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CHALLENGES FACING FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT IN EGYPT'S PETROLEUM LAND SECTOR

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Abstract: Foreign agricultural investment plays a crucial role in enhancing agricultural productivity, food security, and economic growth in many countries. Egypt, with its rich agricultural potential and strategic location, has attracted foreign investors seeking opportunities in its petroleum land sector. However, despite the potential benefits, there are several challenges that foreign agricultural investors face in Egypt's petroleum land sector. This article will shed light on some of the key challenges and their potential impact on foreign agricultural investment in this sector.

Key words: Investment, Egypt, agricultural sector, sustainable development.

Introduction

Throughout Egypt's history, agriculture has undoubtedly had a significant economic impact. A major economic objective for attaining sustainable development, agriculture is thought to support the reduction of poverty, provide employment opportunities for the vast majority of workers, and provide job opportunities. It is also thought that this industry is the most significant in the economy of the country. Owing to the significance of foreign investment in developing nations, numerous nations—including Egypt—have amended their investment laws numerous times in an effort to foster an environment that will draw in foreign capital flows. Furthermore, if a nation's economic policies are able to provide an appropriate investment climate that fosters an environment that is favorable to both domestic and foreign investment, the multiplier effect brought about by foreign investment may be greater [1].

Results and discussion

Egypt Investments is committed to promoting efficiency and sustainability in the agricultural sector, recognizing the numerous challenges it faces. Through a comprehensive review of various studies, it is crucial to analyse the main causes and challenges that affect foreign agricultural investment in this sector.

One of the primary challenges facing foreign agricultural investment in Egypt's petroleum land sector is the complex and often restrictive land access and ownership policies. The process of acquiring land can be lengthy, bureaucratic, and subject to changing regulations. Foreign investors may face difficulties in securing suitable land for agricultural projects, hindering their ability to establish and expand operations.

Insufficient infrastructure and logistics pose significant challenges for foreign agricultural investors in Egypt. In some petroleum land areas, the infrastructure required for successful agricultural operations, such as irrigation systems, transportation networks, and storage facilities, may be inadequate or absent. This lack of infrastructure can increase costs, reduce efficiency, and limit the profitability of foreign investment projects.

Egypt's agricultural sector heavily relies on irrigation systems, particularly in the desert regions where petroleum land is located. Water scarcity and inefficient irrigation practices present major challenges for foreign agricultural investors. Limited water resources, coupled with outdated irrigation techniques, can lead to suboptimal crop yields and increased production costs.

Foreign investors often encounter challenges related to Egypt's regulatory environment and legal framework. Frequent policy changes, inconsistent enforcement, and unclear regulations create uncertainty for investors. The lack of transparency and predictability can discourage foreign agricultural investment and undermine long-term planning and sustainability.

Political and economic stability is crucial for attracting foreign agricultural investment. Any

political unrest, social instability, or economic fluctuations can deter potential investors. Foreign agricultural investors require a stable and predictable business environment to make long-term commitments and recoup their investments.

Access to finance is a critical factor for foreign agricultural investors operating in Egypt's petroleum land sector. Limited availability of affordable financing options, complex loan procedures, and high interest rates can impede investment opportunities. Improving access to finance and providing incentives for foreign investors can help overcome this challenge.

Foreign agricultural investment often involves technology transfer and knowledge exchange. However, there might be a skills gap in the local workforce, particularly in specialized agricultural practices and modern farming techniques. Investing in training and capacity-building programs can address this challenge and enhance the local workforce's capabilities.

For this reason, the two primary areas of interest to investors and decision makers are enhancing and elevating the sustainability of Egyptian agriculture and bolstering the nation's food system through increased efficiency, particularly with regard to import supply chains and sub-sectors with significant export potential.

Conclusion

While Egypt's petroleum land sector offers significant agricultural investment opportunities, foreign investors face various challenges in realizing their full potential. Addressing these challenges requires concerted efforts from the Egyptian government, policymakers, and relevant stakeholders. Streamlining land access and ownership policies, improving infrastructure and logistics, ensuring a stable regulatory environment, and enhancing access to finance are crucial steps towards attracting and retaining foreign agricultural investment in Egypt's petroleum land sector. By overcoming these challenges, Egypt can unlock the sector's immense potential, boost agricultural productivity, and drive sustainable economic growth.

References

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LIQUID-ACID BATTERIES: COMPONENTS, OPERATION, BENEFITS, DRAWBACKS, AND USES [MINI REVIEW]

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Abstract: Batteries play a crucial role in our daily lives, powering a wide range of devices and technologies. One promising type of battery is the liquid-acid battery, which offers unique characteristics and applications. This mini review provides an overview of the components, operation, benefits, drawbacks, and uses of liquid-acid batteries, highlighting their potential in various fields.

Key words: SLA, Liquid-acid, SO⁴, lead sulfate.

Introduction

Liquid-acid batteries, also known as flooded lead-acid batteries, are a type of energy storage technology that has been widely used for decades. They are known for their robustness, cost-effectiveness, and reliability in various applications. Understanding the components, operation, benefits, drawbacks, and uses of liquid-acid batteries is crucial for harnessing their full potential.