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AFRICA FREE ZONES

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INVESTMENTS IN AFRICAN FREE ZONES

China Engineering Corporation (CEEC) secured a contract to build a 400 MW combined cycle plant in Nigeria. The facility which will be built in Sagamu (Ogun state) is estimated at $550 million, but the contract's value was not disclosed. Under the terms of the agreement, the Chinese company will be charged with the development, material's acquisition and construction of the plant. "Energy China is leading the financing of the project with strong support from International banks in China," said Samuel Marcus, the CEO of Sagamu Independent Power Plant (SIPP). The company expects to raise the required money by Q3 2018 and commission the plant by 2020. The construction works will be carried out in two stages. During the first stage, a 250-MW plant will be built and during the second stage, it will be extended to 400MW.

Source : www.ecofinagency.com

The Ethiopian Shipping and Logistics Service Enterprise said it would construct four dry ports in the coming two years. The ports are expected to create market chains with the expanding industrial parks and railway lines. In addition to the Dire Dawa Dry Port, which is now being built at the cost of 1.9 billion Birr and 75 percent completed, the new ports will be installed in Mekelle, Woreta, Kombolcha and Hawassa towns, the Enterprise told Fana Broadcasting Corporate. It is also planned to link these five dry ports, including the Port of Dire Dawa, with railway lines and industrial parks that are expanded in the country. Dire Dawa port is expected to be connected to the Ethio-Djibouti railway. The Mekele dry port, which is about 15 kilometers far from Mekele Industrial Park, is said lies at about 42 hectares of land. Feasibility study for Mekele Port has been done and this Port will be completed this year at the cost of 2 billion birr.

source: AllAfrica.com

DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA FREE ZONE

Senegal expects to produce 150,000 tons of potatoes this year. Compared to the volume produced last year, this represents an increase by 32,000 tons, APS reports.This output should enable the country to meet its local demand (95,000 tons) and increase its exports at the same time. During the launch of the harvests, Macoumba Diouf, the national director of horticulture said that this year, government's subvention for the seed is CFA3.4 billion against CFA130 million in 2013. Let's note that the crop is mainly grown in Niayes, in the northwestern part of Senegal which is one of the top 5 largest suppliers of potato in West Africa.

Source: Allafrica.com

Kenya's flower industry is adopting high-quality standards to grow its market share and ward off competition from emerging flower-growing countries in an increasingly competitive global market. The making of the Kenyan Flower brand means growers are now optimizing on available resources to get the best cut flower, and also taking advantage of global events such Valentines days - which accounts for almost 30 percent of all roses sold in a year. Flower farmers are also innovating around the efficient use of water which has saved growers from the biting drought in 2017 with sales estimated to close at over Sh71 billion up from Sh65 billion in 2016. Kenya's market share in the EU is expected to rise to 40 percent, consolidating its second position after Netherlands, while at the same time growing its market in the over 45 other countries it exports to.

The prospects for 2018 look promising due to favorable weather and emerging new markets such as the Far East, Korea, Australia and Eastern Europe for Kenya's cut flower product. With a global market share of 7 percent, Kenya is the fourth largest exporter of cut flowers behind The Netherlands, Colombia and Equador.

Source: allAfrica.com