

GLOBAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THE WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF OF THE GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



November 13th – 19th, 2010

Quote of the Week: *“Agriculture has never and will never be the only or even the main driver of nutrition. First, agriculture is not the only instrument or sector delivering food and income—other sectors provide key wealth creation opportunities, and social protection programs are vital where markets are weak. Second, food and income are not the only drivers of nutrition status: care, water and sanitation quality, health services, and the status of women are equally vital drivers. But nutrition should be the main driver of agriculture. What else is agriculture for?”* – Lawrence Haddad, Director, Institute of Development Studies, Remarks at the First Global Conference on Biofortification, November 11, 2010

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the official US Thanksgiving Holiday, the next edition of the Global Food for Thought news brief will arrive on December 3rd. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

For more information:

- The [Global Food for Thought Blog](#) provides expert commentary, debate, and updates on key developments in real time.
- Background information on the Global Agricultural Development Initiative, and previous editions of *Global Food for Thought*, can be found on the Initiative’s website: www.thechicagocouncil.org/globalagdevelopment.
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CONTENTS

[Key Articles and Reports](#)

[Relevant U.S. Administration and Congressional Activities](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Agricultural Issues](#)

[Foreign Assistance](#)

[Environment \(Water/Climate\)](#)

[Women & Girls](#)

[Market Access and Trade Issues](#)

[Agribusiness](#)

KEY ARTICLES AND REPORTS

Food Outlook, Global Market Analysis, *Food and Agriculture Organization, November 2010*

International prices of most agricultural commodities have increased in recent months, some sharply. The FAO Food Price index has gained 34 points since the previous Food Outlook report in June, averaging 197 points in October, only 16 points short from its peak in June 2008. The upward movements of prices were connected with several factors, the most important of which were a worsening of the outlook for crops in key producing countries, which is likely to require large draw downs of stocks and result in tighter global supply and demand balances in 2010/11.

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/al969e/al969e00.pdf>

SEE ALSO: World Food Import Costs Will Exceed \$1 Trillion This Year, UN's FAO Says, *Bloomberg*, November 17

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-17/world-food-import-bill-will-exceed-1-trillion-on-higher-prices-un-says.html>

SEE ALSO: UN Warns of Rising Food Prices, *Financial Times*, November 17

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/78b06d1a-f226-11df-9118-00144feab49a.html?ftcamp=rss#axzz15YgPq1R7>

SEE ALSO: Fears of New Food Crisis as Prices Soar, *Financial Times*, November 17

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/78b06d1a-f226-11df-9118-00144feab49a.html#axzz15ZMjypHT>

SEE ALSO: World's Farmers Urged to Increase Food Production, *Des Moines Register*, November 17

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2010/11/17/farmers-urged-to-increase-production-in-2011/>

SEE ALSO: One Trillion Food Import Bill as Prices Rise, *FAO*, November 17

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/47733/icode/>

Reflections on the Global Food Crisis – How Did It Happen? How Has It Hurt? And How Can We Prevent the Next One?, *International Food Policy Research Institute*, 2010

Breaking from many earlier interpretations, the authors conclude that the crisis was not primarily fostered by increased demand for meat products in rising economies such as China and India, or by declines in agricultural yields or food stocks, or by futures market speculation. Instead, they attribute the rising food prices to a combination of rising energy prices; growing demand for biofuels; the U.S. dollar depreciation; and various trade shocks related to export restrictions, panic purchases, and unfavorable weather.

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/rr165.pdf>

SEE ALSO: Call for Action to Avoid Looming Food Crisis, *Agence France-Presse*, November 18

Warning that prices were edging toward crisis levels seen in 2007-2008, the International Food Policy Research Institute urged policymakers to learn lessons from that crisis to prevent another one.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gGClq1vOfpY_bB4C8GxiVG49oFYw?docId=CNG.b87c37c112754e2733d81dcddf9dafdd.6d1

Postcrisis Growth and Development, *World Bank*, November 2010

A new conference volume offers a groundbreaking analysis of key areas critical to the global development agenda and vital to the G-20's mandate for fostering sustainable, balanced growth. The volume, which includes new socioeconomic data on the G-20 countries as well as chapters on a range of important topics, is the output of a joint high-level conference on development in Busan in June 2010 organized by South Korea and the World Bank.

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEC/Resources/PCGD_Consolidated.pdf

SEE ALSO: Food Security: The Need for Multilateral Action, *World Bank*, 2010

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEC/Resources/PCGD_383-438.pdf

Leading through Civilian Power, *2010 Quadrennial Diplomacy & Development Review*, November 2010

USAID will assume leadership and accountability for the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative. As USAID builds capacity and achieves defined benchmarks, it will assume leadership of the Global Health Initiative.

<http://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/14727/state-department-diplomacy-and-development-review.pdf>

SEE ALSO: The Draft QDDR Revealed, *Foreign Policy*, November 17

http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/11/17/the_draft_qddr_revealed

SEE ALSO: Clinton Seeks Revamp of State, USAID, *Associated Press*, November 17

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/17/AR2010111703741.html>

SEE ALSO: Catnip for Policy Wonks: Clinton's QDDR, *Washington Post*, November 17

http://voices.washingtonpost.com/checkpoint-washington/2010/11/catnip_for_policy_wonks_clinto.html

The Great Cotton Stitch-Up, *Fairtrade Foundation, November 2010*

The Great Cotton Stitch-Up outlines in detail how US and EU subsidies have had a devastating effect on cotton farmers in West Africa and how the C-4 brought this issue to the WTO but have yet to reach an agreement, under a system where some countries continue to be more equal than others. It explains that cotton subsidy reform hinges on the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the US Farm Bill, both of which are under review over the next two years.

http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/includes/documents/cm_docs/2010/f/ft_cotton_policy_report_2010_download.pdf

SEE ALSO: Cotton Subsidies Costing West African Farmers £155m a Year, Report Reveals, *Guardian, November 15*

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/nov/15/cotton-subsidies-west-africa>

SEE ALSO: Campaigners Urge US and Europe to Cut Cotton Subsidies, *BBC, November 14*

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-11753215>

SEE ALSO: The Desperate Plight of Africa's Cotton Farmers, *Guardian, November 14*

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/nov/14/mali-cotton-farmer-fair-trade?intcmp=239>

SEE ALSO: The Great Cotton Stitch-Up – Fairtrade Foundation Lifts Lid on Mali's Entrenched Poverty, *Guardian, November 15*

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/nov/15/cotton-subsidies-fair-trade-mali?CMP=EMCGBLEML1625>

SEE ALSO: West's Billions in Subsidy Shut Out African Cotton Growers, *The Independent, November 15*

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/politics/wests-billions-in-subsidy-shut-out-african-cotton-growers-2134211.html>

SEE ALSO: Is it Fair to Give Select Group a Trade Advantage, *Fred L. Smith, Jr., President, Competitive Enterprise Institute, Financial Times, November 15*

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/3e4de266-f05e-11df-88db-00144feab49a.html>

Household Food Security in the United States, 2009, *U.S. Department of Agriculture, November 2010*

Eighty-five percent of American households were food secure throughout the entire year in 2009, meaning that they had access at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life for all household members. The remaining households (14.7 percent) were food insecure at least some time during the year, including 5.7 percent with very low food security.

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR108/ERR108.pdf>

SEE ALSO: 17 Million Homes Faced Food Shortage in 2009, *Washington Post, November 16*

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/15/AR2010111506719.html>

SEE ALSO: Federal Report: U.S. Hunger Remains at Highest Level in 15 Years, *CNN, November 16*

<http://edition.cnn.com/2010/US/11/15/poverty.hunger/>

Africa's Future and the World Bank's Role in It, *World Bank, November 15*

Agriculture, which is Africa's largest private sector, suffers from the same problems as well as some that are distinctive to the sector. Farms are businesses, and have similar needs as small enterprises, such as market stability, access to finance and information. Yet, there are a large number of government interventions, such as extension services and fertilizer subsidies, whose effectiveness is under question. The recent experience showed that African agriculture is not diversified, so farmers could not take advantage of higher food prices. Furthermore, since 93 percent of African agriculture is rain-fed, improving resilience to the effects (including floods and droughts) of climate change will be particularly challenging given among, other things, the limited storage capacity across the region.

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTAFRICA/Resources/Africa_s_Future_and_the_World_Bank_s_Role_in_it.pdf

SEE ALSO: What Role Does the World Bank Have in Africa's Future?, *Guardian, November 17*

The World Bank's draft strategy for Africa appears to be an attempt to shore up its position as a key player in the continent's development, while at the same open itself up to feedback from the public

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/nov/17/world-bank-africa-strategy>

After the Biofortification Conference - Participants Share their Thoughts, *International Food Policy Research Institute, November 15*

On a sunny Thursday afternoon, conference participants got a chance to relax when the First Global Conference on Biofortification was over after almost three days of presentations and vigorous discussion. We caught the mood with our flip camera....

<http://biofortconf.ifpri.info/>

SEE ALSO: Big Things Come in Small Seeds: The Biofortification Revolution, *The Atlantic, November 12*

Undernourishment in the first 1,000 days of life, from conception to age two, can stunt a person for life, significantly lowering a child's IQ and providing little defense against the onslaught of illnesses that can linger through adulthood and lead to premature death. The plant breeders, economists, nutritionists, and development experts who attended the conference knew that story all too well, which is why they'd come from around the globe to rally around the Stanford-educated economist Howarth (Howdy) Bouis, who in the early nineties had the then-very-radical notion of breeding nutrients directly into crops.

<http://www.theatlantic.com/food/archive/2010/11/big-things-come-in-small-seeds-the-biofortification-revolution/66479/>

Watching the Numbers, *Roger Thurow, Senior Fellow on Global Agriculture and Food Policy, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Global Food for Thought Blog, November 19*

There's plenty of numbers-watching going on in Washington D.C. and other world capitals these days. Mainly, the numbers with currency symbols in front of them, the numbers in government budgets. Holding the line on spending is a top priority while the world continues to be mired in a global economic mess. The new Congress in Washington promises to be particularly vigilant, with a keen eye on shrinking some of those numbers.

<http://globalfoodforthought.typepad.com/global-food-for-thought/2010/11/roger-thurow-outrage-and-inspire-watching-the-numbers.html>

RELEVANT U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Larry Garber, Deputy Assistant Administrator for Africa at CSIS Event on Foreign Policy and Development Structure, Process, Policy, *U.S. Agency for International Development, November 18*

Our procurement reforms go well beyond what has been attempted before. They explicitly incorporate key principles of aid effectiveness, such as reliance on host country systems, building local capacity and harmonization with other donors, under the broad rubric of changing how we provide assistance in the different settings where we operate. And, we have established specific benchmarks to measure our performance in implementing these and the other reforms mentioned.

<http://www.usaid.gov/press/speeches/2010/sp101118.html>

Will Ag Business Reap Reward from Election?, *Des Moines Register, November 17*

Will voters get the small government and reduced spending they were promised? Newly elected Republican lawmakers say no to light rail that would alleviate wasteful oil consumption, but say yes to billions of big government subsidies for oil, gas, coal and agricultural business.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101117/OPINION04/11170336/-1/NEWS04/Will-ag-business-reap-reward-from-election>

Remarks at the United Nations Security Council Ministerial Meeting on Sudan, *Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State, November 16*

To demonstrate our commitment to improving U.S.-Sudanese relations, the United States has already taken two steps. First, we have changed our policies to ease the sale of agricultural and irrigation equipment to Sudan, which will boost food production and decrease the need for international food aid.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/11/151001.htm>

Foreign Aid Overhaul Less Likely to Advance after GOP House Takeover, *CQ Today*, November 15

Major legislative efforts to change what all involved agree is a dysfunctional foreign aid bureaucracy look set to stall in the 112th Congress, tempering what had been a flurry of interest in overhauling the aid system in the past two years. But the stalemate will not stop the new Congress from continuing to cite that dysfunction as an argument to cut foreign aid, a top target as the new Republican-led House looks to reduce government spending.

<http://www.partnership-africa.org/content/foreign-aid-overhaul-less-likely-advance-after-gop-house-takeover-cq-today>

Remarks at the Global Fairness Initiative Awards Honoring Ela Bhatt, *Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State, November 15*

Now, the Global Fairness Initiative aims at a simple fact: billions of people worldwide are trapped in poverty. And many of them do have the skills and the determination to build better lives, but that's not enough to surmount the barriers that stand in their way. Unfair trade practices, low wages, poor health care, inadequate schooling – these are obstacles that are really hard, and it's often the rare lucky person who somehow surmounts them on their own.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/11/150942.htm>

Remarks with Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Azubalis After Their Meeting, *Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, U.S. Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State, November 15*

Lithuania has become a real leader in Euro-Atlantic institutions, has developed a vibrant democracy with open markets, free press, and the other attributes of a true democracy, and in the last two years has made difficult but important decisions necessary to put its economy back on track. And through it all, Lithuania has pursued an active presence on the world stage through vigorous diplomacy, international development, and relief efforts.

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/11/150917.htm>

Inside Washington: Farm Subsidies' Staying Power, *Associated Press, November 14*

Many Republicans who swept rural Democrats from office are now confronting the reality of a promise to reduce spending: Should it cover the farm subsidies that have brought money and jobs to their districts — and directly benefited some GOP lawmakers or their families?

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hJbK6whzcXt5byvczK-QyMjaGqLw?docId=fa81aab1b7b142f4baca8f5f1f8d26>

APEC/Yokohama: The Leaders' Growth Strategy, *White House, November 13*

Moving toward a more sustainable and green growth model provides both significant challenges and opportunities for APEC economies. It will be critical for our region to develop more resource-efficient economies in order to address the world's biggest challenges, including addressing climate change and its adverse effects. This will enable us to continue to prosper as a low-carbon society.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2010/11/13/apecyokohama-leaders-growth-strategy>

Afghanistan Development, U.S. Efforts to Support Afghan Water Sector Increasing, but Improvements Needed in Planning and Coordination, *U.S. Government Accountability Office, November 10*

Agriculture, the source of livelihood for almost 80 percent of the population, accounts for up to 93 percent of Afghanistan's total water usage through irrigation. Yet, only about 30 percent of Afghanistan's agricultural land receives adequate water. Between 2002 and the second quarter of 2010, the U.S. government has awarded about \$250million for water development efforts in Afghanistan and, in March 2010, estimated it would need an additional \$2.1 billion in funding to achieve U.S. development efforts in Afghanistan's water sector from fiscal year 2010 through fiscal year 2014. As U.S. government documents indicate, U.S. water-sector development efforts support the U.S. government's Counter-Insurgency (COIN) strategy in Afghanistan.

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d11138.pdf>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Food Security, Farming, and Climate Change to 2050

Date: December 1st, 2010

Location: Washington, D.C.

IFPRI's latest research on food security and climate change, *Food Security, Farming, and Climate Change to 2050: Scenarios, Results, Policy Options* is a follow-up to IFPRI's widely-read 2009 food policy report, *Climate Change: Impact on Agriculture and Costs of Adaptation*, which used a detailed global agriculture model to analyze crop growth under two simulated future climate scenarios. The new study takes advantage of and expands on IFPRI's cutting-edge climate modeling expertise to address the climate change threat in the context of larger food security challenges. Building on previous research by IFPRI and other international organizations, it examines a wider range of plausible economic, demographic, and climatic futures than has previously been analyzed.

<http://www.ifpri.org/event/food-security-farming-and-climate-change-2050>

Agriculture & Rural Development Day

Date: December 4th, 2010

Location: Cancun, Mexico

Agriculture and Rural Development Day 2010, held in parallel to COP16, will bring agriculture sector adaptation and mitigation strategies to the forefront of the global climate treaty negotiations. It will demonstrate clearly that agriculture is where climate change, food security, and development intersect. It informs the climate change negotiations and advocates for a COP decision on a "work program for agriculture" — and at the same time looking beyond the negotiations.

<http://www.agricultureday.org/>

Food Security 2010: Making Food Security Work: Matching Supply to Demand

Date: December 6th – 7th, 2010

Location: Chatham House, London

How can governments and the private sector work together to ensure a secure and sustainable balance between food supply and demand? Volatility in food and agricultural commodities prices appears to have become a permanent feature of global markets. The relative stability of the past few decades has been broken, largely through increased consumer demand.

<http://www.chathamhouse.org.uk/food10/>

Linking Agriculture, Health, and Nutrition

Date: December 7th, 2010

Location: Washington, D.C.

Agricultural policies influence the quantity and quality of foods farmers produce, as well as the portfolio of crops they grow and the production methods they use. Thus, agricultural policies have a clear impact on human health and nutrition. In turn, health and nutrition policies can affect agriculture by influencing whether farmers and their families are healthy and strong enough to do the labor required on their farms. Yet although they may share goals, professionals in agriculture, nutrition, and health rarely have opportunities to discuss areas of mutual interest, exploit synergies and pursue outcomes together that are beneficial to society. IFPRI has invited three experts to each speak—each from his or her own sectoral perspective—on why the three sectors should work together more closely and how they could be better linked.

<http://www.ifpri.org/event/linking-agriculture-health-and-nutrition>

Leveraging Agriculture for Improving Nutrition and Health

Date: February 10th – 12th, 2011

Location: New Delhi, India

Agriculture impacts poor people's nutrition and health, and people's nutrition and health in turn affects their productivity. As a supplier of food, a source of income, and an engine of growth, agriculture has the potential to significantly and sustainably improve poor people's nutrition and health. This conference will inform,

influence, and catalyze action to better use investments in agriculture to achieve nutrition security and good health for the world's poor people.

<http://www.ifpri.org/2020-agriculture-nutrition-health>

USDA's 2011 Agricultural Outlook Forum: Today's Strategies & Tomorrow's Opportunities

Date: February 24th – 25th, 2011

Location: Arlington, VA

Secretary Tom Vilsack will deliver the Forum's keynote address followed by a distinguished speaker. Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan will deliver the Forum's welcome. Chief Economist Joseph Glauber will discuss the Domestic and Foreign Agricultural Economic Outlooks. Plenary and session speakers will be announced in the near future. Twenty-five breakout sessions will focus on a broad range of topical issues related to risk management, foreign trade and domestic markets, rural communities, conservation and the environment, renewable energy, broadband, nutrition and food safety, dietary guidelines, land tenure issues, and sustainability. The Forum also will feature traditional commodity and supply and demand outlook sessions.

<http://www.usda.gov/oce/forum/>

Getting Down to Business: Building Partnerships to Expand African Agricultural Development

Date: March 1st-2nd, 2011

Location: Washington, DC

The Partnership to Cut Hunger and Poverty in Africa is pleased to announce the third annual US-Africa Forum

<http://www.partnership-africa.org/content/getting-down-business-building-partnerships-expand-african-agricultural-development>

Second World Conference of Humanitarian Studies

Date: June 2nd – June 5th, 2011

Location: Tufts University, Medford, MA, USA

Humanitarian crises and the responses they trigger are evolving rapidly. This conference looks at the opportunities and threats for addressing these crises, as well as at the strengths and weaknesses of the actual responses. The conference provides a unique forum for both scholars and practitioners to present research and debate these issues. In particular, the conference focuses on four broad themes: Emerging from protracted crises; New Directions in Policy; Innovations in Humanitarian Practice; Advances in Public Health and Food Security in Crises.

<http://www.humanitarianstudies2011.org/>

Leland Hunger Fellows Program – Now Accepting Applications

The Leland International Hunger Fellows Program is now accepting applications for the 6th class (2011-2013) Information on the fellowship and how to apply is accessible here:

<http://www.hungercenter.org/international/international.cfm>. Applications can be submitted online from now through January 7, 2011 at: <http://www.hungercenter.org/international/apply/>.

AGRICULTURAL ISSUES

Reports:

Strengthening Agricultural Extension and Advisory Systems: Procedures for Assessing, Transforming, and Evaluating Extension Systems, World Bank, 2010

The purpose of this book is to provide information on how to transform and strengthen pluralistic agricultural extension and advisory systems in moving toward the broader goal of increasing farm income and improving rural livelihoods. The focus of this book is primarily on the technical knowledge, management skills, and information services that small-scale farm households will need to improve their livelihoods in the rapidly changing global economy.

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTARD/Resources/Stren_combined_web.pdf

Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics, World Bank, 2010

The Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics presented in this document is based on input from a large number of stakeholders, including national statistical institutes and ministries of agriculture, and a number of regional and international organizations.

http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTARD/Resources/AgStatistics10_web.pdf

IFAD and Client-Financed Agricultural Advisory Services, IFAD, November 2010

For many years there has been debate on whether agricultural advisory services are best provided through a private-sector, market-oriented approach or through extension services fully financed by the state as a 'public good'. The state-financed approach has often been criticized for being supply-driven ('top-down'), technically ineffective and, in practice, not benefiting the poor. The private-sector approach has been promoted as demand-driven, serving as an incentive to provide services that are relevant and of good quality. On the other hand, a question often arises regarding the ability of poorer smallholders to afford private agricultural services.

<http://www.ifad.org/pub/land/advisory.pdf>

Agricultural Growth and Investment Options for Poverty Reduction in Rwanda, International Food Policy Research Institute, 2010

The authors evaluate the potential of several different agricultural subsectors—grains, root crops, livestock, and others—to contribute to national agricultural growth and poverty reduction. They conclude that growth in staple crops, particularly root crops such as cassava and potatoes, has the greatest potential to encourage economywide growth and poverty reduction.

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/rr166.pdf>

Farmer's Preferences on Seed Purchase Timing – Rice, Cowpea, and Maize Growers in Nigeria, International Food Policy Research Institute, 2010

The timely availability of seeds at planting time is considered one of the important factors for faster improved seed adoption in Nigeria. This study estimates how farmers' WTP for rice, cowpea and maize seeds varies depending on the purchase timing, using information on both farmers' observed purchase behaviors and their stated preferences.

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/nsspnp31.pdf>

Encouraging Youth's Involvement in Agricultural Production and Processing, International Food Policy Research Institute, 2010

Available evidence suggests an ageing farming population in Nigeria, with an average age of 47 years and life expectancy at 47-50 years in 2008 (NBS 2008, Oboh et al., 2009). In 2009, the national unemployment rate was 19.7 percent with the youth accounting for more than 75 percent (NBS, 2010). Increased involvement of youth in agricultural activities will help reduce the problems of the ageing farm population and increasing youth unemployment. This brief explores issues related to youth involvement in agriculture such as socioeconomic characteristics of youth engaged in agriculture and factors hindering youth involvement in agriculture.

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/nsspnp29.pdf>

FAO/WFP Crop and Food Security Assessment Mission to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Food and Agriculture Organization and World Food Programme, November 2010

In DPRK, including the estimates for the 2010 main season harvest and forecast for the 2011 early season crops, a total of 5.33 million tonnes of staple food production from the cooperative farms, individual plots on sloping land and household gardens for 2010/11 is expected. This is about 3 percent higher than in 2009/10. When paddy is converted to milled rice, the above total production comes to 4.48 million tonnes.

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/a1968e/a1968e00.pdf>

SEE ALSO: North Korea Faces Cereal Deficit, FAO, November 16

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/47702/icode/>

SEE ALSO: U.N. Urges Food Aid for North Korea, New York Times, November 17

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/18/world/asia/18korea.html>

SEE ALSO: UN Predicts North Korea's Food Shortage Will Continue, *Associated Press*, November 16

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/11/16/AR2010111607269.html>

Cow-Calf Beef Production in Mexico, *U.S. Department of Agriculture*, November 2010

This report characterizes Mexican beef cow-calf production systems in the context of the many issues affecting Mexican beef and cattle markets, including geo-climatic factors, disease and pest challenges, patterns of landownership, changes in export regions, and changes in domestic consumption as they relate to cow-calf production.

<http://ers.usda.gov/Publications/LDP/2010/10Oct/LDPM19601/>

Media Articles:

Congo Launches New Farming Community to Tackle Food Crisis, *Agence France-Presse*, November 19

Gaetan Charly Lengou knows how lucky he is to be part of a new, state-funded farming community -- but he knows he will have to deliver results in the project, designed to tackle Congo's food crisis.

<http://ph.news.yahoo.com/afp/20101119/tls-congo-israel-farm-food-social-aeafa1b.html>

Cyclone Giri Hits Rice Harvest in Rakhine State, *IRIN*, November 17

The cyclone that struck the western coast of Myanmar at the end of October wiped out a large portion of the region's expected annual rice harvest, placing some 260,000 people at risk of hunger.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=91090>

Emerging Economic Powerhouses Meet in Brazil to Discuss Future of Family Farming, *IFAD*, November 16

In an effort to directly engage in policy dialogue on family farming and promote South-South Cooperation, officials from the world's emerging economic powerhouses of Brazil, China, India and South Africa will meet in Brasilia November 17 and 18 for a high-level conference on Public Policies for Family Farming, Rural Development and Food Security between Middle Income Countries.

<http://www.ifad.org/media/press/2010/74.htm>

Brazil's Coffee-Output Estimate Lowered by USDA Unit, *Bloomberg*, November 15

Brazil, the world's biggest coffee grower, will produce 1.4 percent less than forecast six months ago after hot, dry weather in the state of Espirito Santo cut robusta-bean output, a U.S. Department of Agriculture unit said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/print/2010-11-15/brazil-coffee-output-estimate-cut-1-4-by-usda-unit-after-adverse-weather.html>

Demand for Staple to Rise on Continent, *AllAfrica*, November 15

A fast growing population in Africa is expected to double the current demand for staple foods by 2020.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201011160087.html>

Yemenis Abandon Farms, Seek Food Security in City, *Reuters*, November 15

As men and women pick corn and roll up the withered stalks in the fields of their tiny village near Sanaa, Humeid al-Masajidi says goodbye to a way of life his family will abandon forever.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6AE1QY20101115>

Cocoa Genome 'Will Save Chocolate Industry', *BBC News*, November 14

The public release of the genome of the cacao tree - from which chocolate is made - will save the chocolate industry from collapse, a scientist has said.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-11747616>

Farming as a Business: Not a Mirage, But a Reality, *IFAD*, November 14

One of the highlights of the 2010 West and Central Africa regional implementation workshops was the field trip. While we were sorry that we could not visit an IFAD-funded project and programme, we were excited

to visit the modern village farm of Djilakh - government financed activity in cooperation of the Spanish government, covering the entire agricultural, production and marketing value chain.
<http://ifad-un.blogspot.com/2010/11/farming-as-business-not-mirage-but.html>

Transaction Costs Cut Farmers' Earnings, *AllAfrica*, November 14

Food commodity dealers in East Africa are losing up to 80 per cent of their earnings due to high transaction costs and post-harvest losses, a European Union agency said and urged for the development of viable road and market infrastructure in farming areas.
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201011151294.html>

South Africa's White Farmers Expand to Mozambique, *Irish Times*, November 13

Increasing numbers of white commercial farmers from South Africa are establishing themselves in countries across the continent because of fears a revised land reform programme being considered by government will curtail opportunities at home.
<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/world/2010/1113/1224283235269.html>

Inside the Gates Foundation, *Financial Times*, November 12

"History has shown that almost no country has managed a rapid rise from poverty without increasing its agricultural development," argues Sylvia Mathews Burwell. The former Washington high-flyer is a passionate believer in the importance of such progress. As well as providing new technologies in this area, her programme at the Gates Foundation is also trying to foster new markets for farmers. A typical project involves working with Coca-Cola to encourage the multinational to buy more fruit from local farmers in Kenya and Uganda.
<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/bf69a220-ed27-11df-8cc9-00144feab49a.html>

Kenya's Future Hinges on Making Agriculture Cool, *Christian Science Monitor*, November 12

Kenya is known for its agricultural wealth, but its younger generation is less and less interested in agriculture. If agriculture isn't made relevant and profitable, the country could suffer.
<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/Africa-Monitor/2010/1112/Kenya-s-future-hinges-on-making-agriculture-cool>

Government Incentives for North Africa Farmers, *Reuters*, November 12

Governments in North Africa have announced a range of incentives to modernise the farming sector and alleviate the impact of cyclical drought on the region's agriculture.
<http://af.reuters.com/article/libyaNews/idAFLDE6A726X20101112>

Central African Republic: Food Security Fears Rise as Attacks Increase, *IRIN*, November 12

A rise in armed incursions is restricting people's movements, reducing their ability to farm and increasing food security concerns in the Haut-Mbomou and Mbomou regions in the southeast Central African Republic (CAR), says an international humanitarian agency.
<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=91074>

Not Knowing When to Plant, *IRIN*, November 12

"Unlike in the past when we knew the middle of September signalled the beginning of serious farming activities, it is now extremely difficult to tell when you should start planting," Musonza told IRIN.
<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=91082>

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Reports:

Cash on Delivery, A New Approach to Foreign Aid, *Center for Global Development*, November 2010

Foreign aid often works, but it is often criticized for being ineffective or even for undermining progress in

developing countries. This brief describes a new approach, Cash on Delivery Aid, which gives recipients full responsibility and authority over funds paid in proportion to verified measures of progress
http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424603/?utm_source=nl_weekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nl_weekly_11162010&

Delivering Aid Differently, Lessons from the Field, *Brookings Institution, 2010*

We live in a new reality of aid. Gone is the traditional bilateral relationship, the old-fashioned mode of delivering aid, and the perception of the third world as a homogenous block of poor countries in the south. *Delivering Aid Differently* describes the new realities of a \$200 billion aid industry that has overtaken this traditional model of development assistance.

<http://www.brookings.edu/press/Books/2010/deliveringaiddifferently.aspx>

SEE ALSO: A New Aid Model for the 21st Century, *Brookings Institution, November 15*

We live in a new reality of aid. Rich countries delivered \$3.2 trillion of aid to poor countries between 1960 and 2008; and today, aid is a \$200 billion industry. Despite disputes and upheavals, the core of the aid industry has changed little over the past few decades. Now the new pressures on the aid system may be too strong to resist fundamental change.

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/1115_foreign_aid_kharas.aspx

China in Africa, a Macroeconomic Perspective, *Center for Global Development, November 2010*

This paper looks at China's role in Africa from the Chinese perspective. The main conclusion is that China, as an emerging global player and one of Africa's largest trading and financial partners, can no longer ignore the macroeconomic impact of its operations on African economies.

http://www.cgdev.org/content/publications/detail/1424567/?utm_source=nl_weekly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=nl_weekly_11162010&

US Foreign Aid Restructuring: Is it "A Very Big Deal"?, *Lancet, November 2010*

US President Barack Obama told the UN that the USA was changing the way it did business on foreign aid, but will it be a change for the better? Nellie Bristol gauges the reaction.

[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(10\)62082-X/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(10)62082-X/fulltext)

U.S. Engagement in Indian Health Care, What is the Impact?, *CSIS Global Health Policy Center, November 2010*

This report assesses the impact of U.S. engagement with India's health sector in the past six decades.

http://csis.org/files/publication/101115_Schaffer_USEngageIndianHealth_Web.pdf

Media Articles:

IDB Approves \$90 Million Loan to Ecuador for Land Project, *Wall Street Journal, November 18*

The Inter-American Development Bank, or IDB, has approved a loan worth \$90 million for Ecuador to expand measures to improve property rights and a system to register property ownership. The project will provide legal backing to property rights for thousands of farmers, paving the way for increased investments and access to credit that can help traditional agricultural producers improve productivity of their farms, the IDB said.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20101118-713392.html>

Food-Price Gains May Lift Aid Costs, World Food Programme Says, *Bloomberg, November 17*

Rising food prices may increase the cost of providing hunger relief, the United Nations' World Food Programme said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-17/food-price-gains-may-lift-aid-costs-world-food-programme-says.html>

The Global Nutrition Movement, *Stephen B. Tanda, Managing Board Member, DSM, Huffington Post, November 17*

Now that nutrition has finally started to receive the attention it deserves, it is imperative that strong words translate into strong action. I am optimistic about the prospect of seeing major changes in the international

development agenda. I only hope that nutrition does not become just a development "trend", when it should be a cornerstone of development policy.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/stephan-b-tanda/the-global-nutrition-move_b_784738.html

SEE ALSO: The Hidden Threat of Micronutrient Deficiency, *IRIN*, November 17

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=91119>

Promoting Smart and Responsible Investment in Africa, *Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Managing Director, World Bank at the 2010 China Mining Congress and Expo, November 16*

From China we have interest and demand. From Africa resources and investment needs. The challenge is to make this marriage of mutually beneficial mining investments between China and Africa a lasting one.

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22765931~pagePK:34370~piPK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

Gates Pledges 500 Million Dollars to Bring Banking to Poor, *Agence France-Presse, November 16*

The philanthropic organization set up by Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates and his wife Melinda Tuesday pledged 500 million dollars to help give the world's poorest access to financial services.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hKYIgEd6SO_GESxlo5ZhMHaAC77A?docId=CNG.41c503616bdb31553dbcac1fbde091d.781

With Strong Global Support, Africa Can Reach Development Targets, *UN News Centre, November 15*

Africa, with its immense human and material wealth, can achieve the globally agreed development targets world leaders have pledged to achieve by 2015, Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro told United Nations agencies working on the continent, while also stressing the need for strong support from the international community.

<http://www.un.org/apps//news/story.asp?NewsID=36762&Cr=mdg&Cr1=>

Microfinance Companies Seek Crisis Funding, *Financial Times, November 15*

India's beleaguered microfinance industry is seeking \$222m in emergency funds to keep micro-lenders solvent, as they struggle to withstand an acute liquidity crisis triggered by a collapse in collections, and an abrupt cut-off of credit lines. The appeal for liquidity comes as microfinance firms face intense hostility from the central government, which appears to have turned against the industry amid allegations of overly-aggressive lending at "usurious" interest rates and strong-arm debt collection tactics.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/7c32f508-ef9b-11df-8bbb-00144feab49a.html#axzz15N8wZZqi>

World Bank Says Remittances Growing Again, *Voice of America, November 15*

For some families in developing countries - money from relatives overseas is a critical lifeline. And the World Bank says these remittances are rising again after a big decline last year.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/news/economy-and-business/World-Bank-Says-Remittances-Growing-Again-108257409.html>

Aid Fuels Change of Fortunes on Silk, *New York Times, November 14*

The brochure promised "a piece of heaven," but Shangri-La, a half-built apartment complex on the dusty outskirts of this oasis town, was hardly that. The landscape was parched, and the most notable sign of life was a pack of goats chewing their way through a mound of trash.

http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/15/world/asia/15kashgar.html?_r=1&ref=world

Oxfam Urges Greater Involvement, *Financial Times, November 14*

Development charity Oxfam has called on investors looking at emerging markets to pay more attention to the social elements of responsible investment.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/f9a928de-ee8a-11df-9db0-00144feab49a.html#axzz15N9Y5XmI>

Before You Pay to Volunteer Abroad, Think of the Harm You Might Do, *Guardian, November 14*

A damning report says that well-intentioned westerners do little to alleviate the lot of poverty-stricken children in developing countries.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/nov/14/orphans-cambodia-aids-holidays-madonna>

Donor's Seek Assurances for Pakistan Flood Aid, *Wall Street Journal*, November 12

Pakistan is embroiled in a row with foreign donors over plans to disburse billions of dollars in funding to rebuild infrastructure following this summer's deadly flooding.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704756804575608252172154116.html>

ENVIRONMENT (WATER/CLIMATE)

Reports:

Study Reveals Immense Importance of 'Invisible' Water to Urban Poor, *International Institute for Environment and Development*, November 12

A key water resource that will grow in importance as climate change takes hold is currently going largely unmeasured — with big implications for poor communities in developing nations, says research published today. The IIED study shows that hundreds of millions of urban people in such countries already depend on this hidden resource.

<http://www.iied.org/human-settlements/media/study-reveals-immense-importance-%E2%80%98invisible%E2%80%99-water-urban-poor>

SEE ALSO: Call for Action over Private Wells, *IRIN*, November 15

Now a new study from the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) urges that much more attention should be paid to these wells, on which, it estimates, something like a third of all urban dwellers in Africa, and South and Southeast Asia depend for their water.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=91091>

Report of the Secretary-General's High Level Advisory Group on Climate Change, *United Nations*, November 2010

As concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere continue to grow to ever more worrying levels, and adaptation becomes more and more challenging, action on climate change is urgent. Climate finance is key to that action, but will make a fundamental difference only if linked to a wider programme of measures agreed among nations. These measures are the foundation for the transformation of our economies and for a climate-resilient future.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/nation/pdfs/AGFFinalReport.pdf>

SEE ALSO: International Climate Aid 'Challenging But Feasible', *Washington Post*, November 15 It will be "challenging but feasible" to mobilize \$100 billion in international climate assistance by 2020, according to a new report released by a high-level U.N. advisory panel.

<http://voices.washingtonpost.com/post-carbon/2010/11/international-climate-aid-poss.html>

What's Next for Alternative Energy?, *Boston Consulting Group*, November 2010

Advanced biofuels, concentrated solar power, and solar photovoltaic power are on track to change the global energy landscape far earlier than many assume.

<http://www.bcg.com/documents/file65187.pdf>

Water and Sanitation, *PLoS Medicine*, November 2010

The active involvement of health professionals in hygiene, sanitation, and water supply is crucial to accelerating and consolidating progress for health, argue the authors.

<http://www.ploscollections.org/article/browseIssue.action?issue=info:doi/10.1371/issue.pcol.v07.i11>

SEE ALSO: Better Sanitation Could Save 2 Million Lives a Year, *Reuters*, November 15

Nearly 20 percent of the world's population still defecates in the open, and action to improve hygiene, sanitation and water supply could prevent more than 2 million child deaths a year, health experts said on Monday. In a series of studies on sanitation published as a cholera epidemic claims hundreds of lives in Haiti, public health researchers from the United States and Europe found that this year 2.6 billion people across the world do not have access to even a basic toilet.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/LDE6AB22W.htm>

U.S. Implementation of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act: Small Steps for a Crisis that Calls for Great Strides, *Natural Resources Defense Council, WaterAid, CARE, November 2010*

Billions of people lack access to clean water and safe sanitation which has catastrophic consequences for human health and well-being. Diarrhea caused by unsafe water and sanitation kills more children under 5 per year than HIV/AIDS, malaria, and measles combined. The good news is that we have the tools to solve this global crisis. In 2005 the Water for the Poor Act took a historic step calling for bold U.S. action to bring clean water and sanitation to the world. This November 2010 report provides a comprehensive assessment of the steps the U.S. government still needs to take to protect human health and the environment.

http://docs.nrdc.org/water/files/wat_10111801a.pdf

Media Articles:

Nigeria's Future Clouded by Oil, Climate Change, and Scarcity: Part Two, The Sahel, *New Security Beat, November 19*

In addition to the long-term trend of declining rainfall, an acute drought in 2009 and another this year in neighboring Niger and Chad have created the worst food security crisis in 30 years. The droughts have also driven a great deal of cross-border migration into Nigeria, which itself saw lower than usual rainfall in the north, especially the northeast, around the ever-disappearing Lake Chad.

http://newsecuritybeat.blogspot.com/2010/11/nigerias-future-clouded-by-oil-climate_19.html

Poor Nations Say Rich Fail on Climate Aid Pledge, *Reuters, November 18*

Poor nations accused donors of failing to keep a promise of extra climate aid, which the U.N. says will be the "golden key" to successful global warming talks in Mexico this month.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6AH4QI20101118>

SEE ALSO: UN Climate Talks Seek Limited Deal as Costs Soar, *Reuters, November 16*

After failure to agree a treaty at last year's summit in Copenhagen, ambitions for 2010 have been lowered to a modest package that includes a fund to manage aid to poor nations, new ways to share clean technology and to protect tropical forests.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE6AF0FB20101116>

SEE ALSO: China Rules Out Linking Climate Aid to Transparency, *Reuters, November 19*

China said on Friday it will not agree to any deal tying climate change aid from rich nations to its acceptance of tighter international checks of its greenhouse gas emissions, which it said will grow for some time.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/TOE6AI077.htm>

World Farming to Get \$200 Million in Climate Aid, *Reuters, November 18*

Development agencies worldwide are joining forces to spend \$200 million in a 10-year programme to help the agriculture sector prepare for climate change and cut greenhouse gas emissions, farm research groups said.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFIOE6AH03520101118>

World Bank Aims to Cut Poverty by 10% Adapting Climate Shifts, *Reuters, November 17*

A World Bank-sponsored plan aims to reduce poverty in the most vulnerable parts of Africa and south Asia by 10 percent by helping farmers adapt to changes in the climate. The 10-year program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security plan is due to be formally announced in Cancun, Mexico, where delegates from about 190 countries will meet from Nov. 29- Dec. 10 to negotiate measures to tackle global warming, according to an e-mailed statement from the climate group scientists.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-17/world-bank-aims-to-cut-poverty-by-10-adapting-to-climate-shifts.html>

East African Food Shortages Loom on Erratic Rains, Flooding, Group Warns, *Bloomberg, November 17*

Humanitarian organizations should prepare for food shortages in parts of East Africa amid forecasts of erratic rains across the region, the Nairobi-based Food Security & Nutrition Working Group said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-17/erratic-rains-may-cause-east-africa-food-shortages-group-warns.html>

Schwarzenegger Launches New Climate-Change Group, *Los Angeles Times*, November 17

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Tuesday launched an international organization to tackle climate change with leaders from regional governments in Europe, South America, Africa, Asia and the United States. The failure to achieve an international climate pact in Copenhagen last year left many people discouraged, Schwarzenegger said, addressing several hundred delegates to a "climate summit" at UC Davis. But now, he added, "The sub-nationals should do their work.... The green revolution is moving forward full speed ahead without the international agreement."

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-climate-schwarzenegger-20101117.0.1130323.story>

Developing Nations Setting Green Trends, *UPI*, November 16

Developing countries agreed to invest \$2.4 billion to advance clean energy technology, a climate group said in Washington.

http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2010/11/16/Developing-nations-setting-green-trends/UPI-72151289910147/

Food Security to be Affected by Climate Change: PAU, *Times of India*, November 15

Noting that farm productivity would see significant drop due to climate change, Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) Vice Chancellor MS Kang has said food security in both developing and developed countries is likely to be affected because of change in weather.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/global-warming/Food-security-to-be-affected-by-climate-change-PAU-VC/articleshow/6931211.cms>

Clean Water at No Cost? Just Add Carbon Credits, *New York Times*, November 15

Now there's a new way to save water projects from an early death: make clean water a for-profit business, charging people an unusual price: zero. Several multinational companies, such as Bechtel and Suez, already run for-profit water systems in cities around the world. These companies have attracted a lot of criticism, especially for the way they treat rural people and slum dwellers. The companies have little incentive to lay pipes to reach people who are far away, and if they do, they charge very high prices. I'm talking about something different: a water business run by a company that has headquarters in Switzerland, Vestergaard Frandsen, that plans to provide clean water to some of the world's poorest people and charge them nothing.

<http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/15/clean-water-at-no-cost-just-add-carbon-credits/?partner=rss&emc=rss>

China 'Outperformed' on Effort to Curb Climate Change, UN Diplomat Says, *Bloomberg*, November 15

China has stepped up its efforts to rein in global warming by implementing rules that will cap emissions of greenhouse gasses from its domestic industry, the chief climate negotiator for the United Nations said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-15/figueres-says-un-climate-delegates-can-reach-an-agreement-in-cancun-talks.html>

Troposphere is Warming too, Decades of Data Show, *Reuters*, November 15

Not only is Earth's surface warming, but the troposphere -- the lowest level of the atmosphere, where weather occurs -- is heating up too, U.S. and British meteorologists reported on Monday.

In a review of four decades of data on troposphere temperatures, the scientists found that warming in this key atmospheric layer was occurring, just as many researchers expected it would as more greenhouse gases built up and trapped heat close to the Earth.

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/N15292331.htm>

Geoengineering: A Quick, Clean Fix?, *TIME Magazine*, November 14

Geoengineering, the deliberate modification of the environment to suit human needs, has long been regarded as the height of hubris by many people and most environmentalists. We are a long way from fully understanding how the climate system works. Who's to say that in our efforts to tinker with it we won't make things worse? These are valid concerns, and geoengineering should be approached with caution. But it is increasingly hard to see how we are going to solve global warming without some reliance on it.

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2030804,00.html>

Forest Code Must be Fixed, *Op-Ed, David Cleary, Director of Sustainable Harvests, Latin America, Nature Conservancy, Financial Times, November 14*

Outsiders obsess about the Amazon, but environmental issues go well beyond the rainforest. The rise of agriculture has occurred largely in the Cerrado, a biodiverse savannah in the centre of the country that is now the world's largest and most dynamic agricultural frontier.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/87e86b92-edfe-11df-8616-00144feab49a.html>

Save the World from Climate Change – by Computer, *Agence France-Presse, November 14*

Computer gamers who like a challenge can now take on one of the toughest around: saving the entire planet, this time from climate change.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALEqM5j5EAsIZhCcnkt2O7mfs0UtenJmWQ?docId=CNG.907abc4d81c3c1c9a87d6f7bd7a18808.571>

If We Save the Tigers, We'll Save the Planet, *World Wildlife Foundation, November 14*

Because saving tigers is a compelling and cost-effective means of preserving so much more that is essential to life on Earth. The tiger is what conservationists call an "umbrella" species. By rescuing them, we save everything beneath their ecological umbrella - everything connected to them - including the world's last great forests, whose carbon storage mitigates climate change.

http://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?196791/DiCaprio-If-we-save-the-tigers-well-save-the-planet

As Glaciers Melt, Science Seeks Data on Rising Seas, *New York Times, November 13*

Researchers have been startled to see signs of rapid melting in Greenland and Antarctica, but lack data to precisely calculate how much flooding could result.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/14/science/earth/14ice.html>

WOMEN & GIRLS

Media Articles:

'It is Time for us Women to Speak Up for Our Rights', *Guardian, November 19*

There are many examples of how the millennium development goals are not yet making a difference to people's lives. We need a change. We need government to be part of that change by giving women more rights, says Daniella Wilson.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/nov/19/sierra-leone-women-rights>

Women in Agriculture, *IICA, November 18*

On November 18th, the IICA office, with support from the OAS, hosted an event celebrating women in agriculture in the Americas. The objective of this event was to celebrate the Year of the woman, to collaborate with other organizations and countries in supporting the advancement of women in agriculture, and to promote awareness of IICA's technical cooperation efforts at improving the productivity and competitiveness of women involved in the agricultural sector in the Americas.

<http://www.iica.int/Eng/regiones/norte/USA/Pages/IICADay2010-WomeninAgriculture.aspx>

Small Voices, Big Dreams – A Global Survey of Children in Developing Nations, *ChildFund Alliance, November 17*

We asked nearly 3000 children in developing countries throughout Africa, Asia and the Americas six questions – six questions that help provide some greater insight into their worlds. The results? Children living in poverty want to learn and need the basic necessities of life.

http://210.15.218.221/Clients/cf_alliance/10.11_cfa002_landingpage/pdfs/ChildFund_Survey_Report.pdf

SEE ALSO: ChildFund's Global Survey of Children in Developing Nations Finds Them Hungry to Learn – and Just Plain Hungry, *Press Release, November 17*

Most 10- to 12-year-olds in developing nations say that, if they were president of their country, their first order of business would be to provide education to all children by improving their schools or

building more of them. One in three goes to bed hungry at least one night a week. More than one quarter work half a day outside of school each day. And for many, their greatest fear is snakes.
<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/childfunds-global-survey-of-children-in-developing-nations-finds-them-hungry-to-learn---and-just-plain-hungry-108674364.html>

Here's a Woman Fighting Terrorism. With Microloans, *Op-Ed, Nicholas Kristof, New York Times, November 13*

An old friend of mine here fights terrorists, but not the way you're thinking. She could barely defeat a truculent child in hand-to-hand combat, and if she ever picked up an AK-47 — well, you'd pray it was unloaded. Roshaneh Zafar is an American-educated banker who fights extremism with microfinance. She has dedicated her life to empowering some of Pakistan's most impoverished women and giving them the tools to run businesses of their own. The United States should learn from warriors like her.
<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/14/opinion/14kristof.html?src=me&ref=general>

MARKET ACCESS AND TRADE ISSUES

Reports:

Seizing the Benefits of Trade for Employment and Growth, *World Bank, November 11*

Countries that have embraced openness have been more successful in sustaining growth and moving up the development ladder than those that have not. The available evidence highlights that trade openness will contribute to growth and employment, provided that it is complemented by appropriate policies.
[http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/Trade for Employment and Growth.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/Trade%20for%20Employment%20and%20Growth.pdf)

Media Articles:

Heinz Grows in Developing World, *BBC News, November 19*

Heinz has reported higher-than-expected quarterly profits thanks to strong demand for ketchup and sales growth in developing countries.
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-11798241>

EU Chief Urges Rethink on Farm Subsidies, *Financial Times, November 18*

Europe's agriculture chief called for a redistribution of the bloc's farming subsidies, saying the wide disparities in the current system made it no longer credible.
<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/e9e0233c-f34c-11df-a4fa-00144feab49a.html>

SEE ALSO: EU Farm Policy Should Keep Pillars, *Bloomberg, November 18*

The European Union's regulatory arm proposed a new farm policy that would equalize subsidies across the 27-nation bloc and keep a so-called two-pillar system, under which some rules are set on a bloc-wide level and others by countries based on an EU framework.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-11-18/eu-farm-policy-should-keep-pillars-commission-says.html>

SEE ALSO: CAP – Options for Reform, *European Commission, November 18*

Three options to revamp the EU's agricultural policy for a secure food supply, sustainable agriculture, a better environment and rural development.

http://ec.europa.eu/news/agriculture/101118_1_en.htm

SEE ALSO: Stark Divides Set to Affect Reform of Agricultural Aid, *Financial Times, November 19*

If Poland has its way, there will be much more to come in the years ahead. As negotiations get under way about a reform of the CAP, Marek Sawicki, the country's agriculture minister, is pushing to level the subsidy field so that farmers from the new member states of central and eastern Europe that joined the EU in 2004 receive just as much money as their counterparts in western Europe.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/cda0673a-f1b8-11df-bb5a-00144feab49a.html>

The Uneven Impact of Increasing Prices, *Financial Times*, November 18

Inflation is sometimes defined as a universal rise in prices across an entire economy. Yet inflation's effects are hardly ever universal.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/92b68bf2-f35e-11df-b34f-00144feab49a.html#axzz15ki3Y59g>

China Acts to Slow Rise in Food Prices, *New York Times*, November 17

Facing an unexpected acceleration of inflation, the Chinese government announced Wednesday that it would take forceful measures to limit price increases for a wide range of foodstuffs and cotton, and that it would distribute additional supplies of fuel, for which prices are already regulated.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/18/world/asia/18china.html>

SEE ALSO: After Food, China Faces Bigger Inflation Challenge, *Associated Press*, November 18

After steps to curb food prices, China faces challenge of stopping broader inflation.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=12179133>

SEE ALSO: China to Start Measures to Curb Food, Cotton Prices, Paper Says, *Bloomberg*, November 15

China may impose price limits on food and toughen punishment of those found speculating on agriculture futures including corn and cotton to combat rising inflation, the China Securities Journal reported, citing an unidentified person.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-11-15/china-to-start-measures-to-curb-food-cotton-prices-paper-says.html>

Soybeans Skid as China Considers Price Caps, *Wall Street Journal*, November 17

Soybean futures fell sharply on Tuesday as China considered possible price controls on food among other steps to control inflation.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703628204575619071912247114.html>

Investors Primed for Higher Farm Commodity Prices, *Reuters*, November 17

Rich investors are gearing up for another leg in the commodities bull run and looking at purchases of grain as a chance to benefit from demand for food, animal feed and biofuel, bankers and analysts said on Wednesday.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE6AG0U320101117>

Abu Dhabi Moves to Secure Food Supply, *Financial Times*, November 16

Abu Dhabi is to make a bold foray into commodities with the establishment of a government-owned trading house aimed at securing food supplies for the import-dependent nation and capturing profit margins in metals and agriculture trading.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/519ce48e-f1d5-11df-84ef-00144feab49a.html>

Continent Rallies for Integration to Boost Trade, *AllAfrica*, November 15

African countries are now moving quickly to strengthen regional economic blocs a move that is expected to boost Intra-African trade.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201011151973.html>

Winter Misery as Food Prices Rise, *IRIN*, November 15

A steady rise in food prices this year is posing serious risks for millions of Afghans who earn less than US\$30 a month, aid agencies say.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=91094>

Farm Economy Heading for Record Driving Surge in U.S. Cropland, *Bloomberg*, November 14

The best second-half for commodities in a generation is pushing U.S. farm incomes and agricultural land prices toward record highs.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-15/farm-economy-heading-for-record-u-s-profits-pushes-cropland-values-up-10-.html>

Green Fields: Korean Impasse Vexes Pork Producers, *Des Moines Register*, November 14

The National Pork Producers Council is unhappy that a dispute over U.S. beef exports has stalled Free Trade Agreement negotiations between the United States and South Korea.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20101114/BUSINESS01/11140322/1001/NEWS/Green-Fields-Korean-trade-impasse-vexes-pork-producers>

Record US Ethanol Exports Raise Tax Issue, *Financial Times*, November 14

US ethanol, subsidised as a homegrown alternative to foreign oil, is being exported in record volumes.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/d815b51e-f030-11df-88db-00144feab49a.html>

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Media Articles:

Soft Drinks: A Weapon Against Malnutrition in Africa?, *The Atlantic*, November 19

Here is another one you can't make up. An article in Pediatrics, entitled "Malnutrition and the role of the soft drink industry in improving child health in sub-Saharan Africa," advocates for fortifying soft drinks with micronutrients (vitamins and minerals). Oddly, it does this after explaining how consumption of soft drinks actually "perpetuates problems of undernutrition in children, pregnant women, and other vulnerable populations in the developing world." Why? Because in "sub-Saharan Africa, for example, distribution of soft drinks and other beverages produced by soft drink companies is extensive, and consumption is high given the extensive poverty in this part of the world."

<http://www.theatlantic.com/food/archive/2010/11/soft-drinks-a-weapon-against-malnutrition-in-africa/66775/>

BHP Ends \$39 Billion Pursuit of PotashCorp, *Financial Times*, November 19

BHP Billiton has formally ended its three-month pursuit of Saskatchewan's PotashCorp after failing to secure the Canadian government's approval for its hostile \$39bn bid.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/da3edafa-f044-11df-88db-00144feab49a.html>

Are GM Foods a Solution for Africa's Food Problem?, *Daily Monitor*, November 17

The debate about whether or not Africa should turn to genetically modified (GM) food production as a measure to end hunger has been going on for several years now. The big question is why is the issue of adopting what clearly appears to be a short cut to the continent's huge hunger problem taking so long to be decided upon what appears to be the miracle solution to a problem they are otherwise working in vain to solve?

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/Magazines/Farming/-/689860/1054942/-/2myi7lz/-/>

Unilever Says Sustainability Key to New Business Model, *BBC News*, November 15

Consumer products giant Unilever has unveiled a "new business model" putting sustainability at the heart of its global operations. It committed to halve the environmental impact of its products while doubling sales over the next 10 years.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-11755672>

Farm Groups Out to Rehab Image, *Des Moines Register*, November 12

Farm groups have launched another attempt to burnish public image of U.S. agribusiness, at a potential cost this time of up to \$30 million.

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2010/11/12/farm-groups-out-to-rehab-image/>

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