

## **Full Planet, Empty Plates**

### **Supporting Data for Chapter 10: The Global Land Rush**

#### [Selected Large-Scale Acquisitions in the Global Land Rush](#)

#### [Large-scale Land Acquisitions by Project Type, October 2008 – August 2009](#)

GRAPH: Large-scale Land Acquisitions by Project Type, October 2008 – August 2009

#### [Large-scale Land Acquisition Area by Target Region, October 2008 – August 2009](#)

GRAPH: Large-scale Land Acquisition Area by Target Region, October 2008 – August 2009

A full listing of data for the entire book is on-line at:

[http://www.earth-policy.org/books/fpep/fpep\\_data](http://www.earth-policy.org/books/fpep/fpep_data)

This is part of a supporting dataset for Lester R. Brown, **Full Planet, Empty Plates: The New Geopolitics of Food Scarcity** (New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 2012). For more information, see Earth Policy Institute on-line at [www.earth-policy.org](http://www.earth-policy.org).

## Selected Large-Scale Acquisitions in the Global Land Rush

Target Country	Description
Brazil	State-owned Chinese firm Chongqing Grain Group has reportedly begun harvesting soybeans on some 500,000 acres in Brazil's Bahia state for export to China. The Group announced in early 2011 that as part of a multibillion-dollar investment package in Bahia, it would develop a soybean industrial park with facilities capable of crushing 1.5 million tons of soybeans per year.
Cambodia	In 2009, Singapore-based firm HLH Group began farming corn on roughly 35,000 acres it leased for 70 years in Kampong Speu province, 30 miles from the capital Phnom Penh.
Ethiopia	Saudi Star Agricultural Development, owned by Saudi billionaire Mohammed Al-Amoudi, leased 24,700 acres for rice production in Ethiopia's Gambella region in 2010. Paying less than \$1.00 per acre per year for this 50-year lease, the firm was growing rice on just 860 acres as of mid-2012. Eventually, Saudi Star intends to obtain another 716,000 acres in the region, with much of the rice harvest to be exported to Saudi Arabia.
Ethiopia	In 2008, Indian firm Karuturi Global, the world's largest cut rose grower, was offered up to 740,000 acres of land for farming in Ethiopia's Gambella region. Although heavy flooding ruined its first corn crop in 2011, Karuturi is pushing ahead with farming on its 50-year lease. The company is also exploring large land leases in other African countries, including Senegal, Mozambique, and Tanzania.
Liberia	Having signed a 63-year lease with the Government of Liberia in April 2009, Malaysian palm oil giant Sime Darby intends to develop oil palm and rubber plantations on a total 540,000 acres. The company planted its first oil palm seedling on the acquired land in May 2011; it plans to gradually put all of the acreage into production by 2030.
Russia	South Korea's Hyundai Heavy Industries has purchased two Russian farms totaling more than 40,000 acres north of Vladivostok. The firm planned to produce 16,000 tons of corn, oats, wheat, and soybeans on this land in 2012, all of it destined for South Korea.
South Sudan; Sudan	Egyptian private equity company Citadel Capital has leased a 260,000-acre swath of land in newly independent South Sudan to grow chickpeas, corn, and sorghum, and another of roughly the same size in Sudan's White Nile State to grow wheat. In 2011, Citadel harvested its first wheat crop on 3,000 acres of the Sudanese land.
Sudan	In 2012, United Arab Emirates (UAE) firm Al Ghurair Foods announced plans to grow grains and soybeans on 247,000 acres it leased for 99 years in Sudan, with harvests to be exported to the UAE and other Gulf region countries.

Source: Compiled by Earth Policy Institute, June 2012.

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## Large-scale Land Acquisitions by Project Type, October 2008 – August 2009

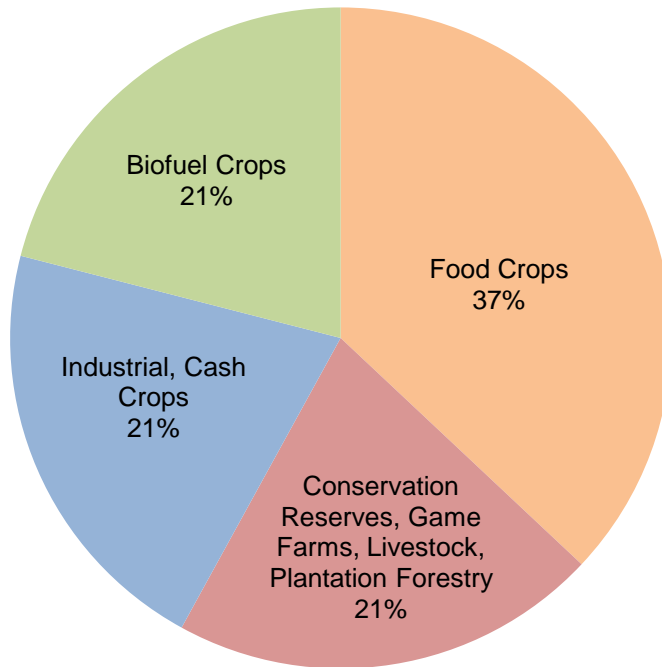
Project Type	Share of Acquisitions*
	Percent
Food crops	37
Conservation reserves, game farms, livestock, plantation forestry	21
Industrial, cash crops	21
Biofuel crops	21

\* Out of a total 464 projects, the World Bank team identified 405 projects for which information about developers' intentions for the land were known. Only 20 percent of these projects, including 6 percent of those intended for food production, were considered to be in production at the time of the Bank's analysis.

Source: Media reports gathered by the nongovernmental organization GRAIN and posted to its blog <http://farmlandgrab.org> were researched, aggregated, and analyzed in Klaus Deininger and Derek Byerlee, *Rising Global Interest in Farmland: Can It Yield Sustainable and Equitable Benefits?* (Washington, DC: World Bank, January 2011), pp. 49-53.

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## Large-scale Land Acquisitions by Project Type, October 2008 – August 2009



**Total Projects: 405**

*Source: GRAIN data compiled by Deininger and Byerlee (2011)*

## Large-scale Land Acquisition Area by Target Region, October 2008 – August 2009

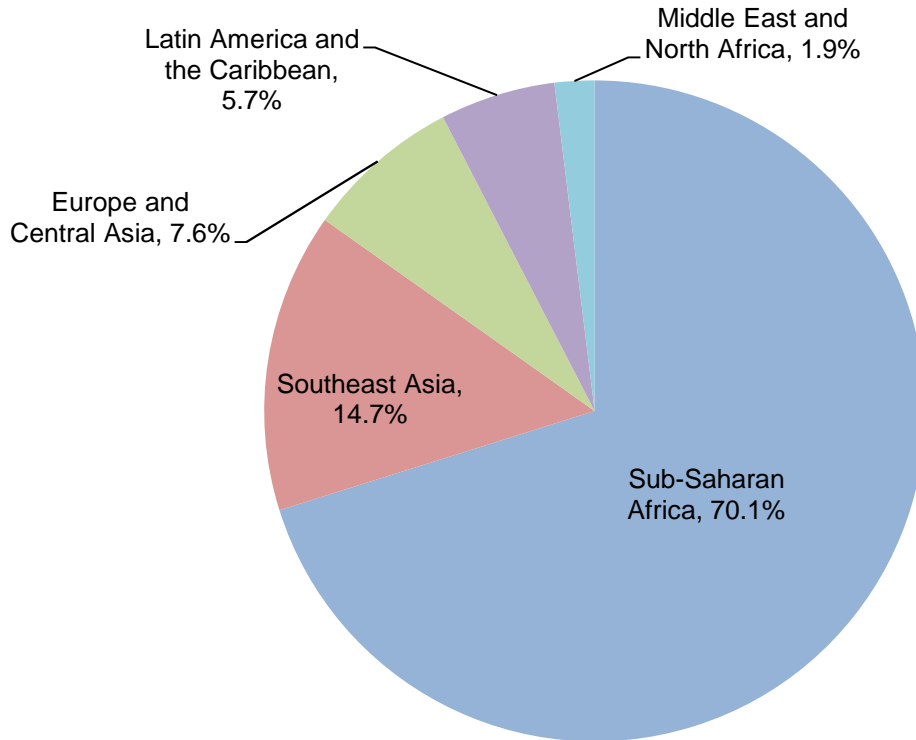
Target Region	Share of Acquisitions*
	Percent
Sub-Saharan Africa	70.1
Southeast Asia	14.7
Europe and Central Asia	7.6
Latin America and the Caribbean	5.7
Middle East and North Africa	1.9

\* Out of 464 projects, the World Bank team identified 203 projects for which the land area involved was known, totaling 56.6 million hectares (roughly 140 million acres).

Source: Media reports gathered by the nongovernmental organization GRAIN and posted to its blog <http://farmlandgrab.org> were researched, aggregated, and analyzed in Klaus Deininger and Derek Byerlee, *Rising Global Interest in Farmland: Can It Yield Sustainable and Equitable Benefits?* (Washington, DC: World Bank, January 2011), pp. 49-53.

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## Large-scale Land Acquisition Area by Target Region, October 2008 – August 2009



**Total Area: 56.6 million hectares in 203 projects**

*Source: GRAIN data compiled by Deininger and Byerlee (2011)*