

GLOBAL FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THE WEEKLY NEWS BRIEF OF THE GLOBAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



October 30th – November 5th, 2010

Quote of the Week: *“Thus, more and more eyes are turning to Africa, agriculture’s final frontier. Africa was largely left out of the green revolution, the postwar movement to push up crop yields in the hungriest parts of the world by promoting the use of new seeds and new farming technology. And so agricultural production on the continent could jump quickly if farmers there simply used existing seed, fertilizer, and irrigation technology. And if more efficient networks were developed to distribute and sell the harvests, boosting agricultural yields in Africa could be a major step toward feeding not just the continent but also the rest of the world.”* - Roger Thurow, Senior Fellow on Global Agriculture and Food Policy, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs

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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KEY ARTICLES AND REPORTS

New Congress New World View, *Wall Street Journal*, November 3

The Republican victory in the House, however, will change the composition of key foreign policy oversight and budget committees. Particularly important will be the leadership of the State-Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, which oversees the international affairs budget account, which includes foreign economic and military assistance, contributions to international and multilateral organizations, and the operating budgets for the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Rep. Nita Lowey (D., N.Y.), the current chair of the House State and Foreign Operations Subcommittee, keeps her seat in

Congress, but Rep. Kay Granger (R., Texas), currently the ranking member of the committee, plans to seek the chair. She is seen as a supporter of foreign assistance, but also as a proponent of stricter oversight.
<http://blogs.wsj.com/washwire/2010/11/03/new-congress-new-world-view/>

SEE ALSO: Granger Seeking Chairmanship of State and Foreign Ops Subcommittee, *Foreign Policy*, November 3

http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/11/03/granger_seeking_chairmanship_of_state_and_foreign_ops_subcommittee

Food Price Rises Stoke Riot Fears, *Financial Times*, November 2

Food prices have soared to levels last seen in the 2007-08 crisis after a big October rise, the UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation said on Tuesday. The increase will renew fears about a repetition of the wave of food riots that rocked poor countries from Bangladesh to Haiti two years ago.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/89cdd370-e6d3-11df-8894-00144feab49a.html>

SEE ALSO: World Food Prices, *FAO*, November 2010

<http://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/FoodPricesIndex/en/>

SEE ALSO: FAO Food Price Index Hits 27-Months High in Oct, *Reuters*, November 2

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE6A10GU20101102>

Economist Debates: Biotechnology, *Economist*, November 5

Biotechnology is not a system of farming. It reflects no specific philosophy nor is it guided by a set of principles or performance criteria. It is a bag of tools that can be used for good or evil, and lots in between.

<http://www.economist.com/debate/overview/187&fsrc=nlw>

Human Development Report 2010, *UNDP*, 2010

The Report looks back rigorously at the past several decades and identifies often surprising trends and patterns with important lessons for the future. These varied pathways to human development show that there is no single formula for sustainable progress—and that impressive gains can be achieved even without consistent economic growth.

http://hdr.undp.org/en/media/HDR_2010_EN_Complete.pdf

SEE ALSO: Growth on a Finite Planet – So Far, So Good, *Opinion*, Andrew Revkin, *New York Times*, November 5

Looking back at 40 years of human progress in 135 countries – 92% of the world's population – -the report shows that average life expectancy rose from 59 to 70 years, primary school enrolment grew from 55 to 70 percent, and per capita income doubled to more than \$10,000.

<http://dotearth.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/05/growth-on-a-finite-planet-so-far-so-good/?partner=rss&emc=rss>

SEE ALSO: Human Development Report Shows Great Gains, and Some Slides, *New York Times*, November 4

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/05/world/05nations.html?ref=world>

Regional Economic Outlook: Sub-Saharan Africa, *IMF*, October 2010

The October 2010 Regional Economic Outlook features: (i) an overview of economic developments and prospects in sub-Saharan Africa; (ii) an analytical assessment of how monetary policy changes are transmitted through the region's economies; and (iii) a study of why growth rates in the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) have lagged behind other parts of sub-Saharan Africa.

<http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/reo/2010/AFR/eng/pdf/sreo1010.pdf>

Agriculture Must Become More Productive, More Resilient and More Climate Friendly Says World Bank Climate Change Envoy, *World Bank*, October 31

Speaking today at the opening of the International Conference on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change in The Hague, [Andrew] Steer called on the international community to grasp the opportunities to link agriculture with the transition to lower carbon-emitting, climate resilient growth. "Let's turn the promise of the "triple-win" into reality," he said.

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22750097~pagePK:34370~piPK:34424~theSitePK:4607,00.html>

SEE ALSO: Statement by IFAD President to the Global Conference on Food Security, Agriculture and Climate Change, Kanayo F. Nwanze, IFAD, November 1

But my central message to you today is one of opportunity. I believe that collectively we have many of the tools and the techniques to launch a new integrated agricultural revolution. We need what professor Swaminathan calls an "Evergreen revolution."

<http://www.ifad.org/events/op/2010/hague.htm>

SEE ALSO: Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change, Dr. Andrew Steer, Special Envoy for Climate Change, World Bank Group, October 31

"Agriculture also needs to tap into funds available for climate change."

<http://go.worldbank.org/XABFYT3GM0>

SEE ALSO: Experts, Activists Debate How to Improve Africa's Soil, Voice of America, November 1

Experts differ on the best ways to turn often parched and depleted land into fertile ground. But there is general agreement that it is an issue that needs to be addressed.

<http://www.voanews.com/english/news/africa/Experts-Activists-Debate-How-to-Improve-Africas-Soil-106480243.html>

We Need to Change the Image of Agriculture in Africa, Guardian November 2

Young people who will be future policymakers and leaders should see agriculture as a business opportunity and not simply a means of survival.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/nov/01/africa-agriculture-image-change>

Glickman: Tell Your Stories Well, cochair, Global Agricultural Development Initiative, former secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture, AED Hub, November 1

"You are fortunate to be getting into this in an era when it's a high priority issue," he said at the AED-FAO sponsored event. "The trick is to put our money where our mouth is, do something constructive with it, form partnerships between the private sector and government to get things done." But Glickman, who wrapped up today's forum titled "Deepening the Dialogue," said that groups have been poor storytellers. "If you let people know what the successes and the needs are," Congress and the US administration will be listening, he said. "Where we do have successes, you have to communicate those successes. That in the last 20, 30 years has not been done. Very few policy makers have the foggiest idea of what the successes are."

<http://www.theaedhub.org/archives/869>

The Fertile Continent, Roger Thurow, Senior Fellow on Global Agriculture and Food Policy, The Chicago Council on Global Affairs, Foreign Affairs, November/December 2010

With one billion people already going hungry and the world's population rising, global food production must urgently be increased. The countries that managed such surges in the past -- Brazil, China, India, the United States -- cannot do so again. But Africa can -- if it finally uses the seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation methods common everywhere else.

<http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/66827/roger-thurow/the-fertile-continent>

****SPECIAL SECTION: 2010 ELECTIONS COVERAGE****

Stabenow Expected to Run Agriculture Committee, National Journal, November 3

Sen. Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., is poised to take over the Senate Agriculture Committee chairmanship left vacant by the loss Tuesday by Sen. Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark., a plum this year with the panel set to craft the 2012 farm bill.

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/congress/stabenow-expected-to-run-agriculture-committee-20101103>

SEE ALSO: Bad Night for Aggie Democrats, Des Moines Register, November 3

It was a terrible year to be a Democrat or from many farm districts and that means some major turnover on the House Agriculture Committee and a new chairman on the Senate agriculture committee. The Senate panel's chair, Arkansas Democrat Blanche Lincoln, lost as expected to Republican John Boozman.

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2010/11/03/bad-night-for-aggie-democrats/>

Statement by Bob Stallman, President, American Farm Bureau Federation on 2010 Mid Term Elections, *States News Services, November 3*

Tuesday's mid-term elections brought a lot of change to Capitol Hill and Washington. The American Farm Bureau Federation looks forward to working with new and returning members of Congress on issues that are vital to the nations farmers and ranchers. There will be many important legislative issues for agriculture in the 112th Congress. A new farm bill will be written by new agriculture committee members who may not be that familiar with farm policy. Farm Bureau will work with these committee members to help them understand the role of farm programs and develop a bill that provides an effective and responsive safety net for producers across the country.

[http://www.agweb.com/article/statement by bob stallman president american farm bureau federation on 2010 mid-term elections/](http://www.agweb.com/article/statement%20by%20bob%20stallman%20president%20american%20farm%20bureau%20federation%20on%202010%20mid-term%20elections/)

U.S. Election Means A Pinch On Farm Funds, *Reuters, November 3*

Lawmakers will face increasing pressure to constrain spending on farm subsidy programs, possibly as part of government-wide austerity, in the wake of large Republican gains in the mid-term elections. At its most extreme, the budget-cutting could push millions of acres back into production by slashing long-term reserves that idle 10 percent of U.S. cropland. The deficit-cutting mood also imperils extension of ethanol tax breaks worth \$6 billion annually.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN0329473120101103>

U.S. Election Shakes up Farm Bill Policies, *Des Moines Register, November 3*

Tuesday's mid-term elections has shaken up the rural voting bloc that has been critical to getting the House to pass farm bill. Democrats across the South and other rural areas lost seats to Republicans who ran on pledges to cut spending.

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2010/11/03/election-shakes-up-farm-bill-politics/>

Senate Loses its Left-Wing Leader on Foreign Policy, *The Cable, Foreign Policy, November 3*

Wisconsin's Russ Feingold was no ordinary Democratic senator. He staunchly staked out unabashedly liberal positions on all things foreign policy and national security related, right up until his defeat Tuesday night. Feingold is, or was, technically the third-ranking Democratic senator on the Foreign Relations Committee, after Chairman John Kerry (D-MA) and Chris Dodd (D-CT). With Dodd retiring, Feingold stood to become chairman if Kerry were ever tapped for secretary of state. In fact, the rumor around town is that the prospect of an independent-minded Feingold leading the panel worried the White House so much that it had negative implications on their consideration of Kerry for Foggy Bottom.

[http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/11/03/senate loses its left wing leader on foreign policy](http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/11/03/senate%20loses%20its%20left%20wing%20leader%20on%20foreign%20policy)

The Post Election Foreign Policy Hangover, *Ambassador Mac Ginsberg, Huffington Post, November 2*

Yes, Obama is still Commander in Chief, and yes, the U.S. remains the world's sole superpower, but while foreign policy played nary a role in the midterm elections, the foreign policy fallout from the election drubbing is unavoidable. Every foreign journalist, every adversary, and every ally will be reading the tea leaves to make their own assessment how badly Obama was damaged by his party's loss of political and popular support, and either take it in stride, or dangerously miscalculate. Clearly, it's the latter problem that can have adverse consequences.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/amb-marc-ginsberg/the-post-election-foreign_b_777844.html?ir=World

Meet Your New House Foreign Affairs Chairwoman: Illeana Ros-Lehtinen, *The Cable, Foreign Policy, November 2*

Ros-Lehtinen has been a force on the committee for years as the vocal, passionate, sometimes combative ranking Republican. A Cuban-American lawmaker from a heavily Jewish district, Ros-Lehtinen has staked out firm positions on several issues that stand in contrast to now outgoing chairman Howard Berman (D-CA). Her ascendancy as chairwoman will change the tone and agenda of the committee and will pose new challenges for the Obama administration's efforts to advance its foreign-policy agenda.

[http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/11/02/meet your new house foreign affairs chairwoman illeana ros lehtinen](http://thecable.foreignpolicy.com/posts/2010/11/02/meet%20your%20new%20house%20foreign%20affairs%20chairwoman%20illeana%20ros%20lehtinen)

Election Could Affect U.S. Pledge on International Climate Aid, *Washington Post*, November 1

As the next round of U.N. climate talks approach this month in Cancun, Mexico, the Obama administration finds itself in an awkward position: pushing its enduring commitment to bold climate action even as the prospects for comprehensive legislation have evaporated at home. The atmosphere is very different from a year ago, when U.S. negotiators headed to Copenhagen touting the recent success of a House-passed climate bill. Now that legislation has died in the Senate, and with candidates poised to win this week who are more likely to focus on immediate economic concerns than on long-term environmental and energy ones, these constraints are shaping U.S. climate diplomacy.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/31/AR2010103103450.html>=

SEE ALSO: U.S. Plays Conflicted Role in Global Climate Debate, *Washington Post*, November 1

As the next round of U.N. climate talks approaches this month in Cancun, Mexico, the Obama administration finds itself in an awkward position: pushing its enduring commitment to bold climate action even as the prospects for comprehensive legislation have evaporated at home.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/10/31/AR2010103103378.html>

Midterm Elections Could Give a Boost to Africa – if the Democrats Lose, *Christian Science Monitor*, October 29

For Africa, an Obama presidency has been a disappointment. Rather than pay attention to the sub-Saharan because of his Kenyan heritage, Barack Obama has gone the other way: giving less attention to Africa than any other region of the world. Partly Obama's inattention to African affairs reflects the crises of his presidency. Urgent problems are elsewhere. But the situation may be about to change and because of an unlikely reason: the defeat of Obama's Democratic Party allies in Congress.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/Africa-Monitor/2010/1029/Midterm-elections-could-give-a-boost-to-Africa-if-the-Democrats-lose>

RELEVANT U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

US, India to Collaborate on Innovations in Agriculture Sector, *Economic Times*, November 3

India and the United States will collaborate in the areas of agricultural innovation, during President Barack Obama's visit to the country, which will increase food security for Indians and help bring green revolution in Africa, the White House has said.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international-business/US-India-to-collaborate-on-innovations-in-agriculture-sector/articleshow/6863500.cms>

SEE ALSO: Oxfam on President Obama's Visit to India: Progress Relies on Shared Responsibility, *PR Newswire*, November 5

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/oxfam-on-president-obamas-visit-to-india-progress-relies-on-shared-responsibility-106769913.html>

USDA Seeking Approval of Genetically Modified Sugar Beets, *Wall Street Journal*, November 2

The U.S. Department of Agriculture unveiled controversial plans to again approve genetically modified sugar beets in time for planting next year, a move that would nullify a federal court ruling in August that invalidated the original approval issued by the USDA five years ago.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704462704575590574104252354.html>

Remarks With Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, *Hillary Rodham Clinton*, U.S. Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State, November 1

"Through our whole-of-government Feed the Future Initiative, we will be helping the people of Cambodia mount a comprehensive fight against hunger by raising agricultural productivity and making nutritious foods more widely available."

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/11/150237.htm>

SEE ALSO: Clinton Highlights U.S. Commitment to Strengthening Health Systems, Food Security in Cambodia During Asia-Pacific Tour, *Kaiser Family Foundation*, November 2

The U.S. is committed to working "closely together to help meet the challenges facing Cambodia and all of Southeast Asia," Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton pledged Monday during a stop in Cambodia as part of her [Asia-Pacific tour](#), that [United Press International](#) reports.

<http://globalhealth.kff.org/Daily-Reports/2010/November/02/GH-110210-Clinton-In-Cambodia.aspx>

Cellulosic Ethanol: Feedstocks, Conversion Technologies, Economics, and Policy Options, *Congressional Research Service, October 22*

This report attempts to summarize the current state of knowledge regarding potential biomass feedstocks, production and marketing constraints, processing technologies, and the economics of biomass from field to fuel under current and hypothetical policy circumstances. As such, it is intended to serve as a reference for policymakers interested in understanding the complexity underlying the development of a large-scale, biomass-based fuel system.

<http://www.farmpolicy.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/CRSCellulosic10Oct22.pdf>

UPCOMING EVENTS

The International Rice Congress 2010

Date: November 8th –12th, 2010

Location: Hanoi, Vietnam

Hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

<http://www.ricecongress.com/cmsdetail.php?id=1>

Empowering Women through Mobile Technology

Date: November 10th, 2010

Location: Washington, DC

Katherine Townsend, Office of the Senior Advisor for Innovation in the Office of the Secretary of State, and Nicole Conn, Office of the Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues, will discuss how the State Department will promote public-private partnerships to increase access to mobile technology among women in developing countries, in conjunction with the GSMA mWomen Program. Mobile communication technologies have proven to be a powerful tool for poverty reduction and women's empowerment.

First Global Conference on Biofortification: From Discovery to Delivery

Date: November 11th – 12th, 2010

Location: Washington, D.C.

The First Global Conference on Biofortification is the first international effort to take stock of progress made in developing nutrient-rich crops, share lessons learned, and chart the future of biofortification. This three-day event will bring agricultural scientists, public health specialists, policymakers, donors, and business leaders together to move this emerging agricultural intervention for public health forward.

<http://www.harvestplus.org/content/first-global-conference-biofortification>

Ministerial Conference on Higher Education in Agriculture in Africa

Date: November 14th – November 18th, 2010

Location: Kampala, Uganda

The Ministerial Conference on Higher Education in Agriculture in Africa (CHEA) is being held as a policy dialogue conference for the purpose of reaffirming high level commitment to Higher Education in Agriculture in Africa. The objective is to mobilise high level political and development commitment for increasing investments in capacity development, including Higher Education, Science and Innovations in Africa.

<http://www.ruforum.org/events/ministerial-meeting-higher-education-chea-november-15-19-2010>

Delivering Aid Differently: Lessons from the Field

Date: November 15th, 2010

Location: Washington, DC

Aid to developing countries is a \$200 billion industry, which is indicative of global goodwill toward helping the poor and supporting economic development. But goodwill is not the same as good results. In *Delivering Aid Differently: Lessons from the Field* (Brookings Press, 2010), editors Homi Kharas, senior fellow and deputy director of Global Economy and Development at Brookings, and Wolfgang Fengler, lead economist in the Nairobi office of the World Bank, compile case studies from the field and find that the delivery of aid is fragmented, volatile and uncoordinated.

<http://www.partnership-africa.org/content/delivering-aid-differently-lessons-field>

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/>

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/>

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:

Never an Empty Bowl, Task Force Report on Food Security in Asia, *Asia Society, November 2*

For the first time in history, the number of people suffering from chronic hunger reached one billion globally in 2009, with Asia accounting for approximately two-thirds of the world's hungry. The future looks even more daunting. Population growth, increasing demand from changing diets, dwindling land and water resources for agriculture, higher energy costs, and the huge uncertainties regarding the effects of climate change present scientists and policy makers with additional challenges.

<http://asiasociety.org/policy-politics/environment/water-and-food-security/never-empty-bowl>

Intellectual Property Rights, Private Investment in Research, and Productivity Growth in Indian Agriculture, *IFPRI, November 2010*

With the growth of private investment in developing-country agriculture, new advances in the biological sciences, and rapid integration of developing countries into the global trading system, intellectual property rights (IPRs) have become an important concern for policymakers, corporate decision makers, and many other players in the agricultural sector. But there are still unanswered questions about whether emerging and evolving IPR regimes in developing countries will contribute to increasing agricultural productivity and improving food security. This paper attempts to answer some of these questions by tracing the effects of IPRs on private investment in crop genetic improvement and, in turn, on agricultural productivity. The paper focuses specifically on the case of India, the regional leader in implementing IPRs in agriculture.

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/ifpridp01031.pdf>

Indirect Land-Use Change from Biofuels: Recent Developments in Modeling and Policy Landscapes, *International Food & Agricultural Trade Council, 2010*

To prevent iLUC and other unintended consequences, governments should also adopt enforceable, effective sustainability policies to prevent conversion of ecologically sensitive and high-carbon areas for biofuels or any other purpose; encourage appropriate use of fertilizers and other inputs for biofuels and other crops to reduce harmful environmental impacts from excess runoff; and work to improve access for the poor to food, especially if prices rise.

http://www.agritrade.org/events/documents/Yeh_Witcover_iLUCfromBiofuels.pdf

Media Articles:

Agroforestry Could Hold Key to African Agriculture, *USA Today, November 3*

Could trees be the answer to Africa's worn-out soils? Agroforestry experts presenting at a conference in The Hague say yes. Growing crops under a canopy of "fertilizer trees" can increase grain production by two or three times in nutrient deficient ground. The trees, a unique type of acacia, fix nitrogen in the soil through their roots and go dormant during the corn, sorghum and millet-growing season, so they don't compete with farmers' crops, researchers from Nairobi said.

<http://content.usatoday.com/communities/sciencefair/post/2010/11/agroforestry-could-hold-key-to-african-agriculture/1>

Disease Threatens Africa's Livestock, UN Agency Warns, CNN, November 3

A potentially fatal sheep and goat disease could spread from Tanzania into southern Africa, a United Nations agency warned, threatening millions of people's livelihoods and food supplies.

<http://www.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/africa/11/03/tanzania.goat.disease/>

SEE ALSO: Deadly Animal Virus Threatens To Spread To Southern Africa, FAO, November 2

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/46292/icode/>

SEE ALSO: Deadly Viral Disease Could Put 50 Million Sheep and Goats at Risk, Voice of America, November 3

<http://www.voanews.com/english/news/africa/decapua-southern-africa-ppr-3nov10-106614038.html>

Implementation of CAADP Key To African Food Basket Initiative, AllAfrica, November 2

Concerning the African Food Basket Initiative, the ministers recommended that AU member states should take immediate steps to review their agriculture and food security policies and mainstream quick-win interventions. In addition, the conference urged member states to strengthen and make use of the current institutional arrangements for the implementation of the African food basket initiative and CAADP post-compact national agriculture and food security investment plans and build adequate human, financial, and technical capacities to support the initiative.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201011021066.html>

Grass Could Top Corn as Biofuel Crop, UPI, November 1

Grass could be the bioenergy crop of the future as the demand for biofuels increases, replacing corn as the premiere biofuel crop, U.S. researchers say. Researchers at the University of Illinois have completed the first analysis of potential bioenergy grass crops in the Midwestern United States, a university release said Monday.

http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2010/11/01/Grass-could-top-corn-as-biofuel-crop/UPI-20441288653123/

Texting Program Helps African Farmers Fight Drought, National Geographic, October 29

Micro-insurance cushions farmers against weather-related crop losses.

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2010/10/101029-kenya-microinsurance-farming-science-environment/>

Fears of Surplus Maize Harvest Going to Waste, IRIN, October 29

After poor harvests due to erratic rains that culminated in a drought in early 2009, most maize farmers in Kenya are enjoying better times due to enhanced March-May long rains. However, they are struggling to offload a surplus harvest of the key staple amid fears that short October to December rains could lead to heavy post-harvest losses.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=90919>

Macadamia Nuts are a Lifeline for Black Farmers in South Africa, Telegraph, October 29

Macadamias are tricky to grow, but they are proving to be a lifeline for black farmers in South Africa.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/foodanddrink/8090467/Macadamia-nuts-are-a-lifeline-for-black-farmers-in-South-Africa.html>

"It is Possible for Africa to Become the Food Basket of the World," says Mutharika. NEPAD, October 28

"Without food, the medicines and drugs in hospitals and clinics become ineffective or even dangerous to the sick; without food, children cannot learn well in schools; without food, the labour force cannot be productive; without food, you cannot maintain the police service and national defence forces and without food, we cannot maintain peace keeping forces anywhere in the world", said H.E Prof. Bingu Wa Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi and Chairperson of the African Union, at the official opening session of the Conference African Ministers of Agriculture (CAMA), today 28 October 2010, in Lilongwe, Malawi.

<http://www.nepad.org/foodsecurity/news/1786/%E2%80%99Cit-possible-africa-become-food-basket-world%E2%80%9D-mutharika>

Farms lack \$blns for food supply, environment: FAO, Reuters, October 28

World agriculture urgently needs billions of dollars in additional annual investment to boost output and reduce its negative impact on the environment, the United Nations' food agency said on Thursday. Farms need to increase output by 70 percent by 2050, when global population is expected to rise to 9 billion from the current 6.7 billion, and at the same time reduce their environmental footprint.
<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE69R0HW20101028>

Cellulosic Pioneers Approve U.S. Biomass Aid Program, Reuters, October 27

Found in grasses and woody plants, cellulose could make moot the "food vs fuel" argument over using corn, a livestock feed, to make fuel. Critics complain corn-based fuel drives up prices for food globally.
<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN2722408220101027>

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

Media Articles:

Global Food Security Fund Announces \$97M In Grants for Ethiopia, Mongolia, Niger, Kaiser Family Foundation, November 5

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) has awarded a second round of grants worth \$97 million to Ethiopia, Mongolia and Niger for projects aimed at fighting hunger and poverty, the U.S. Treasury Department said on Thursday, Agence France-Presse reports.
http://globalhealth.kff.org/Daily-Reports/2010/November/05/GH-110510-Farm-Grants.aspx?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+kff%2Fkdghpr+%28Kaiser+Daily+Global+Health+Policy+Report%29&utm_content=Google+Feedfetcher

What Right Does the West Have to Lecture and Hector on Aid?, Guardian, November 5

The financial crisis shows we in the west know little of economics - so it's time to strike a new deal on development
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/nov/05/poverty-wealth-economics-aid>

Developing the Private Sector's Role, Guardian, November 3

Donor agencies are finally starting to engage meaningfully with business, which offers the promise of more sustainable, scalable solutions to poverty than aid alone could ever deliver
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/sustainable-business/business-dfid-poverty-development-sustainability>

UN and Partners Launch \$47 Million Appeal for Flood-Ravaged Benin, UN News Centre, November 3

The United Nations, its humanitarian partners and the Government of Benin today launched a joint \$47 million emergency appeal to help nearly 800,000 people in the West African nation which is experiencing the worst flooding in a century. Some 1 million people out of the country's some 9 million-strong population were already experiencing food insecurity, while more than one third of children under the age of five being chronically malnourished before the start of the flooding.
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=36647&Cr=benin&Cr1>

African Countries Explore Breakthrough Poverty Reduction and Development Strategies, UNDP, November 1

Delegates from African countries, China and other emerging economies -- including Vietnam-- convene from 1 to November to explore some of the most successful development experiences in the South and examine how to improve policies that sustain high growth and reduce poverty. Co-hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC) and the

Ethiopian Government, the Africa-China Poverty Reduction and Development Conference will discuss policies and institutions that have contributed to advance development in China and other developing countries.

<http://content.undp.org/go/newsroom/2010/november/african-countries-emerging-economies-explore-breakthrough-poverty-reduction-and-development-strategies-en>

SEE ALSO: Remarks for Helen Clark, UNDP Administrator, UNDP, November 1

This conference brings us together to discuss the transformation and potential of Africa, and how the continent can draw on its own successes and those of China and elsewhere to advance human development and accelerate progress towards the Millennium Development Goals. The focus will be on what works and on what can be adapted to benefit African development.

<http://content.undp.org/go/newsroom/2010/november/helen-clark-africa-china-poverty-reduction-and-development-conference-en>

LG Electronics and WFP Strengthen Partnership to Fight Hunger in Asia, WFP, November 2

LG Electronics (LG) and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) have this week come together in new partnership to strengthen the fight against hunger and under-nutrition in Asia.

<http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/lg-electronics-and-wfp-strengthen-partnership-fight-hunger-asia>

WFP Chief, Former US Envoy Arrive in N.Korea, Agence France-Presse, November 2

The head of the UN World Food Programme arrived in impoverished North Korea, said official media in the country, which relies on international handouts to help feed its people.

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20101102/wl_asia_afp/nkoreauswfpdiplomacyfood

SEE ALSO: U.N. Says North Korea Food Problems Remain Pressing, Reuters, November 4

Large numbers of children in impoverished and isolated North Korea are suffering from malnutrition and food aid to the communist state is insufficient, a senior U.N. official said. "I saw a lot of children already losing the battle against malnutrition," Josette Sheeran, executive director of the U.N.'s World Food Program (WFP), told reporters in Beijing after returning from Pyongyang.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6A327L20101104>

Why Kristof's Endorsement of 'D.I.Y. Aid' is Poorly Informed, Op-Ed, Laura Seay, Christian Science Monitor, November 2

New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof's recent piece, 'D.I.Y. Foreign-Aid Revolution' has been skewered by aid professionals, because he praises projects launched by amateurs. Guest blogger Laura Seay adds to the criticism.

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/Africa-Monitor/2010/1102/Why-Kristof-s-endorsement-of-D.I.Y.-Aid-is-poorly-informed>

SEE ALSO: D.I.Y Foreign-Aid Revolution, Nicholas D. Kristof, New York Times, October 20

I became interested in such figures while writing a book with my wife, Sheryl WuDunn, about educating and empowering women as a solution to many of the world's problems. We ran into extraordinary men, like Muhammad Yunus of Grameen Bank, who pioneered microfinance in Bangladesh. Or Bill Drayton, an American who is a godfather of entrepreneurs working for social change and who now runs a group called Ashoka to support them. Or Greg Mortenson, whose struggles to build schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan are chronicled in "Three Cups of Tea." But it struck us that women in particular were finding creative ways to help the world's most vulnerable people, many of them also women.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/24/magazine/24volunteerism-t.html>

US Food Aid Falls Short of its Own Campaign, IRIN, November 1

A US-backed campaign highlighting the importance of quality nutrition in a child's first 1,000 days contradicts its own food aid policy for developing countries, says a medical charity.

<http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportID=90942>

NGO Criticizes U.S. Food Aid for Children, AllAfrica, November 1

Medical NGO MSF claimed in an open letter that the quality of US food aid for children undermines the country's support for a campaign on the importance of quality nutrition in a child's first 1,000 days.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201011020111.html>

Scramble to Meet Shortfall in Food Aid, *Guardian*, November 1

Tens of thousands in Swaziland to miss out on food aid as lack of donor funding forces the WFP to cut assistance.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/2010/nov/01/food-aid-shortfall>

ADB Seeks to Move \$500 Million in European Solar Subsidies to Asia Fund, *Bloomberg*, November 1

The Asian Development Bank is talking to European countries about an investment fund that would redirect \$500 million of solar subsidies toward projects in developing countries where the money could be invested more productively.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-01/adb-seeks-to-move-500-million-in-european-solar-subsidies-to-asia-fund.html>

UK's Emphasis on Results will Narrow the Focus of its Foreign Aid Budget, *Guardian*, November 1

The UK's Department for International Development (DfID) has just recruited a head for its new Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI). He is an ex-auditor, as is his new boss, secretary of state Andrew Mitchell, and his job is to "achieve 100 pence of value for every development pound spent".

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/poverty-matters/2010/nov/01/uk-foreign-aid-budget>

UNICEF sends relief supplies to survivors of Indonesian Disasters, *UN News Centre*, October 29

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is sending relief supplies to support the Indonesian Government's humanitarian effort following the eruption of the Mount Merapi volcano and the tsunami that affected communities in the country's Mentawai Islands earlier this week.

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=36617&Cr=indonesia&Cr1=#>

Pakistan Flood Food Running Out, Warns UN, *BBC*, October 29

The United Nations has warned its supply of emergency food aid for victims of Pakistan's summer floods will run out by the start of December.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-south-asia-11649569>

ENVIRONMENT (WATER/CLIMATE)

Reports:

Counting the Carbon Emissions from Agricultural Products: Technical Complexities and Trade Implications, *International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council*, 2010

This Policy Brief serves as a background paper for the October 2010 seminar, "Carbon Standards in Agricultural Production and Trade," organized by the International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC) with support from Sao Paulo's Federation of Industries (FIESP).

http://www.agritrade.org/events/documents/Steenlik_Moise_Counting_Carbon.pdf

Nigeria Food Security Outlook, *USAID, FEWS NET*, October 2010 to March 2011

A recent joint CILSS/FAO/WFP/FEWS NET post harvest assessment and field reports from FEWS NET enumerators revealed that household food insecurity is mainly concentrated in the lowland areas, near major rivers in Jigawa, Sokoto and Kebbi where excessive flooding in September has culminated, in October, in reduced household own- production and limited poor household food and cash sources, posing a threat to their food security during the October-March period.

[http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/MMAH-8AQ3KJ/\\$File/full_report.pdf](http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/MMAH-8AQ3KJ/$File/full_report.pdf)

SEE ALSO: Nigeria: Food Crisis Looms in Sokoto, Jigawa, Kebbi, *AllAfrica*, November 1

Severe flooding in July-October could result in food crisis in Sokoto, Jigawa and Kebbi states, says a Famine Early Warning Systems Network report entitled: Nigeria Food Security Outlook, October 2010 to March 2011, monitored yesterday by LEADERSHIP.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201011020924.html>

The Geopolitics of Energy. *CSIS, October 29*

The Geopolitics of Energy identifies and examines the relevant drivers that are likely to dictate future trends in energy consumption and fuel choices in the context of a shifting geopolitical landscape, taking into account the attendant economic, foreign policy, energy security, and environmental consequences and priorities. Projecting out to 2035, the report looks at petroleum, coal, renewables, nuclear energy, and natural gas, plus what the authors term the “game changer”—climate change. The authors believe that managing the transition to a new energy future will be one of the greatest challenges that the global community will face in the coming decades. Contrary to fashionable political rhetoric, such a transformation is likely to be irregular, costly, and at times painful, but inevitably it will and must be done.

http://csis.org/files/publication/101026_Verrastro_Geopolitics_web.pdf

Media Articles:

Worst Floods in Benin in 50 Years, *Guardian, November 3*

According to aid agencies, 680,000 people have been affected by last month's floods in Benin, west Africa. More than 50 people have been killed and more than 55,000 homes have been damaged or destroyed. Farms and schools have also been badly damaged. The government of Benin has declared a national emergency and asked for international help. Care International is one of the NGOs responding by providing clean drinking water, shelter, mosquito nets and food to people affected by the floods.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/global-development/gallery/2010/nov/02/benin-floods>

Tubuserea Lavadai Mangrove Reforestation Project, *Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State, November 3*

“It is so extraordinarily important that we recognize that Papua New Guinea has the largest tropical area in the Pacific – it is the home to the greatest marine biodiversity on the planet, thousands of kilometers of coral reefs and hundreds of animal species, including dozens that have only been recently discovered. So the people of this country are rightly proud of the beauty and richness of their homeland. And I know how important it is to preserve that, and the United States wants to be your partner in doing so.”

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/11/150367.htm>

Let's Get Serious About Climate Talks, *Op-Ed, Mikhail Gorbachev, Founder and Board Member of Green Cross International, New York Times, November 3*

Though 2010 has been largely disappointing for action on climate change, the process can still be revitalized.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/04/opinion/04iht-edgorbachev.html>

Rising Seas and the Groundwater Equation, *New York Times, November 2*

Worldwide overpumping of groundwater, particularly in northern India, Iran, Mexico, northeastern China and the American West, more than doubled from 1960 to 2000 and is responsible for about 25 percent of the rise in sea level, according to estimates in a new study by a team of Dutch researchers published in *Geophysical Research Letters*.

<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/11/02/rising-seas-and-the-groundwater-equation/>

SEE ALSO: Global Depletion of Groundwater Resources, *Geophysical Research Letters, 2010*

<http://www.agu.org/pubs/crossref/2010/2010GL044571.shtml>

In this Remote Town in Mali, Climate Change Takes on a Sinister Reality, *Guardian, October 31*

The debate around Africa and aid will shift from charity and post-imperial responsibility to seeking environmental justice

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/2010/oct/31/climate-change-mali-africa-aid>

Happier and Greener, *Financial Times, October 30*

The UN Convention on Biological Diversity meeting at Nagoya, which finished on Friday, opened by admitting defeat. The promise made at the UN Johannesburg conference in 2002 substantially to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010 had been comprehensively broken. The UN's Global Biodiversity Outlook report, published earlier this year, showed “multiple indications of continuing decline in biodiversity in all three of its main components – genes, species and ecosystems”. The meeting was inauspicious in other ways; it came a

year after the disastrous Copenhagen climate change summit, which for many was the final nail in the coffin of hope that intergovernmental action might halt environmental degradation.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/a681f650-e2ea-11df-9735-00144feabdc0.html>

SEE ALSO: U.N. Meeting to Protect Nature is Split on Targets, *New York Times*, October 29

Environment ministers from around the world tried to wrap up a U.N. meeting to preserve nature Friday but remained split on targets to fight losses in animal and plant species that support livelihoods and economies.

http://www.nytimes.com/reuters/2010/10/29/world/international-uk-biodiversity.html?_r=2&ref=reuters

WOMEN & GIRLS

Media Articles:

Women's Empowerment Event, *Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State*, November 3

"Giving women access to education, health services, economic opportunities, and the structures of power is critical to alleviating poverty and disease in every part of the world. The United States is committed to working with you. That is why, next year, the United States, along with the Government of Papua New Guinea and the World Bank Group will bring together senior government officials and business leaders from across the Pacific to discuss how, together, we can expand vital opportunities for women."

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2010/11/150343.htm>

SEE ALSO: Clinton Urges PNG to End 'Culture of Violence' Against Women, *Agence France-Presse*, November 3

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jbeTlcxJ1g5wOohSVxGA3SqiK3sg?docId=CNG.198522806ff7909dc1ba22f84a61beb7.161>

China Bubble Erodes Preference for Sons, *Financial Times*, November 1

High property prices and economic development have begun to erode China's traditional preference for sons, leading to a rise in the number of Chinese parents who say they would prefer a daughter.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/d7749a7a-e5eb-11df-af15-00144feabdc0.html>

SEE ALSO: china Threatened by Shortage of Workers and Wives, *Financial Times*, November 1

What a difference three decades can make. In 1980, China feared an explosion of people it could not feed, so it took drastic steps to limit births with its controversial "one child" policy.

Now, as the mainland starts its once-a-decade census, demographers say the world's most populous nation has too few people in some areas and a critical shortage of workers and wives, which could threaten economic growth and social stability.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/76388090-e5dd-11df-af15-00144feabdc0.html>

Women's Lingerie and GMOs, *Worldwatch Institute*, October 26

What do Victoria's Secret and Monsanto have in common? They're both interested in growing cotton in Burkina Faso.

<http://blogs.worldwatch.org/nourishingtheplanet/women%E2%80%99s-lingerie-and-gmos/>

MARKET ACCESS AND TRADE ISSUES

Media Articles:

Orange Juice Soars as Brazil Crop Falls Short, *Financial Times*, November 3

Orange juice prices reached their highest point in three years after a government agency in Brazil, the world's top producer, said the orange crop would fall.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/f62017e0-e778-11df-b5b4-00144feab49a.html>

Trade Powers Spar over Outstanding Doha Issues, *Reuters, November 3*

Major trade powers sparred over what needed to be done to finish the long-running Doha round amid a flurry of recent activity to revive the stalled talks. Ambassadors to the World Trade Organization from Brazil, China, the European Union, India and the United States agreed that much valuable work had already been done on Doha. But they disagreed whether a lot or a little was needed to finish the talks, launched nine years ago this month to open global commerce and help developing countries prosper through more trade.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE6A12E920101102>

SEE ALSO: Doha Benefit Seen in Blocking Protectionism, *Reuters, November 2*

Preventing countries from backsliding on cuts in tariffs they have undertaken unilaterally could be the biggest gain from the long-running Doha round to free up world trade, economists said on Tuesday.

<http://in.reuters.com/article/idINIndia-52627220101102>

Sugar Soars to 30-Year High as Supply Fears Grow, *Financial Times, November 2*

The price of sugar has jumped to a 30-year high as the Brazilian harvest has tailed off sharply, hardening expectations of a shortage.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/43cfbb7a-e6b2-11df-99b3-00144feab49a.html>

Cotton Clothing Price Tags to Rise, *New York Times, November 2*

As of Tuesday morning, the price of cotton (measured by cotton futures for December delivery) had hit a record high on worries that cold weather in China might have damaged some crops.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/03/business/03cotton.html?src=me&ref=general>

Nokia Taking a Rural Road to Growth, *New York Times, November 1*

The cellphone maker will expand its agricultural data service to Nigeria as it continues its push into emerging markets.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/11/02/technology/02nokia.html>

Food Inflation Accelerating as Cooking Oil Poised to Catch Grains, *Bloomberg, November 1*

Cooking oils, left behind in this year's surge in agriculture prices, are poised to catch up with grains as record demand cuts stockpiles by the most in 17 years.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-10-31/food-inflation-rising-as-cooking-oil-poised-to-catch-up-with-grain-gains.html>

Plan to Pakistan to Export Wheat Generates Criticism, *Wall Street Journal, November 1*

Pakistan's most-populous province wants to export wheat just a few months after deadly flooding, sparking criticism from some aid groups that say the food situation remains too precarious to support the diversion of wheat overseas.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704865104575588343313777962.html>

Corn Futures Decline as Rains Bolster Crop Prospects in Brazil, Argentina, *Bloomberg, November 1*

Corn dropped from a two-year high and soybeans fell for the first time in six sessions as rain in South American improved crop prospects. Some fields in Brazil got as much as 2.8 inches (7.1 centimeters) of rain in the past three days, and more precipitation in the next two weeks will boost depleted top-soil moisture, World Weather Inc. said today in a report. Argentina will be dry in the next five days before rains return.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-01/corn-futures-decline-as-rains-bolster-crop-prospects-in-brazil-argentina.html>

Green Fields: Commodity Spike to Boost Costs of Food in 2011, *Des Moines Register, October 31*

Food costs are expected to rise 2 to 3 percent in 2011, which would be the largest jump since the 5.5 percent increase in 2008, the last year there was a big jump in the price of corn and other commodities. The price jump in 2008 brought a torrent of criticism on federal biofuel policies. This year, food costs are expected to be up just 0.5 percent to 1.5 percent, the lowest increase since 1992, Agriculture Department economists say.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=201010310327>

Lazy Mindset Misses African Growth Story, *John Dizard, Financial Times, October 31*

What is working now, and what is creating a sustainable expansion of investable African opportunities, is growth from below. Yes, Africa is a commodity exporting continent, and it is earning much more from exports of metals, oil, and agricultural commodities. This leads even those investors who do think about Africa to think of it as subset of the "China story". China needs copper, iron, coal, and oil. Africa has these. When China needs less of those, then Africa sinks back.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/d2184bc4-e386-11df-8ad3-00144feabdc0.html>

Africa's Intra-Regional Trade Lowest, Says WB, *AllAfrica, October 29*

The World Bank has said Africa's intra-regional trade standing at only 10 per cent remains the lowest despite trade groupings instituted by governments over the past decade.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201011010991.html>

China Rejects U.S. Corn Cargo, Citing GMOs, *Reuters, October 29*

China has rejected a cargo of U.S. corn after finding it contained an unsanctioned genetically modified strain, two sources familiar with the situation said.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE69S23U20101029>

AGRIBUSINESS

Media Articles:

Fairtrade is Accused of Doing Less for Coffee Farmers than Starbucks, *Guardian, November 4*

Fairtrade's requirements reflect 'whims of western consumers' rather than needs of those in developing world, says report

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2010/nov/04/multinations-development-fairtrade-report>

Food Sellers Grit Teeth, Raise Prices, *Wall Street Journal, November 4*

Prices of staples including milk, beef, coffee, cocoa and sugar have risen sharply in recent months. And food makers and retailers including McDonald's Corp., Kellogg Co. and Kroger Co. have begun to signal that they'll try to make consumers shoulder more of the higher costs for ingredients.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704506404575592313664715360.html>

SEE ALSO: Kellogg Net Falls as Cereal Sales Slip, *Wall Street Journal, November 3*

Kellogg Co.'s third-quarter earnings fell 6.4%, as the food company again was hurt by weakness in some cereal markets and the lingering impact of a June cereal recall.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704462704575590042532410032.html>

U.S. Ethanol Credit May Be Cut by House Republicans, *Bloomberg, November 3*

A Republican takeover of the House of Representatives and other election victories may mean that U.S. subsidies aiding ethanol producers will be cut after the party pledged to reduce government spending.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-11-03/u-s-ethanol-credit-may-be-cut-by-house-republicans.html>

ADM Fails to Exploit Wheat Ban, *Financial Times, November 3*

Archer Daniels Midland's profit fell by nearly a third in the latest quarter after it was wrong-footed by the Russian wheat crisis last summer. The Illinois-based agribusiness company said Russia's shutdown of grain shipments after the worst drought in a century tripped up its trading operations.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/fcd7caf6-e6b0-11df-99b3-00144feab49a.html>

Canada Rejects BHP Bid for Potash, *CNN, November 3*

Canada has rejected BHP Billiton's \$39bn bid for PotashCorp, dealing a potentially fatal blow to the Australian miner's 10-week pursuit of the Saskatchewan-based fertiliser producer.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/7ec4f380-e798-11df-8ade-00144feab49a.html>

SEE ALSO: BHP Faces Second Regulatory Defeat, *Financial Times, November 4*

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/97db86a2-e7a9-11df-8ade-00144feab49a.html>

SEE ALSO: Pressure Rises to Block PotashCorp Bid, *Financial Times*, October 31

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/92acd8da-e523-11df-8e0d-00144feabdc0.html>

Pioneer Food Group Expects to Pay Premium for Acquisition of Winemaker KWV, *Bloomberg*, November 3

Pioneer Foods Ltd. expects to pay a premium for its acquisition of KWV Holdings Ltd., the country's second-largest wine and spirits company, Managing Director Andre Hanekom said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2010-11-03/pioneer-food-group-expects-to-pay-premium-for-acquisition-of-winemaker-kwv.html>

Biofuel Power Stations in Planning Pipeline, *Guardian*, November 2

Two new power stations that use a fuel critics say contributes to the destruction of rainforest in south-east Asia may be built in the UK through subsidies added to customer bills.

The two plants in the south of England would run on palm oil, which in many cases is sourced from plantations sited on cleared rainforest land

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/nov/02/biofuel-power-stations>

Nestlé Chairman Focuses on Global Water and Food Security at Harvard, *Webwire*, November 1

Nestlé Chairman Peter Brabeck-Letmathe addressed the issues of global water and food security at Harvard Kennedy School in the United States last week.

<http://www.webwire.com/ViewPressRel.asp?aId=125799>

Banner Photograph: © Ray Witlin / World Bank