

Enterprise Digest is a bi-monthly internally circulated news and current affairs summary prepared by Knowledge Management & Communications (KMC) Team of Enterprise Partners (EP). The content of Enterprise Digest focuses on thematic areas relevant to EP's activities that are disseminated over media outlets during the past weeks. Enterprise Digest does not guarantee content credibility, which solely rests on the content generator/s.

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Prime Minister David Cameron to Visit Ethiopia

British Prime Minister David Cameron will pay an official visit to Ethiopia, accompanied by the country's Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond.

Please read the full story at [ENA](#)

Land Policy Dominates Panel on Agricultural Transformation

Panellists, who were part of a discussion that was organised in connection with the 50th anniversary of the Ethiopian Institute of Agriculture Research (EIAR), questioned the possibility of achieving success in commercial farms with the existing land policy and stirred debate among researchers and policymakers.

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#)

JETRO to Open Office Early This Year, Host Japanese Businesses in Kilinto Industrial Park

Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), which facilitates trade and investments overseas and across Japan, will open its representative office not later than April this year.

- JETRO will see potential Japanese businesses that are willing and are asking to come to Ethiopia, also address existing challenges for Japanese officials, including changing the mind-sets of most Japanese investors towards Africa;
- Around 50 hectares of land is dedicated in Kilinto area on the outskirts of Addis to construct a specific industrial park;

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#)

Amhara State Transferring Industrial Parks with Infrastructures

Amhara Regional State disclosed that it is transferring industrial parks equipped with full infrastructural works to investors, where similar parks were built in 13 major towns of the state, including the state capital, over the past five years.

- The State Government expended more than 340 million Birr to build the parks resting on 1,400 hectares of land;
- More than 600 investors have benefited from road, water, power, sewerage, and drainage facilities installed at the designated plots for investment;

Please read the full story at [ENA](#)

Confederation Launches Massive Unionisation Campaign

The Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions (CETU) is conducting a second of campaign to unionise tens of thousands of employees in hundreds of organisations in the city until June 2016.

- According to latest census data from the Central Statistics Agency (CSA), 11% of Addis Ababa's 1,053,257 strong workforce is employed in the private and government sectors while the rest are unpaid family workers, self-employed persons, domestic and NGO workers;
- Academicians underline the delicacy of the matter especially in a country where investment and private sector engagement are in their infancy;
- The massive plan to develop industrial parks is a window of opportunity as industrial parks have been identified as key institutions for FDI and the massive expansion of jobs, but it is under such arrangements that huge abuses are said to occur;

Please read the full story at [Fortune](#)

Ministry of Public Enterprise to Auction Ten Entities

The Ministry of Public Enterprises (MPE) plans to float 10 fully and partially owned state enterprises for sell including those it co-owns in joint ventures – B.M Textile & Garment S.C. and Tibilla Agriculture Development S.C. – and those it fully owns – Silea Agriculture Development S.C. and Bilito Agriculture Development S.C.

- Kombolcha Textile S.C. and Bahir Dar Textile S.C. failed to attract bidders last year;
- MIDROC Ethiopia accounts for 60% of all the money (2.15 billion Birr) MPE has been unable to collect from the privatization process, the Ministry reported to Parliament;

Please read the full story at [Fortune](#)

Prime Source Forum to Host Senior Executives from Apparel, Footwear Supply Chain

The 2016 Prime Source Forum (PSF), the international platform that offers solutions and intelligence exchange for the fashion industry, is to open its doors on 14 March in Hong Kong, enlisting senior executives and senior stakeholders from the apparel and footwear supply chain.

- First-class keynote speakers include Dr Arkebe Oqubay from Ethiopia to showcase how Ethiopia can be the preferred destination for investment in the textile and apparel industry;

Please read the full story at [Knitting Industry](#)

H&M Launches Industrial Relations Programme in Ethiopia

Swedish clothing major H&M, International Labour Organization (ILO), and Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) launched an industrial relations project aiming to improve the development of a socially sustainable textile and garment industry in Ethiopia.

- The project is funded by SIDA and H&M and implemented by the ILO in collaboration with the Ethiopian Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of Industry, Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions, and Ethiopian Employers Federation;

Please read the full story at [Fibre2Fashion](#)

Velocity Apparel Starts Textile Production in Ethiopia

Dubai's Vogue International Agency is ramping up its presence in Africa, as production recently started at Velocity's new plant in Mekelle in northern Ethiopia and the facility is slated to officially launch in May to coincide with its first shipment.

- The Mekelle plant, located on a campus measuring just under a square mile, will produce jeans and knit garments where the entire factory is fully automated, set up on conveyor systems, powered by wind, lit by LED bulbs, and has its own water treatment facilities on-site;
- Other sustainable practices include waterless washing, sublimation fabric printing, and laser-blast technology;
- Velocity hopes to ultimately provide jobs for around 10K people in Ethiopia;

Please read the full story at [Sourcing Journal](#)

Cotton Production Falls below Capacity

A study revealed that there is a huge gap between the availability of resources and land favourable for cotton production and the actual production and the quality of cotton during a conference jointly organised by Ethiopian Textile and Garment Manufacturers Association (ETGAMA) and GIZ held at Hilton Hotel.

- Senior government officials, country director, and heads of different departments of GIZ and stakeholders attended the conference entitled "Towards Increasing Sustainability and Competitiveness in Ethiopia's Textile and Garment Industry".

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#)

MIDROC Misses Out on Edget, Privatization Director Goes to Jail

The Supreme and High Courts have passed decisions on the civil and criminal cases surrounding the privatisation and acquisition of Edget Yarn & Sewing Thread Manufacturing S.C., which landed Fitsum Mesfin, then Deputy Director of Ethiopian Privatisation Agency, to jail while Crown Textile Weaving PLC won a civil suit against MIDROC Ethiopia PLC.

Please read the full story at [Fortune](#)

EP, Muluaem Farm Ink Agreement to Build Tomato Processing Plant

Muluaem Mesene Farm Enterprise, a private agribusiness, signed a partnership agreement with Enterprise Partners (EP) to build a tomato processing plant at a cost of over 60 million Birr in Wollaitta Sodo town of SNNP State.

- EP will provide the recipient with the necessary technical assistance, including drawing up the overall plan for construction of the facility;
- Ultimately, not less than 5,703 smallholder farmers will have access to a reliable market and earn an additional income of Birr 1,300 per head during the first year alone, securing at least 5% increment per year thereafter;
- The processing plant would create some 440 jobs;
- Team Leader of EP, Nebil Kellow, noted that EP shares risk with innovators who invest in socially and financially profitable activities that could be replicated to create sector-wide growth. Through such agreements, EP supports farmers, most of whom are women, in a win-win approach with a potential to unleash growth in the agro-processing sector, creating wealth for tens of thousands, he told *The Reporter*;

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#) (Amharic)

Bayer Joins Fair Planet Project to Support Ethiopian Farmers

Bayer is joining the non-profit organization Fair Planet to work on "Bridging the Seed Gap," which will provide Fair Planet's technology transfer process to equip smallholder farmers with high-quality vegetable seeds, starting with Nunhems tomato, hot pepper, and onions.

- Dire Dawa, Harar, Butajira and Gondar are targeted for the first planting season;

Please read the full story at [Crop Protection News](#)

Railway Upgrade could Unleash Ethiopia's Produce Export Potential

The expected opening of a railway renewal project between Addis Ababa and the port of Djibouti next year gave great hopes to open up overland exporting opportunities of fruits and vegetables in reefer containers through the port of Djibouti.

Please read the full story at [Fresh Fruit Portal](#)

Prigat Juice Back on Supermarket Shelves

Prigat Juice, owned by Great Abyssinia PLC, is back in business following a 25-day production ban due to alleged contaminated products.

- The company produces about 120K bottles a day, with plans to add 36K more to meet demand, despite a price increase of 58 cents that emanated from some ingredients' increase in price;

Please read the full story at [Fortune](#)

Abergelle's Meat Find New Destination

Abergelle International Livestock PLC, an abattoir in Mekelle town of Tigray State and owned by the Endowment Fund for the Rehabilitation of Tigray (EFFORT), is to export 280 tonnes of meat to the Comoros Islands.

- Ten shipments of 28 tonnes each will now be sent over a period of three months, at which time the agreement will be up for revision;
- Abergelle sources its livestock from Tigray, Somali, and Afar regions where it is challenged by the traditional rearing practices that are ruining the quality of meat and the abattoir's;
- Abergelle resumed business last July, changing their product from cattle (beef) to goat and sheep meat (mutton), of which they have since been able to export eight tonnes a week;
- Abergelle is using \$100K grant from USAID and \$200K from EFFORT to upgrade its facilities and prepare for ISO participation;
- In the last fiscal year, shipment of 19,478 tonnes of meat secured \$93 million for Ethiopia while the first four months of this fiscal year, earned \$33 million, of which 61% went to the UAE and 36% to Saudi Arabia;

Please read the full story at [Fortune](#)

Export Abattoir Inaugurated in Somali State

A modern export abattoir built at a cost of 172 million Birr in the Somalia Regional State and owned by nine Diaspora Ethiopians became operational.

- The abattoir has a capacity to slaughter 2K cattle per day and eases problems related with livestock marketing;
- The State Government expended 6 million Birr by installing power lines and building pathways to the facility;

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#)

Ministry Developing Fodder Banks

The Ministry of Livestock and Fishery started developing underground water to produce fodder over 900 hectares of land thereby controlling the effects the drought.

Please read the full story at [All Africa](#)

LIDI Awarded ISO 9001:2008 Certificates

Leather Industry Development Institute (LIDI) is awarded the ISO 9001: 2008 Quality Management Systems certification from the International Organization for Standardisation for all aspects of LIDI's services, with specific procedures set in place to evaluate and improve the Institutes key work processes, ensuring that customers continue to receive unparalleled customer service and support.

Please read the full story at [LIDI](#)

Business Opportunity: Collecting Animal Bones to Make Fertiliser in Ethiopia

In cattle-rich Ethiopia, young men and women are helping to turn a wasted resource — discarded animal bones — into fertilizer, and they are making money collecting this previously untapped source of nutrients.

Please read the full story at [AFK Insider](#)

Central Bank "Manifesto" Puzzles Industry

Editors Pick

The financial industry is bewildered with a new central bank “manifesto” authorities are calling a “guideline” setting out detailed prescriptions on how to restore good governance and fight rent seeking behaviours in banks, insurance companies and microfinance institutions. They have instructed senior executives of these entities to submit action plans on how to ensure good corporate governance and the clean conduct of business.

- Comprising nine items, the 15-page draft “guideline” focuses on fighting nepotism, and the widespread manifestation of corrupt and unethical behaviours identified across the industry;
- Among the issues to be addressed are lack of governance, poor delivery of services and the prevalence of rent seeking practices in the industries;

Please read the full story at [Fortune](#)

CBE Investing Heavily on Corporate Bonds

The outstanding loan that the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) has provided through the purchase of corporate bonds reached 152.7 billion Birr, the National Bank of Ethiopia’s annual report noted.

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#)

Ethiopia Feeling Pinch of Illicit Financial Outflows

Alarmed by increasing illicit financial outflows, Ethiopia says it is taking new counter measures including installing advanced CCTV cameras at airports and establishing a special intelligence unit.

- A report released by Global Financial Intelligence revealed that \$26 billion left the country unlawfully in many forms between 2004 and 2013 with Ethiopia continuing to bleed an average of \$2 billion every year;
- A staggering \$19.7 billion of the total money loss left through mis-invoicing, mainly by importers who reported undervalued sums while exporters overvalue their transactions;

Please read the full story at [Anadolou](#)

Mega Banking: Future of Ethiopian Banks

Feature story

It seems that consolidation is the new way to go for banks. Although difficulty in managing “too big to fail” banks is highly apparent, still the industry prefers mergers and acquisitions to expand shareholder benefit. This global move

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#)

Ethiopia Re Selects Board, to be Operational in One Month

The first domestic reinsurance company, Ethiopian Re S.C., has finally been realised and selected its Board of Directors and auditor though the modalities of its operation constitute unfinished business and its business relationship with insurance companies remains unclear.

Please read the full story at [Fortune](#)

Ethiopian Delegation Discusses Banking Relations with Sudan

An Ethiopian delegation led by Teklewold Atnafu, Governor of the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE), paid a two-day visit to Sudan, followed by signing of an MoU between the Central Bank of Sudan and NBE to strengthen the banking relations between the two countries.

Please read the full story at [Star Africa](#)

CBE Nets \$2.4 Billion in Six Months

Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (CBE) disclosed that it has secured \$2.4 billion over the past six months though the revenue secured showed decline compared against the \$5 billion during the same period last year.

Please read the full story at [ENA](#)

Accounting Curriculum Way below Standard – Board

Accounting and Auditing Board of Ethiopia (AABE), a regulatory body for financial reporting in Ethiopia, identified that gaps between the accounting courses delivered by both public and private universities and colleges in the country with regards to the international standards.

Please read the full story at [The Reporter](#)