

GLOBAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THE WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF OF THE GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



January 15th - 22nd, 2010

Beginning April 1, 2010, Secretary Dan Glickman will become the President of Refugees International. The Chicago Council congratulates him on his new appointment, and is delighted Secretary Glickman will continue in his role as cochair of the Global Agricultural Development Initiative in his new post.

Please visit the [Global Food for Thought Blog](#) which provides expert commentary, debate, and updates on key developments in real time.

For more information on the Global Agricultural Development Initiative, and previous editions of *Global Food for Thought*, please visit the Initiative's new website: www.thechicagocouncil.org/globalagdevelopment.

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Quote of the Week: *"Food is another sector where we are clearly doing more every single day. We've already deployed 600,000 humanitarian daily rations and are working to secure and provide nearly 17 million MREs, meals ready to eat, which was the request from the World Food Program. In addition to that we've procured a significant amount of food assistance, including purchasing local rice, 6,500 tons of local rice so we can make sure that the Haitian population has access to adequate food."* – USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah, Remarks on the Haiti Earthquake, January 19, 2010.

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KEY ARTICLES

Why Haiti Matters, Barack Obama, *Newsweek*, January 15

Greater help is on the way. This will be a complex and difficult rescue and recovery operation, and it takes time to move all of the resources necessary into such a devastated environment. But more American rescue teams, doctors, nurses, and paramedics will arrive to care for the injured. More water, food, and supplies will be delivered. An aircraft carrier has arrived. A naval hospital ship has been deployed. And additional aircraft

and heavy equipment will restore communications and clear roads and ports to speed relief and hasten recovery.

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/231131/output/print>

See Also: A Helping Hand for Haiti, *Op-Ed, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, New York Times, January 16*

Our first priority will be to raise funds to meet the urgent needs of those who are hurt, homeless and hungry, and to ensure that the organizations and relief workers on the ground have the resources to do their jobs effectively. In the first two weeks, the needs are very simple: food, water, shelter, first aid supplies. Once relief workers have gone through all the rubble and every person — living and dead — has been recovered, once the streets have been cleared and communications and power restored, then Haiti is going to have to get back on its feet again.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/17/opinion/17clinton.html>

See Also: What I Saw in Haiti, *Op-Ed, Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General of the United Nations, Washington Post, January 19*

As I moved around the stricken city, I saw horrific images like those we have all seen on television: collapsed buildings; bodies in the streets; people in dire need of food, water and shelter. But I also saw people demonstrating extraordinary resilience despite having suffered the heaviest blows.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/18/AR2010011803513.html>

See Also: We Can Turn Haiti Around, *Op-Ed, Kofi Annan, Former Secretary General of the United Nations, The Guardian, January 21*

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/jan/21/haiti-lessons-support-disaster-aid>

From Words to Action: A Rwandan Beginning, *Roger Thurow, Senior Fellow, Global Agriculture & Food Policy, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Global Food for Thought Blog, January 20*

They were listening in the hills of Rwanda a year ago when a new American president, this one with African lineage, took the oath of office. Minutes into his inaugural address, Barack Obama stirred their hopes: "To the people of poor nations, we pledge to work alongside you to make your farms flourish and let clean waters flow, to nourish starved bodies and feed hungry minds." They were listening several months later, when the governments of the leading industrial countries – the G8 – pledged more than \$20 billion in agriculture development aid. And they were listening in September when the U.S. convened a special United Nations session to build support for a coordinated strategy that would reverse the decades of neglect of agriculture development in the poorest countries, particularly in Africa. They heard all the words and wondered if there would ever be any action behind them.

<http://globalfoodforthought.typepad.com/global-food-for-thought/2010/01/roger-thurow-outrage-inspire-rwanda.html>

See Also: Roger Thurow Offers "Global Food For Thought," ONE, January 20

<http://one.org/blog/2010/01/20/roger-thurow-offers-global-food-for-thought/>

See Also: Roger Thurow Discussing Global Hunger on Ireland's Pat Kenny Radio Show, January 22

<http://www.thechicagocouncil.org/UserFiles/File/GlobalAgDevelopment/Newsletter/RogerThurowPatKennyRadioShow.mp3>

Listen to Ordinary Africa, *Jack Leslie, Chairman, Board of Directors of the U.S. African Development Foundation, The Huffington Post, January 22*

When it comes to development in Africa, "fish where the fish are." The vast majority of people in Africa derive their livelihoods from farming, and yet development assistance for agriculture has declined year after year. This is one of the most hopeful signs of the new development policies of President Obama's Administration. The President announced earlier this year that agriculture and food security would be the centerpiece of his development strategy. He has followed this up by appointing Dr. Raj Shah, who ran the Gates Foundation's agricultural development program, as the new Administrator of USAID. It was a long time coming, but he is the right person for the job.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/jack-leslie/listen-to-ordinary-africa_b_433265.html

After the Earthquake, How to Rebuild Haiti from Scratch, *Op-Ed, Jeffery D. Sachs, director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, Washington Post, January 17*

The first step in this transition is food security: Haiti's farmers will need seed and fertilizer within weeks if they are to grow food for a destitute country. The displaced urban population will need income support or food transfers to subsist. The World Food Program's effective food-for-work projects can help feed workers recruited to rebuild roads and buildings. After the extreme emergency period over the next few weeks, growing more food in Haiti will be far cheaper, more reliable and more sustainable than living on imported food aid. Supplying the farm inputs to Haiti will require more grants -- as impoverished farmers have no capacity to buy seeds, fertilizer and small-scale equipment -- as well as official aid to help deliver such materials to Haiti's remote villages.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/15/AR2010011502457.html>

See Also: Some Frank Talk about Haiti, *Op-Ed, Nicholas D. Kristof, New York Times, January 20*

The greatest predation was the deforestation of Haiti, so that only 2 percent of the country is forested today. Some trees have been — and continue to be — cut by local peasants, but many were destroyed either by foreigners or to pay off debts to foreigners. Last year, I drove across the island of Hispaniola, and it was surreal: You traverse what in places is a Haitian moonscape until you reach the border with the Dominican Republic — and jungle. Without trees, Haiti lost its topsoil through erosion, crippling agriculture.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/21/opinion/21kristof.html>

Through the Looking Glass: Haiti and U.S. Development Leadership, *Op-Ed, Nancy Birdsall, President, Center for Global Development, Huffington Post, January 21*

In Haiti, all three U.S. foreign policy tools -- defense, diplomacy and development -- in the form of officials and staff of the Department of Defense, Department of State and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) are front and center in the news and on the ground. But who is in charge? We see the situation in Haiti as requiring above all leadership from the development side.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/nancy-birdsall/through-the-looking-glass_b_431697.html

See Also: Haiti's Tragedy and the Inevitable Controversy, *J. Brian Atwood, Former Administrator USAID, Huffington Post, January 20*

The Haiti earthquake has produced an overwhelming humanitarian response from governments and people everywhere. This disaster has occurred in one of the world's poorest countries, a nation whose infrastructure and governmental institutions were fragile to begin with. The relief challenge is extraordinary, requiring the removal of bodies, the treatment of the wounded, and the feeding and care of millions of people.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/j-brian-atwood/haitis-tragedy-and-the-in_b_430079.html

See Also: Rich Countries Must Prepare Long-Term Effort to Help Haiti, *Op-Ed, Washington Post, January 21*

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/20/AR2010012004177.html>

Why We Need Innovation, Not Insulation, *Bill Gates, Co-Founder and Co-Chair, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Huffington Post, January 20*

To make the 80% goal by 2050 we are going to have to reduce emissions from transportation and electrical production in participating countries down to zero. You will still have emissions from other activities including domestic animals, making fertilizer, and decay processes. There will still be countries that are too poor to participate. If the goal is to get the transportation and electrical sectors down to zero emissions you clearly need innovation that leads to entirely new approaches to generating power.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/bill-gates/why-we-need-innovation-no_b_430699.html

World Bank President to Tour Africa, *World Bank, January 21*

World Bank Group President Robert B. Zoellick on Tuesday starts an eight-day, three-nation Africa visit to help focus the attention of African governments, development partners and private investors on seizing the opportunity for renewed momentum in economic growth and overcoming poverty. Although hit by the global food, fuel and financial crises, African governments have persisted in strengthening their economic policies as they pursue development, or rebuild after conflict.

<http://go.worldbank.org/MR3QNVZ600>

Ban Reiterates UN Commitment to Ensure Food Security at Time of Global Crisis, *UN News Service*, January 18

With the global economic downturn causing the “disastrous combination” of high food prices and reduced buying power, leaving hundreds of millions more people unable to feed themselves or their families, the United Nations reiterated its commitment to work with regional bodies to ensure food security. “We are all strongly committed to working with you to help those at risk enjoy food and nutrition security, and to build up their resilience in the face of today’s grave economic, climatic and environmental threats,” Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon told the Summit of the World’s Regions on Food Security in Dakar, Senegal.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=33506&Cr=food+security&Cr1>

See Also: We Must Also Involve Smallholder, Women Farmers in Global Response to Food Security, Secretary General Stresses in Message to Summit of World’s Regions, *UN Department of Public Information*, January 18

<http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs//2010/sgsm12704.doc.htm>

Cadbury and Kraft Agree £11.9bn Deal, *Financial Times*, January 19

Cadbury and Kraft confirmed they had agreed terms for an £11.9bn (\$19bn) takeover of the UK confectionery group by its US rival. The agreed deal ends five months of hostile relations after Kraft made an unsolicited bid for the maker of Flake chocolate bars and Trident chewing gum in late August. Irene Rosenfeld, Kraft’s chief executive, flew in from the US over the weekend for the negotiations. She approached Cadbury on Monday with the higher offer.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/f3970f88-0475-11df-8603-00144feabdc0.html>

See Also: Rosenfeld Proves Her Mettle in Audacious Bid, *Financial Times*, January 18

If the near five-month takeover battle for Cadbury ends with the maker of Bournville cocoa falling into the hands of Kraft, it will be seen as a triumph for the US food conglomerate’s chief executive, Irene Rosenfeld.

http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/fb0b920a-048b-11df-8603-00144feabdc0.dwp_uuid=da5b2be8-9c6b-11de-ab58-00144feabdc0.html

See Also: Kraft to Acquire Cadbury in Deal Worth \$19 Billion, *New York Times*, January 19

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/20/business/global/20kraft.html>

See Also: Cadbury Deal ‘the Price of Globalisation’, *Financial Times*, January 19

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/c022b2e0-053f-11df-a85e-00144feabdc0.html>

See Also: Cadbury Battle Ends with Midnight Handshake, *Financial Times*, January 19

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/88a89a74-052a-11df-a85e-00144feabdc0.html>

See Also: Buffett Hits at Kraft’s ‘Bad’ Cadbury Deal, *Financial Times*, January 20

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/de9cbfec-05d3-11df-88ee-00144feabdc0.html>

See Also: Hershey to Bow Out of Battle for Cadbury, *Financial Times*, January 21

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/87faa0c6-06bb-11df-b426-00144feabdc0.html>

Glickman Stepping Down from MPAA, *Motion Picture Association of America*, January 22

Dan Glickman, Chairman and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA) announced that he will be leaving the MPAA beginning April 1, to become President of Refugees International, the leading advocacy organization on refugee crises worldwide.

http://www.mpa.org/press_releases/glickman%20stepping%20down%20from%20mpaa.pdf

See Also: Dan Glickman Named As Next President of Refugees International, *Refugees International*, January 22

Refugees International (RI), the leading advocacy organization on refugee crises worldwide, announced the appointment of Dan Glickman as its new president. Mr. Glickman brings to RI a long history of public service, fighting hunger and helping underserved people in the U.S. and around the world. **Currently, Mr. Glickman is also co-chairing a bipartisan study for the Chicago Council on Global Affairs entitled: Renewing American Leadership in the Fight Against Global Hunger and Poverty. Catherine Bertini, the former Executive Director of the World Food Programme and Mr. Glickman’s co-chair on the Chicago Council, said: “Dan has a true humanitarian passion for helping people and his knowledge of the challenges of combating hunger is extensive. He is smart, intuitive, and committed to helping people.”** In March 2010, Mr. Glickman will be receiving the Global Child Nutrition Foundation’s 2010 Gene White Lifetime Achievement Award for Child Nutrition.

<http://www.refintl.org/press-room/press-release/dan-glickman-president-refugees-international>

RELEVANT U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Afghan and Pakistan Regional Stabilization Strategy, *Office of the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, U.S. State Department, January 2010*

Job creation is among our most urgent tasks. It is critical to undermine extremists' appeal in the short-term and for sustainable economic growth in the long-term. Our top reconstruction priority is implementing a civilian-military agriculture development strategy to restore Afghanistan's once vibrant agriculture sector with support from USAID, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Army National Guard Agribusiness Development Teams. Agriculture is the quickest way to create jobs that will help sap the insurgency of fighters as well as income from poppy cultivation.

<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/135728.pdf>

See Also: Release of the Afghanistan and Pakistan Regional Stabilization Strategy, *Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, January 21*

"I have made it a top priority to elevate the role of diplomacy and development alongside defense in our national security strategy. Nowhere is this more urgent than in our efforts to disrupt, dismantle, and defeat al-Qaeda in Afghanistan and Pakistan. To meet this core goal, President Obama has outlined a strategy that includes supporting the Afghan and Pakistani governments' efforts to defeat the extremist threat. As President Obama made clear at West Point on December 1, our civilian engagement in Afghanistan and Pakistan will endure long after our combat troops come home. While our military mission in Afghanistan is not open-ended, we are committed to building lasting partnerships with Afghanistan and Pakistan."

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135515.htm>

See Also: U.S. Envisions a Continuing Civilian Presence in Afghanistan and Pakistan, *New York Times, January 21*

The Obama administration's ambitious civilian push in Pakistan and Afghanistan will keep thousands of Americans in those countries for years — rebuilding Afghan agriculture, rooting out corruption and using the local media to counter anti-American sentiment.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/21/world/asia/21diplo.html>

See Also: Civilian Af-Pak Strategy Released, *Politico, January 21*

The State Department released a 39-page report detailing its civilian strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan. "In Afghanistan, our focus is building the capacity of Afghan institutions to withstand and diminish the threat posed by extremism, and to deliver high-impact economic assistance — especially in the agricultural sector — to create jobs, reduce the funding that the Taliban receives from poppy cultivation, and draw insurgents off of the battlefield," the report says.

http://www.politico.com/blogs/laurarozen/0110/Civilian_AfPak_strategy_released.html

Civilian Strategy for Afghanistan: A Status Report in Advance of the London Conference, *Testimony before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee by Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke, Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, Department of State, January 21*

"Last week, Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack visited Kabul to highlight the fact that agriculture is our most important non-security program. We are very pleased with the efforts and progress to date we have made with our Afghan partners. 2009 was the best agricultural year Afghanistan has had in the last 30 years — a reflection of good weather, increased security in agriculture areas in the South, and our robust civilian assistance efforts. We have dozens of USDA advisors in the field working closely with Agribusiness Development Teams from National Guard units from such states as Nebraska, Missouri, and Texas. These agriculture experts work closely with their local and provincial Afghan counterparts to revitalize this historically successful economic sector, boost job creation, and encourage the population to stop opium production and wean Afghan youths from joining the Taliban and supporting terrorists."

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/HolbrookeTestimony100121p.pdf>

Remarks by President Obama, Former President Bill Clinton, and Former President George W. Bush on the Recovery and Rebuilding Effort in Haiti, *The White House, January 16*

Obama: "Every day that goes by, we learn more about the horrifying scope of this catastrophe -- destruction and suffering that defies comprehension. Entire communities buried under mountains of concrete. Families sleeping in the streets. Injured desperate for care. Many thousands feared dead. That's why thousands of American personnel -- civilian and military -- are on the scene working to distribute clean drinking water and food and medicine, and thousands of tons of emergency food supplies are arriving every day."

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-obama-former-president-bill-clinton-and-former-president-george-w>

Remarks on the Haiti Earthquake, Dr. Rajiv Shah, Administrator for USAID, January 19

"Food is another sector where we are clearly doing more every single day. We've already deployed 600,000 humanitarian daily rations and are working to secure and provide nearly 17 million MREs, meals ready to eat, which was the request from the World Food Program. In addition to that we've procured a significant amount of food assistance, including purchasing local rice, 6,500 tons of local rice so we can make sure that the Haitian population has access to adequate food."

<http://www.usaid.gov/press/speeches/2010/sp100119.html>

See Also: Haiti Relief Efforts, Press Briefing by Susan Reichel, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, January 21

"And then within that, about 60 people gather every day and then we lay out the six sectoral areas we need to focus on: food, health, water, sanitation, transportation, logistics, security — and everything flowing in from the field. So as you imagine, the first days, the priorities were always security, water and food. That was — it was getting those things in-country. I don't need to repeat the challenges."

<http://www.usaid.gov/press/speeches/2010/sp100121.html>

Shah Steps into Spotlight in Haiti Relief Efforts, Washington Post, January 20

Dr. Rajiv Shah had barely moved into his new office at the U.S. Agency for International Development when the devastating earthquake struck Haiti and President Barack Obama tapped the untested administrator as point man for relief efforts. As an executive at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Shah launched the foundation's Global Development program, managing a \$1.3 billion investment profile. Most recently, he served as an undersecretary at the Agriculture Department, overseeing more than 10,000 staff around the world. He traveled to Haiti last year to assess the country's agriculture needs.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/20/AR2010012000313.html>

See Also: White House Eager to Project Image of Competence in Relief Efforts, New York Times, January 22

The Obama administration unleashed a torrent of statements and briefings after the earthquake in Haiti to document its efforts to respond quickly to the disaster.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/22/us/politics/22prexy.html>

See Also: Inside the Haiti Response Situation Room, The Cable (blog), Foreign Policy, January 21

http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/01/21/inside_the_haiti_response_situation_room

See Also: Clinton Proposes US-Haitian Recovery Unit, Miami Herald, January 16

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/miami-dade/breaking-news/story/1429707.html>

See Also: U.S. Names Former USAID Official as Haiti Point Person, Politico, January 18

http://www.politico.com/blogs/laurarozen/0110/US_names_former_USAID_official_as_Haiti_point_person.html

Gates: India, Pakistan Have Stake in Afghan Success, United States Department of Defense, January 20

Both India and Pakistan have a big stake in what happens in Afghanistan, and are playing significant roles to support the effort there, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates said. Still, it's critical that both countries maintain full transparency to allay each other's suspicions, Gates told reporters following a meeting here with Indian Defense Minister A.K. Antony. Gates appeared to discount the notion that India contribute troops to serve in Afghanistan. "The kind of support – and extraordinary support – that India is providing in Afghanistan now is really ideal," Gates said. "It is significant support," about \$1.3 billion for power, medicine, agriculture and education projects.

<http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=57620>

New Congressional Group to Promote Engagement Abroad, Foreign Policy (The Cable Blog), January 21

A new congressional caucus announced Thursday will seek to promote U.S. global engagement and leadership in international organizations. Organized by the new chair of the House Foreign Affairs International Organizations subcommittee, Missouri Democrat Russ Carnahan, and Louisiana Republican Anh "Joseph" Cao, the "American Engagement Caucus" will be all about "promoting engagement as a foreign policy strategy that's clearly in American security, economic, and moral interests," Carnahan told *The Cable*.

http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/01/21/new_congressional_group_to_promote_engagement_a_broad

See Also: America's Interest in Engagement, *Op-Ed, Rep. Russ Carnahan and Rep. Anh "Joseph" Cao*, *The Hill*, January 20

<http://thehill.com/opinion/op-ed/77069-americas-interest-in-engagement>

See Also: America's Interest in Engagement, *American Engagement Caucus*, January 21

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/images/100121_2010_01_21_AEC-One_Pager.doc

Remarks on Internet Freedom, *Secretary of State Hillary Clinton*, January 21

"Now, these examples of progress can be replicated in the lives of the billion people at the bottom of the world's economic ladder. In many cases, the internet, mobile phones, and other connection technologies can do for economic growth what the Green Revolution did for agriculture. You can now generate significant yields from very modest inputs. And one World Bank study found that in a typical developing country, a 10 percent increase in the penetration rate for mobile phones led to an almost 1 percent increase in per capita GDP. To just put this into context, for India, that would translate into almost \$10 billion a year."

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/01/135519.htm>

See Also: Clinton Urges Global Response to Internet Attacks, *New York Times*, January 22

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/22/world/asia/22diplo.html>

Yemen: Confronting Al-Qaeda, Preventing State Failure, *Hearing before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee*, January 20

The Honorable Jeffrey Feltman, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State and The Honorable Daniel Benjamin, Coordinator for Counterterrorism, Department of State

"Water scarcity is another concern, in part for its negative affect on agricultural production and potential. The United Nations World Food Program has deemed Yemen the most food-insecure country in the Middle East. USAID is exploring opportunities to expand engagement with local civic and religious leaders on traditional practices and customs that can reinforce environmental sustainability, food security, and social cohesion."

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/FeltmanTestimony100120a.pdf>

Ambassador Barbara Bodine, Diplomat In Residence, Lecturer of Public Affairs, Princeton University

"Reports that Yemen, or at least the Sana'a Basin, will run out of aquifer water imminently have been circulating for decades and will become true at some point. Demand far exceeds the monsoons' ability to replenish and antiquated irrigation methods and subsidized fuel for pumps exacerbate the problem. Desalination plans are hampered by the exorbitant cost of transporting the water over several mountain ranges to the populated and agricultural highlands at roughly 4,000-8,000 feet."

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/BodineTestimony100120a.pdf>

Dr. Emile Nakhleh, Former Senior Intelligence Service Officer, Former Director of the Political Islam Strategic Analysis Program, Central Intelligence Agency

"As President Obama and his senior counterterrorism advisor have said before and since the Christmas Day failed terrorist plot, US national interest dictates that we engage broader segments of Muslim societies in an effort to delegitimize the radical paradigm and undercut the extremist message of al-Qa'ida. Such engagement should target Muslim communities and centers focusing on tangible initiatives in elementary and secondary education, micro investment and economic development, political reform, public health, clean water, agriculture, and science and technology."

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/NakhlehTestimony100120a.pdf>

Dr. Frederick W. Kagan, Resident Scholar and Director, American Enterprise Institute's Critical Threats Project

"Only 46% of rural Yemenis have access to adequate water (40% of the country's water goes to growing qat), and some estimates suggest Yemen will run out of water for its people within a decade."

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/KaganTestimony100120a.pdf>

Mr. Gregory Johnsen, Princeton University

“Combine the loss of oil revenue with the depletion of Yemen's groundwater table, which is shrinking by as much as eight meters per year in some areas, and the potential for disaster is great. Per capita water supply in Yemen is roughly two percent of the world's average, which has had a devastating effect on the country's agriculture industries. More than half of the labor force works in agriculture but most of this is in small, subsistence level farming.”

<http://foreign.senate.gov/testimony/2010/JohnsenTestimony100120a.pdf>

See Also: Al Qaeda in Yemen and Somalia: A Ticking Time Bomb, *Report to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, January 21*

<http://foreign.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Yemen.pdf>

Republican: Afghans Must Match US Commitment, *Washington Post, January 16*

Only significant growth in training of Afghan security forces, targeting the insurgency, securing population centers and strengthening Afghan and Pakistani governments will prevent the region from serving as a safe haven for radical Islamic terrorists again, Rep. Mike Castle of Delaware said in the weekly GOP video and radio address. In southern Afghanistan, the U.S. State and Agriculture departments are working to help this former agricultural hub of Afghanistan regain its potential, he said. "The focus on agriculture will hopefully make progress in reducing the rampant opium and narcotics trade," he said. "While President Karzai has pledged to help eradicate poppy crops, there must be development in Afghanistan of crops and methods other than poppies to sustain the people of this country."

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/16/AR2010011600810.html>

FOR MORE SUMMARIES OF AND LINKS TO U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND RESOURCES ON ISSUES RELATED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD SYSTEMS, AND FOOD SECURITY, PLEASE VISIT OUR [AG & FOOD POLICY LIBRARY](#)

NEW REPORTS/POLICY BRIEFS/BOOKS

Global Economic Prospects: Crisis, Finance, and Growth, *World Bank, January 2010*

The global economic recovery that is now underway will slow later this year as the impact of fiscal stimulus wanes. Financial markets remain troubled and private sector demand lags amid high unemployment, according to a new report from the World Bank. The report warns that while the worst of the financial crisis may be over, the global recovery is fragile. It predicts that the fallout from the crisis will change the landscape for finance and growth over the next 10 years.

<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTGEP2010/Resources/GEP2010-Full-Report.pdf>

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See Also: World Bank Sees Slowdown in Global Growth as Stimulus Wanes, *New York Times, January*

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/21/business/21worldbank.html>

Land Grab? The Race for the World's Farmland, *Michael Kugelman and Susan L. Levenstein, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, January 2010*

The world is experiencing a grain rush. With increasing frequency, food-importing countries and private investors are acquiring farmland across the developing world. This new publication marks one of the first efforts in the United States to bring together perspectives from international organizations, farmers, and investors alike about a trend often referred to as a new phase of the world food crisis.

http://www.wilsoncenter.org/topics/pubs/ASIA_090629_Land%20Grab_rpt.pdf

See Also: Sacrificing the Environment for Food Security, *Michael Kugelman and Susan L. Levenstein, World Politics Review, January 20*

<http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/article.aspx?id=4969>

The Influence of Current and Future Climate-Induced Risk on the Agricultural Sector in East and Central Africa, *International Livestock Research Institute, January 2010*

Rainfed agriculture is and will remain the dominant source of staple food production for the majority of the rural poor in Eastern and Central Africa (ECA). It is clear that larger investments in agriculture by a broad range of stakeholders will be required if this sector is to meet the food security requirements of tomorrow's Africa. Many factors contribute to the current low levels of investment, but production uncertainty associated with between- and within-season rainfall variability remains a fundamental constraint to many investors who often overestimate the impact of climate induced uncertainty.

http://www.asareca.org/resources/reports/ASARECA_Ilri%20climatechange1.pdf

A Post-Copenhagen Pathway, *Center for Strategic & International Studies, January 2010*

To even more than the casual observer, the events that transpired at the global climate change negotiations in Copenhagen are somewhat mystifying. For veterans of international processes and meetings, it is hard to believe that so many countries could come together for such a large and anticipated event with no pre-planned resolution. Granted, international climate negotiations have not previously garnered participation from so many heads of state and previous sessions typically ran late by a day or more in order to reach conclusion.

http://csis.org/files/publication/100111_Ladislaw_Post_copenhagen.pdf

Participatory Gender Study: Understanding the Gender Dimension in Food Security and Climate Change, *Asian Farmers, December 2009*

Apart from working longer hours, women farmers assume a broader range of roles as they perform both productive and reproductive functions. Bulk of women's time is spent undertaking reproductive work such as preparing and gathering food, taking care of the children and cleaning the home. However, they are also involved in productive work, and in some cases, assume some of the productive tasks and responsibilities taken on by men.

<http://asianfarmers.org/papers/200912researchbriefgenderdimensionsfoodsecurityclimatechange.pdf>

Understanding and Reducing the Risks of Climate Change for Transboundary Waters, *Pacific Institute, December 2009*

This report outlines some of the risks that climate change poses to transboundary water agreements. In the following sections, the authors define the extent and general characteristics of transboundary rivers and aquifers and describe some of the institutional structures that have developed to manage them, including both international guidelines and specific transboundary agreements.

http://www.pacinst.org/reports/transboundary_waters/transboundary_water_and_climate_report.pdf

Global Investment Trends Monitor, *United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, January 2010*

http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/webdiaeia20101_en.pdf

See Also: Foreign Direct Investment Falls Sharply In 2009, *Voice of America, January 19*

A new report says Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) fell by nearly 40 percent from \$1.7 trillion in 2008 to a little over \$1 trillion in 2009. The report by the Geneva-based U.N. Conference on Trade and Development or UNCTAD, sees a moderate recovery in 2010. The report finds declines in all regions of the world. It notes developed countries experienced a severe fall in FDI flows in 2008 and the dramatic decline continued in 2009, by a further 41 percent. U.N. Economists says the situation, in many ways, is probably worse for developing and transition economies. UNCTAD Director of the Division on Investment and Enterprise James Zhan says FDI flows to these countries reached historical highs in 2008.

<http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/economy-and-business/Foreign-Direct-Investment-Falls-Sharply-In-2009-82080867.html>

Certification Strategies, Industrial Development and a Global Market for Biofuels, *Ricardo Hausmann and Rodrigo Wagner, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, October 2009*

http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/files/Hausmann_Wagner_Biofuels_Certification_2009_web.pdf

UPCOMING EVENTS

Symposium on Global Agriculture and Food Security: Progress to Date and Strategies for Success

Date: February 22, 2010

Location: Washington, DC

On February 22, 2010, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs will convene a symposium in Washington, D.C. to review progress on the Administration's global food security strategy and provide critical thinking on how best to overcome potential obstacles to success. The day-long event will:

- Discuss progress on U.S. and international food security commitments,
- Examine strategies for how to sustain support for these activities, and
- Provide constructive thinking on implementation challenges.

This symposium early in 2010 will provide a unique opportunity to raise attention to these issues: it will be one year since the Obama Administration took office, Congress will begin a new session, and the U.S. and the international community will be evaluating foreign policy priorities for the year ahead.

Event Cochairs

[Catherine Bertini](#), executive director, UN World Food Program (1992-2002)

[Dan Glickman](#), secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture (1995-2001)

[Robert Lane](#), chairman, Deere & Company (2000 – present)

Further information about the symposium will soon be available on the Global Agricultural Development Initiative's website, www.thechicagocouncil.org/globalagdevelopment.

International Conference on Food Security and Climate Change in Dry Areas

Date: February 1 - 4, 2010

Location: Amman, Jordan

The dry areas of the developing world occupy some 3 billion hectares, and are home to one-quarter of the global population. About 16% of the population lives in chronic poverty, particularly in marginalized rainfed areas. Characterized by water scarcity, the dry areas are also challenged by rapid population growth, frequent droughts, high climatic variability, land degradation and desertification, and widespread poverty. The conference will provide recommendations to policy makers and other stakeholders on steps to be taken to reduce the impacts of climate change on food security in dry areas, as well as a framework for supporting research and development to address the threats identified.

http://www.icarda.cgiar.org/Announcement/2009/IntlConfnc_FoodSecurity/FoodSecurityAndClimateChangeInDryAreas_2009.htm

2009 Commitment to Development Ideas in Action Award

Date: February 5th, 2010

Location: Center for Global Development, Washington, D.C.

Please join us in honoring Diego Hidalgo Schnur, the 2009 winner of the Commitment to Development Ideas in Action Award, sponsored jointly by the Center for Global Development (CGD) and *Foreign Policy* magazine. Hidalgo's career reflects his resolute dedication to helping the world's poorest people. He is the founder or key sponsor of numerous organizations committed to promoting development and democracy across the globe. The award, bestowed annually since 2003, honors an individual or organization that has made a significant contribution to changing attitudes and policies towards the developing world.

<http://www.cgdev.org/content/calendar/detail/1423701/>

2010 World Ag Expo

Date: February 9th-11th, 2010

Location: Tulare, California

With 2.6 million square feet of show grounds and 1,600 exhibitors, World Ag Expo is an industry leader in agriculture expositions. Attracting an annual average of 100,000 attendees, this three day expo transforms Tulare, California into the World's hot spot for agriculture technology and innovation.

<http://www.worldagexpo.com/General-Info/About-The-Show.htm>

[Register](#)

Agricultural Outlook Forum 2010

Date: February 18th-19th, 2010

Location: Arlington, Virginia

USADA's 2010 Outlook Forum will be held Feb. 18-19 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Va. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack will keynote the forum titled "Sustainable Agriculture: The Key to Health & Prosperity." Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan will open the annual forum on Feb. 18 at 8 a.m. A panel, which features Whole Foods Market Co-President Walter Robb, recently retired Sysco Corporation CEO Richard Schnieders, Bon Appétit Management Company CEO Fedele Bauccio, and Science and Technology Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of State Nina Fedoroff, is titled "Sustainability, Stakeholders and Customers: Achieving a Healthier 21st Century."

[Session and Speakers](#)

[Program at a Glance](#)

[Public Registration](#)

Food and Agriculture Policies for a Sustainable Future: Responding to Global Challenges and Opportunities

Date: February 25th-26th, 2010

Location: OECD Conference Centre, Paris, France

In the coming decades, the global food and agriculture system will have to provide sustainably for billions more people and meet greater demands on quality, affordability and availability. Farming will be competing with other sectors for land, water and investment, while climate change adds a new unknown to the equation. Ministers from OECD member countries and key emerging economies will meet in Paris on 25-26 February to identify action that best responds to the needs of a rapidly changing world.

http://www.oecd.org/document/53/0,3343,en_21571361_43893445_43909109_1_1_1_1,00.html

5th Annual University Hunger Summit

Date: February 26th-28th, 2010

Location: Auburn, Alabama

With the number of hungry people dramatically increasing worldwide, never has the challenge to address both short-term and long-term solutions to ending hunger been greater. In response, President Obama has pledged to end child hunger in America by 2015 and recently dedicated \$3.2 billion to agricultural development in an effort to assist in the fight against global hunger. You don't want to miss this opportunity to learn more about these efforts and to be actively involved in Universities Fighting World Hunger, a dynamic partnership with the UN World Food Programme. We recommend that a combination of students, faculty, and/or university administrators from each university attend the Summit. Other attendees will include NGO, government, and corporate representatives.

<http://www.universitiesfightingworldhunger.org/summit.php>

FamilyFarmed EXPO

Date: March 11th-13th, 2010

Location: UIC Forum, Chicago, Illinois

FamilyFarmed EXPO is a three day gathering of Chicago-area fans of locally grown and responsibly produced food and artisanal goods. Thursday and Friday feature business-to-business connections. Saturday features cooking demos, interactive seminars and a busy Kids Corner. There will also be over 120 exhibitors offering a wide selection of local food, gifts and lots of useful information that will help you eat healthy year-round, while supporting local, family-run businesses.

<http://www.familyfarmedexpo.com>

Global Conference on Agricultural Research for Development (GCARD)

Date: March 28th-31st, 2010

Location: Montpellier, France

The GCARD process will address the below questions: What are the development needs where AR can play its best role? How best do we turn research in development impacts at scale? How can more effective pathways be developed to create impact for the poor? What investments, institutions, policies and capacities are necessary?

<http://www.egfar.org/egfar/website/gcard>

18th Annual Food and Agriculture Policy Conference

Date: April 21st – 22nd, 2010

Location: Washington, DC

Hosted by Informa Economics Inc.

For more information, contact [Theresa Stephens](#)

2010 Borlaug Dialogue - "Take It to the Farmers": Reaching the World's Smallholders

Date: October 13th-15th, 2010

Location: Des Moines, Iowa

Inspired by the last words of Nobel Laureate and World Food Prize Founder Dr. Norman Borlaug, the 2010 Borlaug Dialogue international symposium will gather the top minds and foremost leaders in global agriculture, food, and development this October in Des Moines – with a special focus on the world's small-scale farmers. As global leaders and institutions carry out work to increase agricultural production and ensure food security worldwide – on the heels of severe food shortages, economic crises, and other upheavals of the past several years – the small-holder farmer is poised to play a unique role in enhancing the food supply for families and communities around the globe. However, small-holder farmers also face particular challenges that must be overcome in order to meet international goals to produce enough food for a growing population in the face of limited resources.

<http://www.worldfoodprize.org/symposium/2010.htm>

AGRICULTURAL ISSUES

Worm Outbreaks Threaten Food Security, *IRIN, January 21*

At least 30 districts in central and eastern Kenya have reported cases of armyworm and bollworm infestation, raising concerns over damage to crops in affected areas after a prolonged drought.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=87813>

Dry Spell, Army Worms, Damage Malawai Crops, *Reuters, January 18*

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE60H0JQ20100118>

Nutritional Security Is in the Balance, *Op-Ed, Suresh Babu, program leader and senior fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute, January 20*

Food insecurity receives much attention from researchers and donors. But the lack of nutrition security — access to balanced nourishment — is much less visible and equally devastating to the health and economic development of poor populations. The effects of malnourishment are stark. A lack of protein exponentially increases children's risk of death, while vitamin A and iron deficiencies are also associated with higher infant and child mortality. Early life and childhood malnutrition leads to stunting and anaemia, which not only causes low birth-weight in the next generation but also harms cognitive development.

<http://www.scidev.net/en/opinions/nutritional-security-is-in-the-balance.html>

Zimbabwe Says Dry Spell Threatens Maize, *Reuters, January 20*

Zimbabwe's maize output is under threat from a dry spell that could mean more food shortages in coming months and a disastrous season for the country's farmers, a cabinet minister said. Agriculture Minister Joseph Made told state media that a lack of rain in the past few weeks and a severe fertiliser shortage had left many crops in a bad state, and a top industry official said farmers faced a disastrous season.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE60J08X20100120>

See Also: Zimbabwe Facing Another Drought, *Voice of America, January 21*

<http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/Zimbabwe-Facing-Another-Drought-82253992.html>

Yemen Economy Hooked on Qat, *Financial Times, January 20*

Critics say qat has gone from being a civilised after-work ritual consumed in the privacy of the mafraj to a very public addiction. As qat farms guzzle up scarce water resources, it is hard to escape the impression of a nation chewing itself to destruction. The crop consumes an estimated 30 per cent of the country's

groundwater resources and, according to Hisham Sharaf, deputy minister for planning, is creating a health problem that costs "a lot of money". The plant requires minimal husbandry and is so profitable that farmers are giving up other crops, and in some places are even transporting fertile soil to the highlands where qat can grow.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/ff20ae4e-05e3-11df-8c97-00144feabdc0.html>

Karzai Plans to Woo Taliban with 'Land, Work and Pensions', *Guardian, January 19*

Afghanistan's president will unveil a plan in the next eight days to offer work, education, pensions and land to Taliban fighters who lay down their weapons. The initiative, which was presented to senior western diplomats in Abu Dhabi earlier this month, will include jobs or land to farm, education for young fighters and pensions for older insurgents who may have fought for much of the past three decades of conflict. The package will also offer security against reprisals.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/jan/19/hamid-karzai-afghanistan-taliban>

Is The World Set for Another Rice Crisis?, *Asia Sentinel, January 14*

Food security has become a major political issue in Asia in recent years due to imbalances in the demand-supply chain and hoarding by national governments. New statistics released by HSBC show that rice production could fall 20 percent this season due to a rage of mainly weather-related factors such as typhoons, flooding and droughts. As a result, global rice prices have surged to US\$610 per metric ton. Along with the anticipated return of El Nino in 2010, the drop in yield could spell trouble for a region increasingly important to world economic growth although there is some debate over stocks.

http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2240&Itemid=594

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Agricultural School Helping Helmand Grow Better, *Department for International Development (U.K.), January 22*

A new Agricultural High School in Afghanistan has been opened in Helmand where British soldiers are battling the Taliban. UKaid, through DFID, has provided £200,000 to build the school with charity Mercy Corps. The school is another milestone in improving farming in Helmand and one of a number of DFID-funded schemes aiming to return the region to its former status as the breadbasket of Afghanistan.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/News-Stories/2010/Agriculture-school-helping-Helmand-grow-better/>

Haiti's Post-Earthquake Rehabilitation Begins with Farmers, *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, January 21*

FAO Director-General Jacques Diouf said that with the first stage of Haiti's rescue operation now underway the country and the aid effort should simultaneously move to the urgent support of food production, agricultural rehabilitation and reconstruction.

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/39290/icode/>

See Also: FAO Calls for \$23 Million to Step-Up Farming in Haiti, *Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, January 16*

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/39087/icode/>

U.S. Aid Workers Find Few Trained Afghan Partners, *Washington Post, January 20*

Alongside the thousands of additional U.S. troops, civilian aid workers are surging into Afghanistan to help refurbish schools, open rural health clinics, build irrigation systems, vaccinate livestock and provide fertilizer to farmers. But like their military counterparts, the civilian technicians are finding the lack of trained Afghan partners their most difficult challenge. The point was illustrated during a recent day trip to Helmand by U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, who was in Afghanistan to see how USDA expertise and technical assistance could help farmers boost production in the country's leading agricultural province. But when he traveled to Nawa, bringing along Helmand's governor and the agriculture minister from Kabul, he also came face to face with the Afghan government's limitations. Only two Agriculture Ministry officials were working here, and neither lived in the district. They had no office, no equipment, no cellphone -- not even a bicycle.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/19/AR2010011903941.html>

Zoellick Warns Haiti Donors of Long Haul, *Financial Times*, January 19

International donors need to start preparing for the long-term challenge of reconstructing Haiti even as they ramp up near-term emergency relief, Robert Zoellick, president of the World Bank, has told the *Financial Times*. The World Bank chief said the immediate priority was "saving lives" with food, water, shelter and medical supplies rather than reconstruction. He praised the US for "putting a lot of might behind this" and said United Nations agencies such as the World Food Program were doing "heroic work".

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/87ebf6ec-04dc-11df-9a4f-00144feabdc0.html>

Tiny Steps toward Basic Services, *New York Times*, January 19

While the world has rushed to rescue those trapped in the rubble, and provide assistance to the tens of thousands left without shelter, food and water, Haitians have jumped in as well to help the relief effort, to slowly begin the gargantuan task of digging out and carrying on.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/20/world/americas/20services.html>

See Also: Rich Nations Call for Haiti Debt Relief, *New York Times*, January 19

Broadening the relief effort, the Paris Club of international creditors issued an appeal Tuesday for nations owed money by Haiti to cancel the debts to help reconstruction after the devastating earthquake a week ago.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/20/world/americas/20debt.html>

Endow a Multibillion-Dollar Haiti Fund, *Op-Ed*, Paul Collier, Former Special Advisor on Haiti to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon & Jean-Louis Warnholz, Former Economic Advisor to Haiti's Prime Minister, *Foreign Policy*, January 19

Crucially, the Haiti Fund's mission would not be reconstruction, but paving the way for lasting change. It means modernizing agriculture so farmers can earn a decent living. The promise of food and shelter in Port-au-Prince might otherwise perversely attract rural migrants from the impoverished Central Plateau, adding to a drain on resources and further diminishing local food production at a time when it is most needed.

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/01/19/how_to_help_haiti_rebuild

U.S. and U.N. Boost Haiti Aid Security as Food Drops In, *Reuters*, January 19

U.S. troops protected aid handouts and the United Nations sought extra peacekeepers in earthquake-shattered Haiti as marauding looters emptied wrecked shops and desperate survivors began to receive medical care and air-dropped food.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFTRE60B5JQ20100119>

See Also: Food Aid Reaches Camp for Haitian Displaced, *Agence France-Presse*, January 18

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5izb0UUyx75E22DAapddHAT6krSqA>

See Also: UN Peacekeepers Guard Haiti Food Aid amid Security Fears, *Reuters*, January 15

http://www.alertnet.org/db/an_art/59567/2010/00/15-163749-1.htm

To Help Haiti, End Foreign Aid, *Op-Ed*, Bret Stephens, *Wall Street Journal*, January 18

For actual Haitians, however, just about every conceivable aid scheme beyond immediate humanitarian relief will lead to more poverty, more corruption and less institutional capacity. Take something as seemingly straightforward as food aid. "At some point," explains James Shikwati, a Kenyan economist, "this corn ends up in the harbor of Mombasa. A portion of the corn often goes directly into the hands of unscrupulous politicians who then pass it on to their own tribe to boost their next election campaign. Another portion of the shipment ends up on the black market where the corn is dumped at extremely low prices. Local farmers may as well put down their hoes right away; no one can compete with the U.N.'s World Food Program."

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704541004575010860014031260.html>

Earthquake in Haiti Shattered Efforts to Restore Resources, Boost Agriculture, *New York Times*, January 18

One week ago, Haiti's biggest fears were hurricanes and food shortage. But authorities were preparing for them. With law and order restored by international peacekeepers, thousands of Haitians were put to work building flood protections and establishing urban gardens. Experimental efforts to reforest hillsides denuded

by the poor seeking wood for charcoal were gaining momentum. And U.N. officials were cautiously optimistic their Haitian enterprise could rank among their most successful. But it all crashed down in the devastating earthquake last Tuesday.

<http://www.nytimes.com/gwire/2010/01/18/18greenwire-earthquake-in-haiti-shattered-efforts-to-restore-596.html>

U.S. Mulls Role in Haiti after the Crisis, *New York Times*, January 17

In the years since 1994, Haiti has resurfaced in the American conscience only during times of crisis: the Aristide meltdown; and after four devastating storms in 2008 that wiped out most of the country's food crops and damaged irrigation systems, causing acute hunger for millions.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/18/world/americas/18policy.html>

Winning Business Concepts Aim to Boost Local Economies in Africa, *America.gov*, January 14

Business ventures ranging from biotech seedlings in Ethiopia to a geotechnical lab in Liberia were among 14 winners of matching grants for joint ventures between U.S. entrepreneurs of African descent and partners in sub-Saharan countries.

<http://www.america.gov/st/business-english/2010/January/20100114160528saikecinawz0.162594.html>

U.S. Partners to Address Water Scarcity in the Middle East, *America.gov*, January 12

Climate change may provoke fears of melting polar ice caps and rising sea levels, threatening to drown entire countries, but for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), it also brings an opposite worry: water scarcity. Consistently lower levels of rainfall, a result of climate change, have left Arab states with water shortfalls. Only Egypt and Lebanon still have enough water, while Yemen faces the direst shortage. America's partnerships in the MENA region on water-related issues exemplify the type of relief to which the new global fund for developing countries announced at COP-15 can contribute.

<http://www.america.gov/st/energy-english/2010/January/20100112082412kcsniggi0.2226984.html>

ENVIRONMENT (WATER/CLIMATE)

U.N. Abandons Climate Change Deadline, *Financial Times*, January 20

The timetable to reach a global deal to tackle climate change lay in tatters on Wednesday after the United Nations waived the first deadline of the process laid out at last month's fractious Copenhagen summit. Nations agreed then to declare their emissions reduction targets by the end of this month. Developed countries would state their intended cuts by 2020; developing countries would outline how they would curb emissions growth. But Yvo de Boer, the UN's senior climate change official, admitted the deadline had in effect been shelved.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/87479ee2-0600-11df-8c97-00144feabdc0.html>

See Also: UN Climate Deadline Turns Out to be 'Flexible,' *BBC News*, January 21

The UN climate convention says nations signing up to the accord reached at last month's summit will not have to do so by the deadline of 31 January. The "Copenhagen Accord" asks countries to send figures by the end of the month on how much they will curb emissions. But amid uncertainty over who is going to sign up, climate convention head Yvo de Boer said the deadline was "soft".

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8471593.stm>

See Also: U.N. Official Says Climate Deal Is at Risk, *New York Times*, January 20

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/21/science/earth/21climate.html>

Possible Futures for Transboundary Water Resources, *Aaron Wolf*, *World Politics Review*, January 20

Water management is, by definition, conflict management. Water, unlike other scarce, consumable resources, is essential to all facets of society, from biologies to economies to aesthetics and spiritual practice. Moreover, it fluctuates wildly in space and time, its management is usually fragmented, and it is often subject to vague, arcane, and/or contradictory legal principles. There is no such thing as managing water for a single purpose -- all water management is multi-objective and based on navigating competing interests.

<http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/article.aspx?id=4961>

India Spars with Pakistan, China over Water, *Asia Sentinel*, January 19

Kashmir has for decades been a bone of contention between India and Pakistan over which the two countries have fought wars. Now, with both sides desperate for more water from population and industrialization pressures, hydroelectric projects on either side of the 550 km Line of Control are putting added pressure on an already volatile situation. While India has been protesting the hydro projects being built in what it calls "illegally occupied territory," Pakistan fears floods or drought in its low-lying areas due to blocking of river systems including the massive Indus and its tributaries, which have immense potential to generate hydroelectricity.

http://www.asiasentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2251&Itemid=174

U.N. Panel's Glacier Warning Is Criticized as Exaggerated, *New York Times*, January 18

A much-publicized estimate from a United Nations panel about the rapid melting of Himalayan glaciers from climate change is coming under fire as a gross exaggeration.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/19/science/earth/19climate.html?emc=tnt&tntemail0=y>

See Also: Climate Change Claim Under Fire, *Wall Street Journal*, January 19

An influential United Nations panel is facing growing criticism about its practices after acknowledging doubts about a 2007 statement that Himalayan glaciers were retreating faster than those anywhere else and would entirely disappear by 2035, if not sooner.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB20001424052748703626604575011413983416060.html>

See Also: The Real Himalayan Scandal, *Op-Ed*, Isabel Hilton, *Guardian*, January 20

However, what is really worrying about the report is how little it has to say about the future of the Himalayas-Hindu Kush, a region on which nearly 40% of the world's population depends for water. There is a further worrying unknown: what impact might the loss of the Himalayan glaciers have on the monsoon, on which food security in south Asia depends?

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/cif-green/2010/jan/20/real-scandal-himalayas>

See Also: Off-Base Camp, *Economist*, January 21

http://www.economist.com/displayStory.cfm?story_id=15328534

A Recovery Built on Water, *Op-Ed*, Steven Solomon, Author of "Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power and Civilization," *New York Times*, January 16

Nearly half of all Haitians lack satisfactory access to clean drinking water, and more than two-thirds live without adequate sanitation. Water poverty is the main reason for Haiti's abysmal illness and early mortality rates.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/17/opinion/17solomon.html>

WOMEN

The Better Half, *Isobel Coleman*, Senior Fellow for U.S. Foreign Policy and Director of the Women and Foreign Policy Program at the Council on Foreign Relations, *Foreign Affairs*, January/February 2010

When U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton toured Africa in August 2009, she went out of her way to meet with women's groups -- female farmers in Kenya, rape victims in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, microfinance entrepreneurs across the continent. In South Africa, she spent twice as long visiting a women's housing project near Cape Town as she did meeting with the country's president, Jacob Zuma. Some quietly sniped that Clinton was devaluing her office by meeting with so many grass-roots female activists; others applauded the fact that a U.S. secretary of state had made women's rights a critical foreign policy issue. Clinton defended her agenda, noting that such attention serves to "change the priorities" of governments.

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/print/65880>

Knowledge on Fire: Attacks on Education in Afghanistan, Risks and Measures for Successful Mitigation, *CARE International and the World Bank*, January 2010

Attacks on schools and the general insecurity throughout the country have serious negative impacts on the education sector. At the beginning of 2009, 670 schools were closed across the country. In southern provinces, between 65-81% of schools are currently closed due to insecurity. But closure of schools is not the only negative impact. Insecurity also causes more parents to keep their children home from school in fear of

their safety. According to respondents in the field study, girls' attendance suffers slightly more than boys after a security incident at their school.

http://www.care.org/newsroom/articles/2009/11/Knowledge_on_Fire_Report.pdf

CARE Works with Women in Haiti to Keep Disease at Bay, *CARE, January 18*

CARE's disaster-response teams find themselves in a race against time in earthquake-ravaged Haiti, coaching survivors how to purify contaminated water and preparing hygiene kits to help prevent a secondary crisis: the outbreak of disease.

<http://www.care.org/newsroom/articles/2010/01/Haiti-earthquake-women-water-disease-20101018.asp>

In India, Poverty and Hunger Persist amid Growth, *John Perra, World Politics Review, January 14*

Gender inequality, in particular, has implications for nutritional well-being. Aside from the moral arguments, eliminating gender inequality and creating broader social inclusiveness for other marginalized people is good economic policy. With growth comes opportunity for employment, and allowing socially excluded people to fill newly created positions increases income and provides them with greater capacity to access food, health care, and education.

<http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/article.aspx?id=4948>

MARKET ACCESS AND TRADE ISSUES

Malawian Inflation Accelerates to 7.6% on Higher Food Prices, *Bloomberg, January 21*

Inflation in Malawi accelerated to 7.6 percent in December as prices of corn and other foods increased, the National Statistics Office of Malawi said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=agVXKS.ihksQ>

R.I.P, WTO, *Op-Ed, Paul Blustein, Foreign Policy, January 2010*

Someday historians may look back on 2010 as the year the global trade system died -- or contracted a terminal illness. A pledge by world leaders to complete the Doha round of global trade negotiations this year looks increasingly likely to end in yet another flop, and that would deal a crushing blow to the trade system as we know it.

http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2010/01/04/rip_wto

Russia Seeks to Cleanse Its Palate of U.S. Chicken, *New York Times, January 18*

Of all the disputes great and petty that have marred relations between Russia and the United States over the years, chicken has provoked more than its share of angst and animosity. The United States under the first Bush administration flooded Russia with American chicken as food aid in the early 1990s, products that Russians came to call "Bush legs." These stocks -- mostly thighs and other parts, not many drumsticks -- helped feed hungry Russians reeling from an economic collapse. They also came to symbolize the humiliation of a once-great nation reduced to dependence on food handouts.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/20/world/europe/20russia.html>

See Also: Russia Rules Could Hurt U.S. Beef Exports: Senators, *Reuters, January 15*

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20100115/pl_nm/us_beef_usa_russia

New EU Farming Chief Vows to Defend Subsidies, *Agence France-Presse, January 15*

Europe's incoming farming commissioner vowed to fight in defence of high subsidies and the retention of agriculture's dominant place in the European Union's budget. "Reforming the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) does not mean lessening financial support," Romania's Dacian Ciolos -- seen as a friend to France, by far the bloc's biggest beneficiary of farming support funds -- told lawmakers during a confirmation hearing. He underlined that "direct subsidies play an essential role in ensuring the stability of farmers' incomes," but said a "simpler, fairer" system of allocating aid -- placing less emphasis on historical output -- should be looked into.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iaz6m5NfXWy_xschiShWJN93gkcg

See Also: Summary of the Hearing of Dacian Ciolos - Agriculture and Rural Development, *European Parliament, January 15*

Neighboring African countries as well as Europe could become a lucrative market small farmers in developing countries. But the high import taxes charged by the EU pose a major impediment to international trade. One particular problem is tariff escalation: Import tariffs increase the more processed a product becomes. This measure ensures that most imports to the EU are raw products like coffee, cocoa or pineapples which cannot be cultivated in Europe.

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/008-67225-013-01-03-901-20100113IPR67224-13-01-2010-2010-false/default_en.htm

High Duties Keep Food Imports from Poor Countries Out of Europe, *Deutsche Welle, January 15*

Neighboring African countries as well as Europe could become a lucrative market small farmers in developing countries. But the high import taxes charged by the EU pose a major impediment to international trade. One particular problem is tariff escalation: Import tariffs increase the more processed a product becomes. This measure ensures that most imports to the EU are raw products like coffee, cocoa or pineapples which cannot be cultivated in Europe.

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,5127705,00.html>

AGRIBUSINESS

The Coca-Cola Company, TechnoServe and The Gates Foundation Partner to Boost Incomes of 50K Small-Scale Farmers in East Africa, *Coca-Cola Company, January 20*

The Coca-Cola Company, nonprofit TechnoServe, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation launched a partnership to enable over 50,000 small fruit farmers in Uganda and Kenya to increase their productivity and double their incomes by 2014. This four-year, \$11.5 million partnership will enable mango and passion fruit farmers to participate in the Company's supply chain for the first time. With a \$7.5 million grant provided by the Gates Foundation to TechnoServe, \$3 million provided by The Coca-Cola Company, and \$1 million by bottling partner Coca-Cola Sabco, the project aims to create new market opportunities for local farmers whose fruit will be used for Coca-Cola's locally-produced and sold fruit juices. As the implementing partner, Technoserve will train participating farmers in improving quality, increasing production, getting organized into farmer groups, and will facilitate access to credit.

http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/presscenter/nr_20100120_africa_juice.html

See Also: Coke, Gates Partner to Aid African Farmers, *Forbes, January 20*

Fruit farmers in Uganda and Kenya will participate in Coke's supply chain for the first time.

<http://www.forbes.com/2010/01/20/coca-cola-africa-markets-equities-juice-farmers.html?boxes=financechannelplanning>

America's Agricultural Angst, *Op-Ed, Joel Kotkin, Distinguished Presidential Fellow in Urban Futures at Chapman University, Forbes, January 19*

In this high-tech information age few look to the most basic industries as sources of national economic power. Yet no sector in America is better positioned for the future than agriculture--if we allow it to reach its potential. Over the next 40 years the world will be adding some 3 billion people. These people will not only want to eat, they will want to improve their intake of proteins, grains, fresh vegetables and fruits. The U.S., with the most arable land and developed agricultural production, stands to gain from these growing markets. Last year the U.S.' export surplus in agriculture grew to nearly \$35 billion, compared with roughly \$5 billion in 2005.

<http://www.forbes.com/2010/01/18/agriculture-farming-organic-opinions-columnists-joel-kotkin.html?boxes=opinionchannelhttp>

The Planet Versus Monsanto, *Forbes, January 18*

In economic terms, the company is a winner. It has created many billions of dollars of value for the world with seeds genetically engineered to ward off insects or make a crop immune to herbicides: Witness the vast numbers of farmers who prefer its seeds to competing products, and the resulting \$44 billion market value of the company. In its fiscal 2009 Monsanto sold \$7.3 billion of seeds and seed genes, versus \$4 billion for second-place DuPont and its Pioneer Hi-Bred unit. Monsanto, of St. Louis, netted \$2.1 billion on revenue of \$11.7 billion for fiscal 2009 (ended Aug. 31). Its sales have increased at an annualized 18% clip over five

years; its annualized return on capital in the period has been 12%. Those accomplishments earn it the designation as FORBES' Company of the Year. But economic achievement is not the same thing as public adulation.

<http://www.forbes.com/forbes/2010/0118/americas-best-company-10-gmos-dupont-planet-versus-monsanto.html>

International Conservation Caucus Foundation Joins GHI, *Global Harvest Initiative, January 18*

The International Conservation Caucus Foundation recently joined the Global Harvest Initiative. ICCF is an association of U.S public and private sector representatives dedicated to international conservation. It aims to educate U.S. policymakers and the world's political and business leaders on the vital links between good natural resource management and sustainable economic development, poverty alleviation, and regional security.

<http://www.globalharvestinitiative.org/harvest-2050/2010/01/international-conservation-caucus-foundation-joins-ghi.php>

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