



Weekly Nile Basin Media Radar

A service brought to you by NBI Secretariat

26th – 30th September, 2016

#NileCooperation

The potential for agriculture production in the Nile Basin is large. As a region, it would be possible to produce and trade sufficient agricultural outputs to ensure the food security of millions of people within the region, and possibly to become a major producer of certain cash crops such as coffee and tea within global markets. At the moment, much of this potential remains out of reach for a number of reasons – natural, social, economic, institutional and political. These obstacles, coupled with poor infrastructure to support supply and value chain processes, make it extremely difficult to transform potential opportunities into real investments.

#Opportunities&Challenges

<https://web.facebook.com/NileBasinInitiative/>

#SaveWetlands

When threatened, nature fights back: A case for wetlands

At a glance, wetlands – large expanses of swamps – seem like public nuisances, a waste of space; occupying prime land which could otherwise be turned into sprawling shopping malls, hotels or theme parks devoid of any green. Indeed, several wetlands in the Nile Basin have undergone degradation due to multiple contributing factors; settlements and urbanisation by an ever growing population, reclamation and conversion for agriculture. Other factors are upstream infrastructural development, over-exploitation by local communities and climate change.

<http://bit.ly/2danoYl>

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<http://bit.ly/2doONGS>

Wetlands: When threatened, nature will always fight back

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<http://bit.ly/2dfF4Sm>

Ethiopia: Landmark railway line blazes path to seaports

In a landmark first for Africa, a railway line linking Ethiopia, the continent's second-most populous country, an Djibouti, a small nation in the Horn of Africa, has been completed, drastically cutting Ethiopia's costs for accessing world markets. A government-organised media tour Saturday touted the flagship project, mostly funded by China, and set to officially open in October.

<http://bit.ly/2dlvRvo>

Ethiopia to export hydro to Tanzania

Tanzania has agreed to purchase 400MW hydroelectricity from Ethiopia, the fourth African nation to sign a power purchase deal with the country joining Kenya, Djibouti and Sudan. Ethiopia's national power company (EEP) announced the deal at the end of August, with CEO Azeb Asnake stating that the agreement between the two countries "will foster economic integration and strengthen multilateral ties between the two countries."

<http://bit.ly/2dary2y>



NILE BASIN INITIATIVE
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Uganda and Ethiopia big winners at East African Power Industry Awards in Nairobi this week

Uganda scored a double victory at the East African Power Industry Awards with the country not only winning the special Recognition Award for outstanding leadership in the sector, but also scooping the Award for Excellence in Power Transmission or Distribution for the second year in a row.

<http://bit.ly/2dsZE1q>

Ethiopia's unflinching commitment to ensure mutual benefits

Ethiopia has been employing discussion and cooperation as a lasting principle on the use of Nile. For long, nation has been making tireless call to all Nile riparian countries to burgeon cooperation between them and break impasse of Nile cooperation that rooted since colonial time. The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) being constructed for the sake of electric power generation only has no intention to induce impact on lower riparian countries as the water is made only to rotate turbines and flow back to its natural course, its volume without being affected.

<http://bit.ly/2dBC5mO>