**January 31, 2013**

[**China Poly Group to Invest in Venezuela State of Tachira**](http://sinolatincapital.posterous.com/china-poly-group-to-invest-in-venezuelan-stat)

Sinolatincapital

The state government of Tachira, Venezuela, has reached an agreement with Chinese company China Poly Group to carry out housing and urban development projects.

[**Huge Chinese expo center planned for Cancun riles Mexican businesses, environmentalists**](http://www.miamiherald.com/2013/01/30/3208629/huge-chinese-expo-center-planned.html)

Miami Herald

The proposed complex would house 3,040 showrooms, divided among 14 industrial sectors and targeting wholesalers from across Latin America. Projections estimate that it would draw 1 million people a year to a resort that already is the most popular beach destination in the Western Hemisphere.

[**Chinalco completes Toromocho copper project town relocation, awaiting permits**](http://member.bnamericas.com/news/mining/chinalco-completes-toromocho-copper-project-town-relocation-awaiting-permits)

BN Americas

Chinese-owned miner Chinalco Perú has completed the relocation of 5,000 residents to the town of Morococha, Junín region, to make way for its US$3.6bn Toromocho copper-molybdenum-silver project, Chinalco's corporate relations manager, Álvaro Barrenechea, told BNamericas.

[**Chile continues Asian trade push, Peru seeks more US investors**](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/waterandwaste/chile-continues-asian-trade-push-peru-seeks-more-us-investors3)

BN Americas

While the Chilean government is continuing its strong drive to open up new markets in Asia, the Peruvian government is seeking to lure more US investors to its shores.

[**BNDES approves U.S. $ 154 million for Peugeot Citroën**](http://www.valor.com.br/empresas/2989924/bndes-aprova-financiamento-de-r-154-milhoes-para-peugeot-citroen)

Valor

The National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES) announced in a statement the approval of R$ 154 million to Peugeot Citroën Brazil. The funds will be used to develop a new car model, the Peugeot 208, according to the bank. (In Portuguese)

[**The Caterpillar Foundation arrives with an educational program of U.S. $ 3 million**](http://ht.ly/hgfHF)

ComunicaRSE

The Resource Foundation (TRF) and Caterpillar Foundation announced the launch of a joint $3 million campaign to benefit more than 11,000 children in Latin America. The campaign will reach Caterpillar’s key countries such as Brazil, Mexico and Panama and countries such as Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Peru and Uruguay.

**January 30, 2013**

[**Mexico: The New China**](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/01/27/opinion/sunday/the-tijuana-connection-a-template-for-growth.html?src=un&feedurl=http://json8.nytimes.com/pages/opinion/index.jsonp&_r=2&)

The New York Times

Today, what Shenzhen is to Hong Kong, Tijuana is becoming to San Diego. You can drive from our San Diego engineering center to our Tijuana factory in 20 minutes, no passport required. In some ways, the border feels more like the notional borders of the European Union than a divide between the developed and developing worlds.

[**Rosneft to invest $10bln to Venezuela**](http://rt.com/business/news/rosneft-invest-venezuela-oil-gas-065/)

RT

The Russian energy company Rosneft plans to deepen its cooperation with Venezuela and invest $10 billion to the country’s oil and gas projects.

[**Samsung Extends Its Reach Into Health Care**](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323375204578271254100159598.html?KEYWORDS=samsung)

The Wall Street Journal

Samsung's diversification is similar to a long-term historical pattern. U.S.-based General Electric Co., Europe's Philips Electronics and Siemens AG, which used to be major consumer-electronics players, have long shifted their focus toward medical and other industrial operations.

[**Pacific alliance pledges to liberalize intra-trade for 90% of products by March 31**](http://www.excelsior.com.mx/2013/01/28/nacional/881383)

Excelsior

Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru made the announcement over the weekend in Santiago de Chile. A Pacific Alliance scholarship program was also announced. Guatemala and Japan to become observers. (In Spanish)

**January 29, 2013**

[**Rise of self-funded supply chain finance threatens banks' business models**](http://www.euromoney.com/Article/3147353/Category/9544/ChannelPage/8959/Rise-of-self-funded-supply-chain-finance-threatens-banks-business-models.html?type=CategoryArticle&ArticleId=3147353&CategoryID=9544&PageID=8959&copyrightInfo=true)

Euromoney

Cash-rich companies are self-funding their supply chain finance (SCF) programmes, in a growing sign of disintermediation. Simplicity and cross-product offerings are key to ensuring banks adapt to the growing popularity of self-funded structures.

[**Smartcity Santiago will be operating from the second half of 2013**](http://comunicarseweb.com.ar/?Smartcity_Santiago_estara_operando_a_partir_del_segundo_semestre_de_2013&page=ampliada&id=10032&_s=&_page=buscar)

ComunicaRSE

Chilectra, a subsidiary of Enersis, part of Italian group ENEL, and leading distributor of electricity in the country with more than 1.6 million customers signed an agreement with ciudad empresarial to develop a smart city prototype. SmartCity focuses in energy sustainability. (In Spanish)

[**Anglo takes $4bn hit on Brazil iron ore**](http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/4f2e3cee-69e6-11e2-a80c-00144feab49a.html)

Financial Times

Anglo American is to take a $4bn writedown on the value of its delayed Minas-Rio iron ore project in Brazil after the cost of developing the mine and associated infrastructure spiralled.

**January 28, 2013**

[**Sompo Japan To Raise Stake In Brazilian Insurer**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/tnks/Nni20130124D2401A02.htm)

Nikkei

Sompo Japan Insurance Inc. is expected to increase its ownership of Maritima Seguros SA, a midsize Brazilian insurer, from 50% to more than 80% with an additional investment of nearly 10 billion yen ($110 million).

[**Latin America Report: Canadian-Led Consortium Taps Solar Power from Ecuador**](http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/article/2013/01/latin-america-report-canadian-led-consortium-taps-solar-power-from-ecuador?utm_source=BenchmarkEmail&utm_campaign=Jan_24_2013_Email&utm_medium=email)

Renewable Energy World

A consortium of renewable energy developers led by Canadian firms Solexica Energy Corp., JCM Capital, and Radical Energy Inc. has signed a 20-year concession agreement with CONELEC (Consejo Nacional de Electricidad) to purchase electricity generated by solar power plants in the Republic of Ecuador.

[**Latin America and Caribbean PV Demand Growing 45% Annually Out To 2017**](http://www.renewableenergyworld.com/rea/news/article/2013/01/latin-america-and-caribbean-pv-demand-growing-45-annually-out-to-2017)

Renewable Energy World

Demand for solar photovoltaic (PV) energy across Latin America and the Caribbean is poised for explosive growth through 2017, with a forecasted compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 45%, according to the new NPD Solarbuzz Emerging PV Markets Report: Latin America & Caribbean.

[**Chile seeks Thailand trade pact expansion**](http://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/chile-seeks-india-trade-pact-145700478.html)

Reuters

Chile hopes to sign a free trade agreement with Thailand soon and is seeking to expand a limited one it has with India, as the Andean country looks to deepen its open, export-dependent model, foreign affairs minister Alfredo Moreno said on Saturday.

[**Huawei's Smartphone Sales Eclipse Nokia, RIM**](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323854904578264234043436260.html?KEYWORDS=latin+america)

The Wall Street Journal

China's Huawei Technologies Co. has jumped ahead of Nokia Corp., HTC Corp. and Research In Motion Ltd. in the world-wide smartphone race. While just over half of Huawei's smartphone shipments went to China in the third quarter, some of Huawei's biggest gains last year were in Latin America and Eastern Europe, according to IDC.

**January 25, 2013**

[**Bahia State Expecting Chinese Investments of BRL 1.6 Billion**](http://www.correio24horas.com.br/noticias/detalhes/detalhes-1/artigo/wagner-fala-sobre-investimentos-chineses-na-bahia-seca-e-sistema-ferry-boat/?&)

Correio

According to the state Governor of Bahia, Jaques Wagner, the Brazilian state will see Chinese investments amounting to BRL 1.6 billion (USD 787 million) in the industrial sector in the coming years. (In Portuguese)

[**Costa Rica and China strengthen cooperation in agriculture and technology**](http://espanol.cri.cn/782/2013/01/24/1s268789.htm?&)

Brightwire

Costa Rica and China strengthened their relations with the signing of an agreement that promotes cooperation in agricultural science, technology and capacity building, said Wednesday the Costa Rican Ministry of Science and Technology (Micit).(In Spanish)

[**Brazil’s BNDES: crowding out, not crowding in**](http://blogs.ft.com/beyond-brics/2013/01/24/brazils-bndes-crowding-out-not-crowding-in/#axzz2IzeuT5QX)

Financial Times

The BNDES, Brazil’s government-owned development bank, lent more than it set out to last year, as loan requests and loans approved reached “levels without precedent in the history of Brazil”, as the bank itself put it. Sounds good? To many critics, it sounds like poison.

[**Investors Still Lured by Emerging Markets**](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324624404578257491251445534.html?KEYWORDS=latin+america)

The Wall Street Journal

The emerging markets of Asia, Latin America and Africa will continue to attract private capital flows this year at the expense of developed economies, which are still dogged by sluggish growth and low interest rates, the Institute of International Finance, a trade group of the world's largest banks.

**January 24, 2013**

[**China energy firm invests $1.36 bln in Chile**](http://www.morningwhistle.com/html/2013/whistle_0123/216813.html)

Morningwhistle

China's Sky Solar Holdings, a solar-energy developer, plans to invest $1.36 billion in Chile, the firm announced Tuesday. Sky Solar director for Latin America Chen Hong detailed his company's planned operations in Chile at a forum hosted by Chile's Foreign Investment Committee (CIE).

[**Japan Tests Social Investment Model for Solar**](http://www.sustainablebusiness.com/index.cfm/go/news.display/id/24479)

SustainableBusiness.com

A new model is being explored in Japan that promotes the spread of solar energy by using the profits generated by solar electricity to support the local community.  The profits generated at a 1.85 megawatt solar farm, Ryukoku Solar Park, will be donated to local communities, creating a model that provides funds to solve social problems, while fostering the spread of renewable energy.

[**Megabanks Lead Syndicated Loan Market In Asia In '12**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/tnks/Nni20130123D23EE807.htm)

Nikkei

For the first time ever, Japan's three megabanks were the top three lenders in Asia in 2012 by value of syndicated loans they lead-managed.According to data from Thomson Reuters, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp. led the bunch with loans of more than 8 billion dollars. Their increased presence in Asia's financial markets is due to a reduced supply of funds from European banks.

[**Denso To Invest $1bn In North American R&D, Production**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/fr/tnks/Nni20130121D2101N02.htm)

Nikkei

Autoparts manufacturer Denso Corpon Monday laid out plans to invest about 1 billion dollars, or roughly 89 billion yen, through fiscal 2015 to update and expand operations in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. More than 750 million dollars of the total is earmarked for the U.S. The remaining 150 million dollars or so will be spent on existing facilities in Canada and Mexico.

[**First Solar Stakes Claim in Latin America**](http://www.sustainablebusiness.com/index.cfm/go/news.display/id/24449)

SustainableBusiness.com

Delivering on its strategy to prioritize emerging markets with high-growth potential, First Solar is entering South America by acquiring a Chilean solar project developer. Solar Chile SA has more than 1.5 gigawatts (GW) of early to mid-stage projects in its portfolio across four regions of Northern Chile. The 50 megawatt (MW) project will be the first of many in the desert, which has the highest solar irradiance in the world.

[**Australian Algae Company Issues Bonds to Fund Americas Expansion**](http://www.sustainablebusiness.com/index.cfm/go/news.display/id/24452)

SustainableBusiness.com

In a sign that algae biofuels are moving closer to commercialization, Australia's Algae.Tec Ltd. has decided to issue $200 million in European bonds to help finance expansion in the Americas, reports Bloomberg. The move comes because the US regulatory climate is becoming more favorable for algael biofuels.

**January 23, 2013**

[**Ambani mulls $2 billion spend on Venezuelan oil**](http://www.livemint.com/Companies/3S0ohZw8Lx9f1vaOFSUeIP/Mukesh-Ambani-said-to-mull-2-billion-Venezuela-spend.html)

Livemint

Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) plans to spend more than $2 billion (around Rs.10,800 crore) on Venezuelan oilfields, betting President Hugo Chavez’s failing health won’t lead to political upheaval, said a person with direct knowledge of the decision.

[**Latin America’s Role in RMB Internationalization**](http://www.thedialogue.org/PublicationFiles/IAD9029_AzizEconomicsBrief_v3.pdf)

Inter-American Dialogue

In this paper, the third in a series of economics briefs published by the Inter-American Dialogue’s China and Latin America Program, Aziz examines Latin America’s role in China’s renminbi (RMB) internationalization process.

[**Banco do Brasil to Lend $734.5 Million for Wind Farms**](http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-01-22/banco-do-brasil-to-lend-734-5-million-for-wind-farms.html)

Bloomberg

Banco do Brasil SA, Latin America’s biggest lender by assets, may disburse more than 1.5 billion reais ($734.5 million) of loans for wind farms this year, up from 1.3 billion reais last year, as the renewable energy becomes cheaper. The total amount will depend on how many wind developers sign contracts to sell energy in government-organized auctions for new power capacity this year, Renato Proenca, executive manager of the commercial department for Brasilia-based Banco do Brasil, said in an e-mail.

[**Mitsui to buy 30 pct stake in Spanish autoparts maker's U.S. business**](http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/01/07/mitsui-gestamp-idUST9N09O01B20130107)

Reuters

Japanese trading house Mitsui & Co said confirmed that it will buy as much as a 30 percent stake in Spanish autoparts maker Gestamp Automocion's U.S. business for 300 million euros ($391 million). Mitsui said in a statement that it sees growth opportunity in the auto markets of the U.S., Mexico, Brazil and Argentina, countries where Gestamp Automocion does business.

[**China and Ecuador will avoid double taxation to improve investment**](http://economia.terra.com.ve/noticias/noticia.aspx?idNoticia=201301212321_AFP_TX-PAR-KBW19&)

Terra

China and Ecuador signed an agreement on Monday to avoid double taxation which to promote Chinese investments in the country - which reached US$100 million - the Foreign Ministry said in a statement. (In Spanish)

[**Government of Japan supports agriculture program in Guatemala**](http://www.americaeconomia.com/negocios-industrias/gobierno-de-japon-apoya-programa-de-agricultura-en-guatemala)

America Economia

The Japanese government, through the World Bank, will fund a US$2.5 million program to improve productivity, market access and capacity building to address food insecurity of the so-called dry corridor.

**January 22, 2013**

[**India’s ONGC Videsh strikes oil in Colombia**](http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/ongc-videsh-strikes-oil-in-colombia/article4325841.ece)

Hindu Business Line

ONGC Videsh Ltd, the overseas investment arm of ONGC, has struck oil in Colombia. Initial assessment of the well drilled in the block CPO-5 produced oil varying in rate from 120 barrels of oil per day (BOPD) to 300 BOPD.

[**New fund from global impact investors**](http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/new-fundglobal-impact-investors/499389/)

Business Standard

Global impact investors Rockefeller Foundation and Omidyar Network have joined hands with Dasra, a strategic philanthropy foundation, to launch the India Impact Economy Innovations Fund. The fund will seek to catalyse collective action and market development in India

[**Mexico needs US$78.7bn in annual infrastructure investment**](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/privatization/mexico-needs-us787bn-in-annual-infrastructure-investment)

BN Americas

The Mexican government needs to invest up to 1tn pesos (US$78.7bn) per year in infrastructure to ensure development and employment, said Luis Foncerrada, director of the private sector center of economic studies, CEESP, during a presentation of the UN report "World Economic Situation and Prospects 2013."

[**Toyobo to Expand Cushioning Material Output Capacity**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/TNKS/Nni20121225D2412A13.htm?NS-query=brazil)

Nikkei

Toyobo Co. will increase its domestic and foreign production capacity for a cushion material to meet growing demand for a variety of applications. The firm also plans to build one new facility apiece in Southeast Asia and Latin America, expecting demand for use in furniture and motorcycles. It is conducting market surveys in such countries as Thailand, Indonesia and Brazil.

[**DJ: Mitsui & Co Buys 50% of Mexico Wind Farm From EDF Unit**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/TNKS/Nni20130109D09JF572.htm?NS-query=mexico)

Nikkei

Mitsui & Co. said Wednesday it has acquired a 50% stake in the 164-megawatt Bii Stinu wind farm project in Mexico's Oaxaca state from EDF Energies Nouvelles SA, EDF's renewable energy unit.A company spokeswoman declined to disclose the value of the deal. A statement by Mitsui said the total cost of the project is about Y35 billion ($402 million). Mexico is one of Mitsui's focus areas. The Japanese trading company has invested in a wide range of social infrastructure projects there including gas-power plants, gas pipelines and liquefied natural gas receiving terminals.

[**Infrastructure financing need**](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/opinion/2013-01/18/content_16136027.htm)

China Daily

Developed and developing nations need to tap public-private partnership and bonds to finance future development. Both developed and developing countries are facing the dual challenge of deteriorating or inadequate infrastructure and a shortage of fiscal funds. The question of how to take comprehensive measures in the coming years to meet the challenge has thus become a common problem for governments. The huge demand for infrastructure financing has provided the private sector with significant investment opportunities. Urbanization is expected to remain a main driving force of China's long-term economic and social development, and it is a policy priority for the government to actively and steadily progress toward this goal. Now it is imperative for the country to take further measures to utilize private investment to speed up infrastructure construction, and thus help overcome the shortage of fiscal funding.

**January 18, 2013**

[**IHI Eyes Brazil's Drill Ship Market via Local Investment**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/TNKS/Nni20121227D2712F02.htm?NS-query=brazil)

Nikkei

IHI Corp. plans to begin building vessels for use in development of natural resources by taking a roughly 30% stake in a Brazilian shipbuilder together with other Japanese firms. IHL has asked a Japanese trading house and others to join in, and it will also likely invite the joint venture to be formed next month through the integration of the shipbuilding units of IHI and JFE Holdings Inc. The Japanese firms are seen paying slightly more than 10 billion yen ($120 mill), with IHI to shoulder 30-40% of that amount. Large orders for such ships are anticipated as Brazil is undertaking project after project to tap large crude oil and natural gas deposits at depths of about 5,000 meters off the country's coast.

[**Guangzhou Auto Looks to Emerging Markets**](http://www.thechinaperspective.com/articles/chinacorporaten-9927/)

The China Perspective

Guangzhou Automobile Group Co, one of China's biggest state-owned automakers, will look overseas for growth, Reuters reported, citing a senior executive. GAC vice president Xiangdong Huang told an industry conference in Detroit that the company would try to make inroads in emerging markets with a lineup of affordable no-frills cars. He said those emerging markets included Southeast Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

[**Sharp Discussing TV Tie-Up With China's Lenovo**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/tnks/Nni20130116D1601F06.htm)

Nikkei

Sharp Corp. is in the final stages of negotiations with Lenovo Group Ltd., the largest Chinese manufacturer of personal computers, to form a partnership in television operations.Under the plan, the Japanese firm will sell all the shares in a Chinese subsidiary operating an LCD TV assembly plant in Nanjing to Lenovo by year-end. And other Chinese subsidiaries handling development and sales will be turned into 50-50 joint ventures. Sharp and Lenovo plan to sign a memorandum of understanding as early as this month. The TVs sold in China will continue to bear the Sharp Aquos brand name. Plans call for the firms to jointly make inroads into other markets, including Southeast Asia and South America.

[**The expanding scale and scope of China’s outward direct investment**](http://www.economist.com/news/china/21569775-expanding-scale-and-scope-chinas-outward-direct-investment-odi-lay-hee-ho)

The Economist

THE remote, tribal state of Jharkhand in eastern India is the spiritual home of the country’s steel industry. It is the site of India’s first steel mill, built in 1908 with Indian money and much national pride. But a new steel plant in the same state takes a different approach. Owned by Electrosteels Steel, it has been built by Chinese contractors and fitted out with Chinese equipment, despite the government’s reluctance to award visas to Chinese workers. Now the plant is looking to expand its capacity. It is hoping China will provide the $250m investment it requires.

[**China is Brazil’s main supplier of black beans in 2012**](http://www.macauhub.com.mo/en/2013/01/16/china-is-brazil%E2%80%99s-main-supplier-of-black-beans-in-2012/)

Macao Hub

In 2012 China was the main supplier of black beans to Brazil, where production was affected by drought in the southern and north-eastern regions, as was the case with Argentina, another of Brazil’s big suppliers, according to the Brazil-China Business Council (CEBC). “The country bought beans from China due to large quantities and good quality on offer,” Paulo Vlamir Brandalizze, a partner at Brandalizze Consulting, a consultancy specialising in the agricultural sector, told Brazilian newspaper Folha de São Paulo. The price was also an important factor as bens from Argentina were being sold at least 20 more reals per sack than those produced in China, with transport included. In 2012 China sold agricultural and livestock products totalling US$2.3 billion, which was growth of 4.5 percent against 2011, when year on year growth reached 200 percent, the CEBC said. In 2012, China was also Brazil’s main supplier of fish, worth US$111 million, which was more than motorcycles (US$93 million) and cars US$50 million).

[**Chilean leader sees LatAm-China ties promising**](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2013-01/18/content_16138611.htm)

China Daily

Chilean President Sebastian Pinera said Thursday he anticipated fruitful relations between Latin America and China. Yhe bilateral relations have been important as "China is turning into Latin America's biggest trade partner, and has been Chile's (biggest trade partner) for a long time," Pinera said at a press conference.

[**Observer countries will join the Pacific Alliance in 2013**](http://www.americaeconomia.com/politica-sociedad/politica/paises-observadores-se-incorporaran-la-alianza-del-pacifico-2013)

America Economia

Panama, Costa Rica, Spain, Australia, Uruguay and Japan, which today hold observer status, will seek accession to full membership, according to the Peru’s vice minister of commerce.(In Spanish)

**January 17, 2013**

[**Mitsui to invest in Mexican wind power plant business**](http://www.japantimes.co.jp/text/nn20130111a8.html)

The Japan Times

Trading house Mitsui & Co. said Wednesday it will invest in a wind power project in Mexico involving France's EDF Energies Nouvelles S.A. to bolster its renewable energy business.

[**Protests in Honduras for expropriation for Chinese hydropower**](http://www.estrategiaynegocios.net/?p=185869?utm_source=NewsletterEyN&utm_medium=Correo&utm_campaign=NewsletterEyN)

Estrategia y Negocios

Hundreds of Hondurans demanded the government of Porfirio Lobo payment of about $ 70 million in compensation for the expropriation of 10,000 hectares in the department of Olancho, where a dam financed by a Chinese state enterprise is built.

[**Korea Eximbank to Provide KRW 74 trillion for Exporters**](http://www.koreaittimes.com/story/25801/korea-eximbank-provide-krw-74-trillion-exporters)

Korea IT Times

On January 16, the state-run Korea Eximbank held a conference to unveil its key policy directions and financial support strategies to local exporters for the first half of 2013. Around 300 leading export companies were invited at the Korea federation of small and medium businesses in Seoul. Funding in support of winning overseas projects is expected to increase. The Bank plans to provide KRW 21 trillion for the area of overseas plants such as petrochemistry and infrastructure, and KRW 5.5 trillion and 2.1 trillion for the green growth industry and resource development projects respectively.

[**South America highlights opportunities for cooperation in renewable energy with the Arab world**](http://www.americaeconomia.com/negocios-industrias/sudamerica-destaca-oportunidades-de-cooperar-en-energias-renovables-con-el-mundo)

America Economia

South-American decision makers on Wednesday stressed the "great opportunities" for cooperation with Arab countries in the field of renewables, following a meeting of energy ministers of both regions in Abu Dhabi. (in spanish)

[**Details of the first Islamic transaction to finance agricultural inventories in Latin America**](http://www.americaeconomia.com/negocios-industrias/se-cierra-la-primera-transaccion-islamica-para-financiar-inventarios-agricolas-e)

America Economia

It is the first time that Abu Dhabi Equity Partners (ADEP), a growing Arab investment company, invests in Latin America. The Islamic finance, unlike traditional, is based on Sharia law, Muslim law which states that you cannot charge or receive interest, or can act in a number of industries classified as sinful, for example, alcohol, weapons or tobacco. *(in Spanish)*

**January 16, 2013**

[**Chinese officials "unaware" of Vale's very large ore carriers entering the country**](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/metals/chinese-officials-unaware-of-vales-very-large-ore-carriers-entering-the-country)

Business News Americas

Reports that Brazilian mining giant Vale has been given permits by Chinese officials to allow the company's very large ore carriers (VLOCs) to dock at the Asian country's ports have received little attention locally, the Chinese press reported. In early-February 2012, China's transport ministry announced a ruling that restricted its ports from accepting many of these vessels, prompting analysts to speculate that Vale would no longer be able to make full use of its VLOCs.

[**Chinese telco Xinwei awarded controversial mobile license**](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/telecommunications/chinese-telco-xinwei-awarded-controversial-mobile-license1?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+BusinessNewsAmericas-TopStoriesEN+(Business+News+Americas+-+Top+Stories+EN))

Business News Americas

Nicaraguan telecoms regulator Telcor has reportedly awarded spectrum to Chinese telco Xinwei without revealing details of the deal, fueling speculation in the local press about collusion between the Nicaraguan government and the Chinese firm.

[**Brazilian, Chinese and Korean firms in bid for 1.74GW Rio Santa Cruz hydro complex**](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/privatization/brazilian-firms-in-bid-for-174gw-rio-santa-cruz-hydro-complex)

Business News Americas

According to the Argentine government the project will require investments of US$5bn with a minimum of US$2.5bn to be financed locally. São Paulo-based constructor OAS has submitted a bid alongside Korea's Hyundai and Argentine firms Comercial del Plata Constructora and Rovella Carranza. Other multinational developers included in the five bidding consortiums are Chinese constructors Gezhouba and Sinohydro as well as Spain's Isolux.

[**President of Argentina invites UAE Businesspersons to Invest in Argentine**](http://www.breitbart.com/system/wire/upi20130115-204511-9174)

Breitbart

President of Argentina Cristina Fernandez has called for more UAE investments in Argentina, especially in the areas of industry, future energy, minerals and agricultural sector.

[**How Social Entrepreneurship and Impact Investing Can Align to Drive Change: An Interview with Skoll's Edwin Ou**](http://www.forbes.com/sites/willyfoote/2013/01/15/how-social-entrepreneurship-and-impact-investing-can-align-to-drive-change-an-interview-with-skolls-edwin-ou/)

Forbes

In December I traveled to Uganda and Tanzaniato meet with some fascinating social enterprises. Edwin Ou, a principal of the Skoll Foundation’s portfolio, and I had an especially long chat on these themes. As I found his thoughts rather illuminating, I’m posting them in my blog - Willy Foote.

**January 15, 2013**

[**Chinalco Said to Float Peruvian Copper Mine**](http://www.thechinaperspective.com/articles/chinacorporaten-9071/)

The China Perspective

Aluminum Corporation of China Ltd, commonly known as Chinalco, plans to list its Toromocho copper assets in Peru at the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and raise $1 billion this year, an official responsible for the company's offshore operations said. Toromocho mine, which holds 12 million tons of reserves that are equivalent to 19% of China's total copper deposits, requires as much as $2.2 billion in investments from Chinalco.

[**Bolivia and China Partner to Make Lithium Batteries**](http://www.hispanicallyspeakingnews.com/latino-daily-news/details/latin-america-news-bolivia-and-china-partner-to-make-lithium-batteries/20922/)

Hispanically Speaking News

Bolivia will receive a $2.9 million Chinese-made pilot plant for manufacturing lithium-ion batteries in the next few weeks, with production expected to start up in the second half of this year, a government official said. The pilot plant will be shipped in the next few days and should arrive in the South American country in March, Corporacion Minera de Bolivia official Luis Alberto Echazu told state media. The plant will be used to train Bolivian technicians, who will learn how to operate an industrial plant that will be constructed in the future.

[**SMBC's big Mexican project finance deal shows Japan banks' global might**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/20121231/TNW/Nni20121231BB4SMBC1.htm?NS-query=brazil)

Nikkei

Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corp.'s leading role in a recent project finance deal for a Mexican petrochemical plant is an indicator of Japanese banks increasing presence in the project finance world. Sumitomo Mitsui on Dec. 20 concluded arranging the $3.2 billion package. It is Mexico's largest-ever project finance deal, involving 17 global banks and public financial institutions. It is rare for a Japanese bank to play the leading role in arranging a project finance package for a large undertaking that does not have Japanese government and corporate participation. The plant will be built in southern Mexico by Grupo Idesa SA, a major Mexican petrochemical firm, and Braskem SA, Brazil's largest petrochemical company.

[**Mitsui To Buy Up To 30% Stake In Ops Of Spain's Gestamp Automocion**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/TNKS/Nni20130107D07JF371.htm?NS-query=brazil)

Nikkei

Mitsui & Co signed an accord to invest about 300 million euros (33 billion yen) to buy a stake of up to 30% in automotive parts maker Gestamp Automocion S.L.'s business operations in the Americas. The Japanese trading house said it will secure a 15% stake in the Spanish firm's operations in the Americas through a new share buy. In addition, Mitsui will provide loans that can be converted into common shares. Gestamp Automocion operates 15 plants in the U.S., Mexico, Brazil and Argentina. Mitsui said combined auto output in the countries is expected to grow 6% annually on average to exceed 20 million vehicles in 2016 compared with 15 million vehicles in 2011.

[**Toshiba Buys Shaw Group's 20% Stake In Westinghouse For Y125bn**](http://e.nikkei.com/e/ac/TNKS/Nni20130107D07JF335.htm?NS-query=brazil)

Nikkei

Toshiba Corp. said Monday that it has bought additional shares in Westinghouse Electric Co. for about Y125 billion ($1.3 billion), boosting its stake in the U.S. nuclear-power unit to 87%. Last month Toshiba President Norio Sasaki said his company was negotiating with three parties to sell up to 16% of Westinghouse. Mr. Sasaki said the buyer would be a strategic investment partner able to help Toshiba establish "a firmer footing" in its target markets, which include the U.S., China, Finland, the U.K., Brazil and India.

[**China's M&A Value Up 37% in 2012**](http://www.thechinaperspective.com/index.php?cmd=fh,article&article_id=9917)

The China Perspective

The China-related merger and acquisition market recorded 3,555 transactions worth a combined $307.79 billion in 2012, down 23% and up 37% respectively from the year before, according to a preliminary report by ChinaVenture. The value was the highest over the past six years. The energy/mining, internet and finance sectors continued to be the most active industries, accounting for around 30% of the value. Domestic mergers and acquisitions saw 2,458 transactions, where 2,098 transactions were disclosed valued at $127.45 billion, or $60.75 million per transaction. There were 230 cross-border merger and acquisition transactions valued at $36.63 billion in 2012, up 9.4% and 28.8% respectively from the year before.

[**JICA to disburse Tk 450 cr SME credits**](http://www.theindependentbd.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=150786:jica-to-disburse-tk-450-cr-sme-credits&catid=108:business-finance&Itemid=152)

The Independent

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on Sunday said that it would disburse an amount of Tk 450 crore its under Financial Sector Project for the Development of SME (FSPDSME) among local level entrepreneurs of Bangladesh. The JICA announcement came to local entrepreneurs at the launching of “Business Edge Training Program” for the Small and Medium Sized Entrepreneurs by International Finance Corporation (IFC) in collaboration with JICA at a city hotel.

**January 14, 2013**

[**Multiexport Foods and Mitsui formalize the creation of a Salmon company in Chile**](http://www.df.cl/multiexport-foods-y-mitsui-oficializan-creacion-de-una-empresa-salmonicultora-en-chile/prontus_df/2013-01-14/093649.html)

DF

Multiexport Foods today formalized an agreement of joint venture with the Japanese company Mitsui & Co., for the purpose of developing a joint company for the cultivation, processing and marketing of salmon species of trout and coho salmon. This is the first incursion worldwide by Mitsui, into the salmon business. Mitsui will own 30% of the new company.

[**JICA praises Peru's progress in social inclusion, poverty reduction**](http://www.andina.com.pe/Ingles/noticia-jica-praises-perus-progress-in-social-inclusion-poverty-reduction-443204.aspx)

Andina

The Japan International Agency Cooperation (JICA) highlighted the progress achieved in the social inclusion sphere and the success of the poverty reduction strategy implemented by the Peruvian government during an official visit to Peru on January 9-11

[**Bank secures sharia funding for Brazil**](http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/8b5edd6e-5e32-11e2-a771-00144feab49a.html#axzz2HxV9nbOT)

Financial Times

A boutique Gulf investment bank has sourced millions of dollars of sharia-compliant funding for a Brazilian sugar and ethanol maker, in a deal that shows how smaller firms are creating increasing investment possibilities for the Gulf’s wealthy Islamic lenders.

[**CIDA on Haiti aid: Refocusing, not freezing**](https://www.devex.com/en/news/canada-freezing-or-refocusing-aid-to-haiti/80066)

Devex

Canada is putting aid for new projects in Haiti “on ice” — but not freezing it — as it reviews its long-term engagement strategy for the Caribbean nation. The Canadian International Development Agency made this clear Friday in response to reports that Canada was freezing aid to Haiti.

**January 10, 2013**

[**Japan funding efforts to develop drugs for developing countries' illnesses**](http://www.japantimes.co.jp/text/nn20130109b5.html)

The Japan Times

The health ministry is pouring money into an effort to develop drugs to treat diseases prevalent mainly in developing countries, including maladies in Latin America and Africa, ministry officials said Monday. One of the so-called neglected tropical illnesses is Chagas' disease, an insect-borne disorder that damages the heart and nervous system and afflicts many in Latin America.

[**Nitto to market tires in Latin America**](http://www.rubbernews.com/article/20130107/NEWS/130109973/nitto-to-maket-tires-in-latin-america)

Rubber News

The subsidiary of Toyo Tire & Rubber Co. Ltd. plans to start shipping Nitto tires on March 1, focusing first on Brazil and Chile then Paraguay, according to James Nieves, the Japanese tire maker's Latin America sales manager. The company will marketing the brand in Latin America following the same formula as in the U.S.—focusing on grassroots events and offering point-of-sale materials.

[**U.S. Gives a Late Reprieve to Wind Power Developers**](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/01/10/business/energy-environment/10iht-green10.html?_r=0)

New York Times

Last week, global wind turbine manufacturers heaved a sigh of relief after the U.S. government extended a tax credit considered crucial to the industry.

[**Guyana and China sign cooperation agreement**](http://espanol.upi.com/Noticias-destacadas/2013/01/01/Guyana-ampl%C3%ADa-acuerdos-de-cooperaci%C3%B3n-con-China/UPI-93621357060961/?&)

UPI

Guyana has signed new economic and technical cooperation agreements with China. The agreement includes technical assistance by China of US$ 4 million for the development of new projects. ***(In Spanish)***

**January 9, 2013**

[Chinese Tech Titans Eye Brazil](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323401904578159370572501456.html)

The Wall Street Journal

Big Chinese consumer-technology companies are dominant at home, but they have struggled overseas. Now, in an attempt to change that, they are charging into Brazil and other emerging markets.

 [Mazda to Raise Output at Mexico Plant](http://jen.jiji.com/jc/eng?g=ind&k=2013010400771)

Jiji Press

Mazda Motor Corp. said Friday it will raise the annual output capacity of its new plant in Mexico, which is currently under construction, from an initial level of 140,000 units to 230,000 units in fiscal 2015. The new plant is set to commence operations between January and March 2014.

 [Goldcorp ups Cerro Negro capex to US$1.35bn](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/mining/goldcorp-ups-cerro-negro-capex-to-us135bn)

Business News Americas

Vancouver-based Goldcorp has increased capex for its Cerro Negro gold-silver project in Argentine province Santa Cruz to US$1.35bn on country-specific factors.

 [Pacific Rubiales to spend US$1.7bn in 2013 on exploration and development](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/oilandgas/pacific-rubiales-to-spend-us17bn-in-2013-on-exploration-and-development)

Business News Americas

Colombia's largest independent oil company Pacific Rubiales will increase exploration and development expenditures by 30% year-on-year to US$1.7bn in order to increase production 15-30%.

**January 8, 2013**

[Closer trade link develops with Chile](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2013-01/08/content_16095478.htm)

China Daily USA

The most favorable investment destination in the Latin-American region is rapidly becoming a prime target for a growing number of Chinese enterprises. Early in 2010, State Grid Corp agreed to spend at least $900 million to develop a large copper deposit in Chile in partnership with Vancouver-based Quadra Mining. Sky Solar Holdings Co Ltd, a giant renewable energy developer from China, just announced the kickoff of an 18 mW solar power plant in Chile's northern Arica province this month.

[Latin America offers way out of demand doldrums: Official](http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/epaper/2013-01/08/content_16095485.htm)

China Daily USA

As the demand from developed markets, especially the European Union, decreases sharply, Chinese companies should be encouraged to export goods to Latin America, says Yang Wanming, Chinese ambassador to Chile.

[Latin America receives 10% of China's steel products exports in Jan-Nov 2012](http://www.bnamericas.com/news/metals/latin-america-receives-10-of-chinas-steel-products-exports-in-jan-nov-2012)

Business News Americas

Between January-November of 2012, Latin America received 10% of China's manufactured steel product exports, according to figures from regional steel association Alacero.

[Mexico, Chile and Brazil will dominate Latin American solar PV sector](http://www.renewableenergymagazine.com/article/mexico-chile-and-brazil-will-dominate-latin-20130107)

Renewable Energy Magazine

Explosive growth for solar PV across Latin America and the Caribbean through 2017 will be dominated by Mexico, Chile and Brazil, new report finds. The report by NPD Solarbuzz entitled Emerging PV Markets Report: Latin America & Caribbean finds that the region will enjoy a forecasted compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 45%.