | |
| | Ukraine | Landkom (UK) | 100,000 ha leased | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://www.ft.com/cms/s/d0bba4f2-3d65-11dd-bbb5-0000779fd2ac,dwp_uuid=a955630e-3603-11dc-ad42-0000779fd2ac,print=yes.html | |
| | Russia | Alpcot Agro (Sweden) | 128,000 ha secured | Deal implemented | May-08 | http://www.cisionwire.com/alpcot-agro/press-release-3-2 | |
| | Russia | Trigon (Denmark) | 100,000 ha secured | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://72.14.235.104/search?q=cache:pos_bSbzgFcl:www.farmlandinvestmentpartnership.com/pdfs/Agcapita_New_sletter_-_July_25_2008.pdf+rav+agro-pro&hl=en&ct=clnk&cd=19 | |

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|--------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------|--|
| Russia | Black Earth Farming (Sweden) | 331,000 ha secured under subsidiaries | Deal implemented | n.a. | http://www.businessweek.com/print/magazine/content/08_42/b4104050842599.htm ; http://www.lastampa.it/redazione/cmsSezioni/economia/200812articoli/39519girata.asp |
|--------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------|--|

Table of media reports on overseas land investments to secure food supplies, 2006-09
E. AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT FUND

| Targets | Investor | Nature | Date initiated | Source | Article date |
|---------|--|--|----------------|---|----------------|
| World | Agricapital (Bahrain) | \$1 billion investment vehicle formed by Abu Dhabi Investment House, Ithmaar Bank, and Gulf Finance House to invest in agriculture | n.a. | http://www.cpifinancial.net/v2/news.aspx?v=1&aid=1009&sec=Alternative%20Investment | Aug-08 |
| Africa | Agri-Vie | Private equity fund is raising up to US\$100 million to invest in agricultural projects in Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda | n.a. | http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSLK10422520090320?sp=true | Mar-09 |
| Brazil | Cosan (Brazil) and unknown US company | US\$370 million set aside for purchase of sugar farmland | Aug-08 | http://www.reuters.com/article/mnaNewsConsumerGoodsAndRetail/idUSN2634680920080826?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0 | Aug-08 |
| Europe | Palmer Capital (Germany) and Bidwells (UK) | US\$300 million private equity fund to purchase farmland | Sep-08 | http://www.ft.com/cms/s/4e299d22-82bc-11dd-a019-000077b07658,Authorised=false.html?i_location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ft.com%2Fcms%2Fs%2F0%2F4e299d22-82bc-11dd-a019-000077b07658.html&i_referer=http%3A%2F%2Ffarmlandgrab.blogspot.com%2Fsearch%2Flabel%2FPalmer%2520Capital | Sep-08 |
| World | Qatar Investment Authority (Qatar) | US\$60 billion sovereign wealth fund to invest in food and energy | n.a. | http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/03a97876-0f70-11de-ba10-0000779fd2ac.html | Mar-09 |
| Vietnam | Qatar Investment Authority (Qatar) | US\$1 billion joint fund for agriculture | Sep-08 | http://uk.reuters.com/article/fundsNews/idUKARO33162120080903?feedType=nl&feedName=ukpersonalfinance;http://www.gulf-times.com/site/topics/printArticle.asp?cu_no=2&item_no=239183&version=1&template_id=36&parent_id=16 | Sep-08; Sep-08 |
| World | Saudi Company for Agricultural Investment and Animal Production (Saudi Arabia) | US\$800 million company to invest in agricultural projects abroad | n.a. | http://www.ft.com/cms/s/59a9da3a-2920-11de-bc5e-00144feabdc0,Authorised=false.html?i_location=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.ft.com%2Fcms%2Fs%2F0%2F59a9da3a-2920-11de-bc5e-00144feabdc0.html&i_referer=http%3A%2F%2Ffarmlandgrab.blogspot.com%2Fsearch%3Fupdated-max%3D2009-04-16T02%253A00%253A00%252B08%253A00%26max-results%3D10 | Apr-09 |

¹ Also deals with some government involvement. It is not always clear to what extent the government is involved on both the investor and target side.

Source: IFPRI has compiled this table from media reports. The responsibility for the accuracy of the information presented here, however, lies with the reporting media.

Notes: Well-documented examples are scarce, details on the deals are often murky, and some reports are contradictory. IFPRI invites observers to share evidence-based information on the listed and on new land deals by posting a contribution on IFPRI's blog at <http://ifpriblog.org/2009/04/24/landgrab.aspx>.

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