

Spotlight

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Emirates develops innovative application to reduce aircraft turnaround delays at Dubai hub

Emirates passengers travelling from or transiting through Dubai International Airport (DXB) can expect fewer instances of delays associated with aircraft turnaround thanks to a new innovative application built in-house by Emirates called the Hub Monitor.

Hub Monitor is being used by Emirates' operational staff in Dubai to share and monitor real time information on the various activities that are carried out to prepare an aircraft for departure. Through its monitoring and proactive alerting system, the application helps avoid delays and improve on-time performance ultimately leading to a better passenger experience.

Adel Al Redha, Emirates Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer said: "The Hub Monitor application is a unique and innovative tool developed in line with our vision to continuously re-examine our processes and introduce smart and more efficient means to improve our operations resulting in better passenger experience. Our Operations team in coordination with IT have led the development of the hub monitoring system in a record time of five months, building on an existing solution that was already developed by Emirates Engineering. The team examining the various functions of Hub Monitor in real time are working to roll out further modules and the next module will be implemented later this month."

European Investment Bank confirms support for EUR 495m transformational investment across Africa at Vienna summit

At the Africa Europe High Level Forum in Vienna today the European Investment Bank formally agreed a total of EUR 495 million of new financing for three projects to support sustainable transport, clean energy and internet access projects in North, West and East Africa.

The three projects, signed at the summit attended by heads of state and government from across Africa and Europe, demonstrate the European Investment Bank's technical and financial support for life-changing investment across the continent.

"New investment is crucial to unlock economic opportunities, improve lives and tackle the impact of a changing climate. As the EU Bank, the European Investment Bank is committed to ensuring the sustainable development goals can be achieved in Africa. Sustainable transport, clean energy and communications networks are shared challenges for Europe and Africa. Working together we can improve the lives of millions. The three projects signed today are more evidence of this," said Dr. Werner Hoyer, President of the European Investment Bank.

At 60th commemoration, ECA launches Africa Poverty Clock to monitor progress against extreme poverty

At its 60th anniversary celebrations this week in Addis Ababa, the Economic Commission for Africa launched the Africa Poverty Clock. The clock is a customized version of the world poverty clock developed by World Data Lab, aimed at monitoring progress against extreme poverty, an aspiration of the United Nations' first Sustainable Development Goal - SDG1. The Clock provides real-time poverty estimates till 2030 for the majority of countries around the world.

Speaking at the launch, the ECA Executive Secretary, Vera Songwe said that many African countries have achieved remarkable progress over the last six decades.

"We have seen African economies labelled as some of the fastest growing in the world. Africa today is an Africa that has risen and one whose economic autonomy is underway, moving from political independence to economic independence," she said.

SAFETY FIRST



PHOTO: Ammanh Adiba

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PHOTO: Ammanh Adiba

WAITING AND SLEEPING

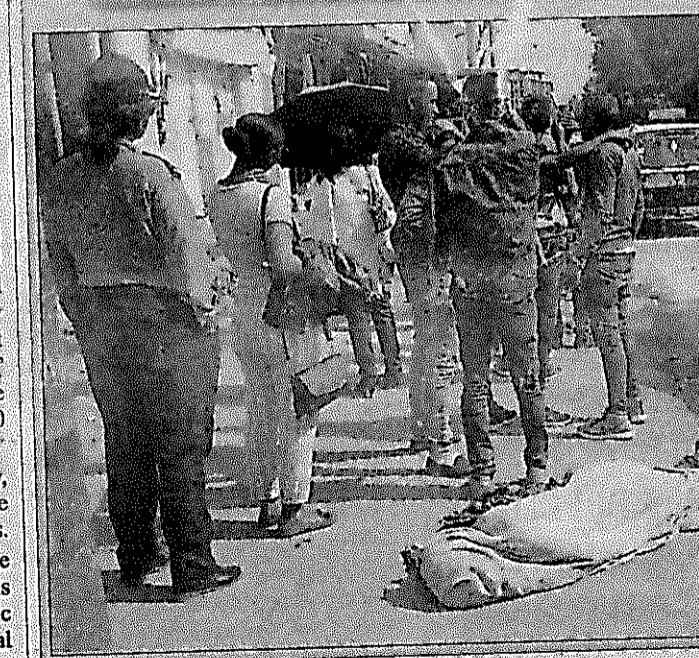


PHOTO: Ammanh Adiba

Ethiopia's digital platform guiding investors to the country launched in Addis Ababa

Ethiopia's online investment guide, iGuide, which seeks to help investors discover opportunities in the country, business costs, key procedures and laws they may need to know before committing their money, was officially unveiled in Addis Ababa Wednesday.

The web-based investment promotion tool was launched in the presence of Shumete Gizaw, Ethiopia's Minister of Innovation and Technology; Fitsum Arega, Commissioner of the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC), and Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

The iGuide covers a wide range of topics deemed relevant to investment consideration and will serve as the first point of contact for domestic and international companies and businesspeople interested in investing in Ethiopia.

The platform highlights the various investment opportunities in the country and provides information on the costs, laws and regulations related to various aspects of investment, such as business set-up, labour, taxation, and access to land.

The iGuide was developed by the EIC with support from the ECA and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and was designed to attract productive investment into the country.

Investment can create a "win-win" scenario for the private sector as well as the host economy, Shumete said at the launch.

The Minister expressed hope that this communication and "empowerment" tool will serve to "enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Ethiopian business ecosystem" and help "build impactful relations" with investors and assist the country in its quest to become a major manufacturing hub.

Addis Ababa fire fighters share experiences with Hawassa Industrial Park

Since 2011, the U.S. Forest Service, in support of USAID/Ethiopia, has been working with the Addis Ababa Fire and Emergency Prevention and Rescue Authority (FEPA) to help fire fighters and emergency responders build capacity in urban emergency management and response. The Forest Service collaborated with FEPA to enhance its training academy program, a residential multi-week training facility that targets elite urban fire fighters in Addis Ababa, through intensive training programs, curriculum development, and standard operating procedures. Since that time, FEPA's leadership has envisioned the role of the training center as a hub to service emergency responders from other cities across Ethiopia, sharing its expertise broadly across Ethiopia.

Recently, Wondwosen Teka, Management Director of Ethiopia's Industrial Parks Development Corporation (IPDC) turned to the leadership at FEPA for assistance in developing the skills of fire fighters at three industrial parks. Industrial Parks development is a huge national endeavor and protecting its assets is critical for Ethiopia's economy. "Our partnership with FEPA is making our industrial parks a safer workplace and ensures we comply with requirements from our investors and buyers," said Wondwosen. In the summer of 2018, 74 fire fighters from IPDC graduated from a three-month intensive program at FEPA and were assigned to their respective industrial parks, a \$100,000 investment.

The IPDC - FEPA collaboration has already shown results. Since the training, fire fighters at the Hawassa Industrial Park have successfully controlled six incidents. The team has also been called upon by the city of Hawassa to assist with other emergencies, outside of the Industrial Park. "The strengthened technical capacity of FEPA is allowing IPDC to establish fire departments with well-trained firefighters in its industrial parks," noted Wondwosen.