

**Disclaimer of liability:** The purpose of this newsletter is to forward information our office collects from different sources. It's a private and internal document sent to selected Belgian companies only. This document cannot be re-disseminated, published, recopied, quoted or go public. Neither the Embassy of Belgium, nor the Belgian Trade Agencies nor the office based in Nairobi, nor any of their employees, nor any company or person mentioned on the following pages, makes any warranty, express or implied, including the warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights.

October 2017 Issue No 74

## IN A GLANCE

The new EU Commission online portal <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/tradehelp/> detailing guidelines for exporters to access the European single market has been online since 26 September 2017.

The International Finance Company is investing up to **Sh619 million (\$6million)** in **mobile tech firm** Africa's talking, with the funds earmarked for the company's expansion in Africa. (Business Daily)

The UK government and a number of impact investors have raised **Sh8 billion** to fund a **solar project** that will light a million homes in Kenya and Uganda. (Daily Nation)

The [AfDB Statistical Data Portal](#). It is possible to visualize – per African country – Socio-Economic indicators over a period of time and get access to presentation-ready graphics. It provides info/statistics/indexes performance and rankings in different segments.

## ETHIOPIA

The World Bank has signed a **\$1.3 billion** loan and grant agreement with Ethiopia to **improve governance** and fund an anti-poverty package that provides financial relief for people facing food shortages. (The Standard)

Ethiopia earned **115.4 million USD** in the past fiscal year from the **export of leather** and leather products. This was disclosed by Leather Industry Development Institute (LEDI). <http://www.2merkato.com/news/alerts/5203-ethiopia-earned-1154-million-usd-from-leather-and-leather-products-export>

## KENYA

The EU had pledged to give the Laikipia county government **SH110 million** to **promote agriculture**. (The Standard)

A government agency and foreign donors are to invest over **Sh 63 billion** to construct a **hydro-electric- plant** in Kerio Valley region to boost electricity supply to the national grid. (Daily Nation)

The Government has received a **Sh15.5 billion** loan from the World Bank to finance electricity connectivity in arid and semi Arid counties ,the money will be used to purchase **solar –powered** mini-arid and are far from the national grid. (The Standard)

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is providing a **\$3 million (Sh309.8)** loan to fund the expansion of **Good life pharmacy** in Kenya and Uganda (Business Daily)

The African Development Bank (AFDB) will fund a **Sh2 billion water project** in Bomet County. The Project to be implemented by the Lake Victoria South Water Service Board will commence on January Next year. (Business Daily)

Commercial Bank of Africa, the country's largest privately owned lender, has secured a **Sh9.297 billion (\$90 million)** facility from the African Development Bank (AFDB) for on **lending largely to credit starved small and medium sized enterprises** ( business Daily).

Kenya's hotel industry is set for a major boost after Hilton global hotel chain announced a **\$50 million (Sh 5 billion)** investment to renovate and rebrand 29 hotels in Africa. (The Standard).

Owners of **Lake Turkana Wind Power** are set to receive a lump sum of **Sh5.7 billion**. The amount is for penalties arising from the Kenyan government's failure to connect power from the project to the national grid in breach of contractual terms. <https://constructionreviewonline.com>

The World Bank's investment arm International Finance Corporation (IFC) has approved an **\$11.8 million** loan to a **flower farm** in Kenya. Underlining the return of agriculture as a key investment option. (The East African)

The county has signed a pact with the European Union to establish a **potato seedling** multiplication plant in the area. The EU committed to provide **Sh120 million** to the development of the plant.

## RWANDA

---

Symbion Energy and Highland Group Holdings Ltd. (HGHL) has signed an agreement that sees HGHL co-invest **US\$100m** towards the implementation of a **US\$370** project. The agreement signing involves a **106MW of methane gas** generated power on Rwanda's Lake Kivu. <https://constructionreviewonline.com/2017/09/symbion-energy-signs-us100m-agreement-rwandas-lake-kivu-methane-gas-generated-power/>

The government of Rwanda has received a grant from the Belgian Kingdom within the framework of improving access to **reliable on-grid electricity** service for households and public priority institutions. The Belgian contribution to EARP will include upgrading the Rubavu Network from 6.6kV to 30kV and upgrading the single phase network in the eastern province to a three phase network. <https://www.esi-africa.com/tenders/rwanda-earp-upgrade-rubavu-network/>

## TANZANIA

---

The World Bank has approved a **150-million-US- dollar** credit for development of **nature based tourism** in Southern Tanzania (Daily Nation)

## UGANDA

---

**Bujagali Energy Ltd** seeks to mobilise a total of **\$500 million**, which will enable it to reduce its electricity tariffs. The new 15-year debt will be sourced from the international market and will be used to settle current existing short-term debt whose heavy repayments have required Bujagali to price its electricity higher than other sources, the East African reported. <https://www.esi-africa.com/news/ugandans-bujagali-energy-ltd-gains-ifc-support/>

## BURUNDI

---

Burundi has signed a deal with International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) that will see vulnerable groups including women and youth **access financial services** IFAD will provide **\$24.9 million** inform of a grant while Bujumbura and the beneficiaries will contribute the remaining amount. (The East Africa)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

---

A **Belgian Business delegation** composed of 53 business people will travel to Uganda & Kenya to promote trade relations and projects. A B2B session will take place at the **Sheraton Kampala** on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November** and at the **Radisson Nairobi** on the **Thursday 30 November**. The profile of the delegation is available by emailing [Nairobi@belemb.eu](mailto:Nairobi@belemb.eu)