



Ambasciata d'Italia ad Addis Abeba

SERVIZIO NEWS

15.12.2016

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Ethiopia, Russia agree to cooperate on bilateral, global issues

Ethiopia and Russia have agreed to cooperate on bilateral and global issues.

(15.12.2016 - FBC)

An Ethiopian delegation led by Hirut Zemene, State Minister of Foreign Affairs, held a working visit to Russia, recently.

The State Minister on the occasion discussed with Deputy Foreign Minister of

Russia, Gennady Gatilov, on Ethiopia's role when it takes up its non-permanent seat at the UN Security Council on 1 January, 2017.

The Ethiopian delegation also held discussion with Michael Bogdanov, Russia's President Special Representative for the Middle East and Africa, on bilateral relations and

common international issues

During the discussion, the two sides exchanged views on ways of cementing bilateral relations as well as agreed to carry out an integrated activity on common global issues, according to a statement the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopian sent to FBC.

President, Chinese Company Chairman discuss progress on oil and gas project

President Mulatu Teshome met today with a delegation led by China Poly Group Chairman Yu Baodong to discuss about the progress of the oil and gas project in Ethiopia.

(15.12.2016 - WIC)

The president assured the chairman Ethiopia's commitment to extend support to China Poly Group in its endeavor.

"The basis of our cooperation is the excellent relationship of the two countries," he added.

Appreciating Chinese comprehensive economic cooperation, President Mulatu urged the company to continue its cooperation in areas of capacity building of the mega projects during the Second Growth and Transformation Plan.

Poly Group Chairman Yu Baodong said "we hope that through the cooperation of this great project in Ogaden we can play a vital role in the development of Ethiopia and enhance business" .

According to Baodong, the company has been taking part not only in the oil and gas project in Ogaden but also in providing turbine generators to the

Great Ethiopian Renaissance Dam and ship building.

He said "China Poly Group Corporation has always made full use of the opportunities availed in the sectors it is engaged in Ethiopia. The company will further work with the governments of Ethiopia and China to play a significant role in the development of the great country of Ethiopia."

The chairman pointed out that China Poly Group is working in cooperation with the Metal and Engineering Corporation (METEC). (ENA)

Ethiopia: Omo Kuraz I Sugar Factory On Final Test-Run

The 235 million USD sugar factory would also generate 45 MW power.

(14.12.2016 - allAfrica)

The Omo Kuraz I sugar factory is conducting final test-run to enter sugar production phase.

The construction of the factory was launched three years ago at a cost of 235 million USD. It is one of the four sugar factories planned to be built in South Omo Zone of SNNP State.

The factory is being constructed by the Metals and Engineering Corporation (METEC).

Factory Project Manager Col. Yohannes Tikisa said currently a pretrial is underway to enable the factory enter production phase.

He said machinery test has been completed and the remaining task is computerizing the whole process of the factory and testing the power supply system.

In addition to sugar production, the factory

has a capacity to generate 45 MW. The factory would consume only 16 MW and the surplus would enter the national grid system.

Ethiopian professionals are undertaking the construction, except power generating section.

According to Col. Yohannes, the factory would begin production this Ethiopian fiscal year (2016/17).

Ethiopia: Dalol Oil Gets New CEO

Dalol Oil S.C appointed a new CEO on December 14. Tadesse Girma will be taking over the position from Serkalem G. Kristos.

(14.12.2016 - allAfrica)

Serkalem resigned in order to focus on earning his PhD, according to Board Chairman Dereje Walelign (Eng.). Tadesse

has previously worked for Kobil and Total companies. "He has a lot of experience and will be an asset to the company," Dereje told Fortune.

Ethiopia: Innovative Urban Planning for Resilient and Suitable Cities

Ethiopia has been implementing ambitious and successive five-year growth and transformation plans, which enabled it to register a double digit economic growth for more than a decade now.

(14.12.2016 - allAfrica)

The growth overwhelmingly relies on the agricultural sector which is an essential ingredient for the national goal of alleviating poverty.

The nation aspires to transform the basis of the economy - gradually from agriculture to agro-processing and then to industry in the long run. In the process, it is understood per se that the final goal of the industrialization process would be urbanization.

With this view, besides Addis Ababa and its surrounding areas, the government has been establishing several industrial parks, in the future would be major

urban centres. Industrialization is the initiator of urbanization and urbanization is the inevitable result of industrialization. Hence, the plan is that industrialization and urbanization go hand in hand.

Lately, the Addis Ababa City Government and 100 Resilient Cities - Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation (100 RC) officially launched their partnership at Addis Ababa's "Agenda-Setting Workshop." Addis Ababa and 100 RC are beginning an effort to become more resilient to the shocks - catastrophic events like hurricanes, fires, and floods - and stress, slow-moving disasters like water shortages, homelessness, and unemployment, which are increasingly becoming part of the 21st century life.

Accordingly, Addis Ababa will name a Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) -

an innovative new position in the city government. "Addis Ababa is honored to collaborate with 100RC to build the city's resilience. 100 RC's support will help our city address its challenges in a proactive and holistic manner," said City Mayor Diriba Kuma on the occasion. "In building the city's resilience, we also hope to better the quality of life for residents."

True, this is a great move in trying to improve the quality of life of Addis Ababa's dwellers. But, policy makers needed to be cautious about the future urban development of the country. Urban population in Ethiopia was last measured at 18,449,308 in 2014, according to the World Bank. And because of absence of significant secondary cities, Addis Ababa, the sole political and economic capital, almost in a single-handed manner bear the burden of the rapid population

growth in the urban residents.

According to the Central Statistics Agency, the urban population is projected to nearly triple from 15.2 million in 2012 to 42.3 million in 2037, growing at 3.8 per cent a year. Analysis for this report indicates that the rate of urbanization will be even faster, at about 5.4 per cent a year. That would mean a tripling of the urban population even earlier by 2034, with 30 per cent of the country's people in urban areas by 2028.

Similar to the capital, the growing urban areas of the country are facing housing problem, water supply shortage, unemployment and etc. This is a result of lack of proper and innovative urban planning. Thus, innovative planning should be the key aspect of future urban centres.

Hence, nationally, to improve quality of life for present and future urbanites and foster urbanization, it is crucial

to put in place innovative urban planning and promote growth of secondary cities that could share the burden of the capital.

Bearing the countries objectives of becoming a middle-income country via Agriculture Development Led Industrialization economic policy, what should worry policy-makers the most is that Ethiopia only has one major urban centre (Addis Ababa), with a population of three million or more. This reality leads to a conclusion that the country has to intensively work to facilitate the development of several secondary cities to match its industrialization and development objectives.

In this regard, urban administrators face huge challenges to make cities more sustainable. Hence, due emphasis should be given to the growth of secondary cities to ease the burden on the capital. The establishment of industrial parks in

different areas is a bold step in this regard. Considering all the features of sustainable cities is essential to provide quality of life to dwellers.

With the ambitious plans of economic transformation at hand, in the long run, it would be inevitable that the country would achieve full scale urbanization. Hence, it is unquestionably necessary to get prepared and plan better to provide quality of life for the future, massive urban population.

After all, Addis Ababa is the third diplomatic city of the world next to New York and Brussels. Therefore, undoubtedly, the city needs innovative planning for it is being the seat of AU and many more continental and international organizations. The city deserves innovative planning since it is an international city. Of course, joining the 100 RC Addis Ababa would lift up its face and going to be a choice for decent living.

Ethiopia: Towards Pastoral, Semi Pastorals Research Hub

Community-based activities are at the heart of public universities side by side with the teaching-learning process. Farmers, pastoral and semi-pastoral communities have taken opportunities of nearby higher learning institutions and are improving their life style.

(14.12.2016 - allAfrica)

Aiming to be pastoral and semi-pastoral research hub, Samara University is consolidating efforts towards this end.

University President Adem Bori said Afar is one major pastoral and semi-pastoral state in Ethiopia. "The federal system of the country has now created opportunity and the community is gaining a lot from the university. "

According to him, the huge livestock potential of the community is yet untapped, and needs scientific intervention to

funnel it towards the national GDP contributor.

He said pastoral areas are some of the most dynamic economic potentials in the Horn with a combined export and domestic livestock trade of over one billion USD per annum.

Livestock market drives urban and small town growth, employment and is a system of trade that stretches across the region, he said, adding the university is in full swing to streamline this potential into practical benefits. Asked about university's capacity to attain its goals, he said teachers development is a priority. "We have five PhD holders while 80 percent instructors are MA holders."

He also indicated that the university would soon open pastoral community development institute .

Adem made clear that preparations are underway to construct a 2.2 billion Birr worth

facilities equipped with air conditioning systems.

Research and Community Service Vice President Mohammad Ahmed said for his part 65 research works have been conducted aiming to improve the lives of the community.

Practical community intervention includes fishery development at Lake Mile and bee farming as well as metal and wood works, he said, adding various training have been offered for the youth in the areas.

He added that natural resource conservation activities in bid to deter desertification are also undertaken. Indicating pastorals represent various ethnic groups in Ethiopia, he said in terms of supporting lives and livestock size the Somali in the east and southeast, Afar in the northeast and the Borana in the south are significant.

"Samara University will work hard to connect these areas through research and practical application," he added.

Samara University
Communication

Technology Development
Director Mubarek Nasir also said the university is equipped with ICT Smart E-learning and video conference classes with ample internet access.

In terms of university-industry linkage, the university is working in close cooperation with Tendaho Sugar Factory and Afar Waterworks Enterprise.

Tendaho Sugar Factory Acting Manager Ashebir Kochito said university's engineering students are gaining practical experiences.

The university is working with pertinent stakeholders to meet the national vision of becoming lower middle income economy focusing on agriculture, tourism, archaeology as well as livestock marketing and breeding, it was learnt.

Ethiopia: Nation Working to Exploit Irrigation Potential

Paradoxically with the name 'the water tower of Africa', Ethiopia had been for centuries predominantly rely on rain-fed agricultural practices through traditional mode of production.

(14.12.2016 - allAfrica)

In fact, the country is endowed with tremendous water bodies ranging from long rivers up to many small tributaries, besides the regular rain in summer season.

However, the development of irrigation sector had been rated at imminent level as compared to other sectors in the country's most recent fast and green development trajectory as well.

According to the Ministry of Farming and Natural Resources, the government prioritizes agricultural development as a key to accelerate growth, overcome poverty and ensure food security. To this end, the second

Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP-II) aims at maintaining at least 8 per cent annual growth to achieve the natural ambition of eradicating food and nutrition insecurity on the short run and reaching middle income country by 2025. The irrigation sector is set to contribute its share for the national ambition of moving towards middle income status.

Implementing the objectives of GTP-II, due emphasis has been given to harness the water resources for irrigation and other uses by having different water harvesting technologies to increase agricultural productivity. The Ministry of Farming and Natural Resources Public Relations Head Alemayehu Berhanu told The Ethiopian Herald that in 2016/17, the nation is set to develop three million hectares of land through irrigation. He said that the expected output is 370 million quintals.

The head added that in the last budget year, 2.71 million hectares were developed while the plan for this year is to reach 3.13 million hectares of land. In this regard, he said, "The average amount of plots developed in the first GTP accounts for 2.6 million hectares. And we set to exploit four million hectares from the existing potential of five million hectares at the end of GTP II."

Alemayehu further said that though the efforts are integrated, small-scale irrigation covers the largest portion of the country's experience in the sector. "In addition, small-scale farmers are experiencing to produce two and/or three times a year. This shows that irrigation sector has shown increment from time to time. The importance of water is going high in the agrarian society. So far, wider range of the irrigation activities has been carried out by small scale

irrigation practice.
However, the government
is working to raise the
awareness of farmers.
Theoretical thoughts and
practical training with aim

of raising the sector have
been widely done in the
past years."

The head noted that the
Ministry of Water and
Irrigation is also working

towards planting various
large mechanization
projects to enable every
farmer to benefit from
alternative water
reservoir.

Ethiopia: Economic Developments in Ethiopia

Economic development shows the change in economic growth and at the same time change in the living standard of the people. In developing countries like Ethiopia economic growth is one of the preconditions for economic development. In 1991, the total market value of Ethiopia's national output (GDP) was only USD 8 Billion.

(14.12.2016 - allAfrica)

Today in 2016 the country has managed to produce USD 69.2 Billion national output. During the last two decades, the national output has increased by more than USD 60 Billion. Real GDP growth averaged 10.9 per cent in 2004 - 2014 (World Bank, 2016).

The country experienced the faster, broad based, stable and higher economic growth during the last decades. In 2012, Ethiopia was the 12th fastest growing economy in the world, and if this historic growth continues, it could become a middle

income country in just 12 years (World Bank, 2013).

The common indicator of economic development is Human Development Index (HDI). HDI refers to the multidimensional index that used to measure human development by using three dimensions: education, life expectancy and per capita income. Ethiopia's human development index was increased from 0.222 in 2000 to 0.46 in 2015. The higher government intervention in the economy has increased the national human development more than doubles between 2000 and 2015. This makes Ethiopia the second fast growing HDI 4 in the world during the last fifteen years.

The other indicators of economic development are the social and infrastructure development achieved during the last two decades. The road network, Internet and

number of mobile subscribers were used as a proxy for infrastructure development.

At the same time the under five-child mortality rate, infant mortality rate, maternal mortality rate and education enrolments were used as a proxy for social development. During the last two decades, the provisions of infrastructure and social developments amazingly improved in the country.

For instance, the road networks at the national level increased from 28 thousand kilometres in 2000 to 110 thousand kilometres in 2014. The road networks were increased by 300 per cent during 2000 and 2014. In the same way the number of mobile subscriber and internet users has reached to 38.8 million and 9.4 million in 2015. Over the last 20 years, the country has successfully implemented its strategy of expanding and rehabilitating primary

health care facilities. To this effect, 16,440 health posts, 3,547 health centres and 311 hospitals have been constructed. A 69 per cent decrease in maternal mortality from a high estimated base of 1400 per 100,000 live births. An improvement in contraceptive prevalence rate from 3 per cent to 42 per cent has led to a drop in total fertility rate from 7.7 in the 1990s to 4.1 in 2014 (MoH, 2015).

The access and coverage of education has significantly improved in terms of school enrolment, number of class and teachers. During the last two decades the country has experienced new social and infrastructural development.

The country becomes the second country in the world in achieving higher growth of life expectancy. The country moved from being the 2nd poorest in the world by 2000 to the 11th poorest in 2014, according to per capita income, and came closer to its goal of reaching middle income status by 2025 (World Bank, 2016).

According to Alfredo Tjiurimo (2015) Without doubt, Ethiopia has transformed from the paralysis of the Marxist Derg regime to a more confident developmental trajectory under the EPRDF. To illustrate this point, over the past decade and more, two of the six critical Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have been met -

reducing child mortality and increasing access to sanitation.

Executive Director Dr. Carlos Lopes predicted that Ethiopia may take over economic might from Nigeria and South Africa by 2050 provided it keeps the current rapid economic growth on track. The country achieves wide range social and economic change. Today the share of the industrial sector and service sector growth dominated the national economy. Such change was realized due to new economic policy and implemented institutional set up in the country during the last two decades.

Ethiopia: Zemen Announces a Surge in Profits

Zemen Bank has reported increased profits of 203 million Br from 153 million Br in 2014/15.

(14.12.2016 - allAfrica)

Earnings per 1,000 share (EPS) at Zemen Bank grew by 15pc to 367 Br. These results were reported four months after the Bank let go of its long serving top-executive managers, Helaway Tadesse and Sebhat Belayneh, senior vice president and vice-president for international banking, respectively.

Zemen's EPS has averaged 400 Br per share over the last five years.

First named Access Bank a decade ago, the bank changed its name to Zemen Bank in 2008. Opened with a paid up capital of 150 million Br ,Zemen's paid up capital is now over half a billion Birr.

The Bank's growth in deposits outstripped the growth of its loan portfolio.

Loans stand at 3.4 billion Br showing a 33pc increase. Deposits surged by 44pc to 5.4 billion Br.

Zemen opened three new banking centers during the past fiscal year expanding its network to 12 branches and six sub-branches.

In addition to ordinary retail banking, Zemen was first to offer special banking services to high net worth individuals .

Ethiopia: World Bank Predicts Economic Growth Will Continue

In its fifth economic update for Ethiopia, the World Bank reported that the country's growth will remain relatively steady in the coming years. The country has been growing at an average of 11pc over the past decade.

(13.12.2016 - allAfrica)

Last year, the country registered a growth of eight percent, despite facing the worst drought in five decades.

Even though the country has reduced the problem of unemployment, the figure is still remained high.

The urban unemployment rate has declined from 23pc in 2004 to 16pc in 2016, according to the latest report from the Central Statistical Agency.

In addition, the report also stressed that Ethiopia's birr is overvalued and it is adversely affecting the country's export revenue.

Over the past four years, the country has been experiencing a downward trend in export revenue. Last year, it reached 2.8 billion dollars from 3 billion dollars in 2014/15.

The real effective exchange rate (REER) has appreciated in cumulative terms by 84pc since the last devaluation in October 2010. Accordingly, the Bank urged the country to devalue its currency.

Ethiopia Gearing to Become Africa's Top Tourism Spot

During the past two decades, Ethiopia's ambitious economic initiatives to become middle income country managed to progressively grow and develop its economy. The country has given ample focus to sectors like tourism increasing their GDP contribution to the entire economic key factors.

(13.12.2016 - allAfrica)

Addressing the country development shortfalls and poverty reduction initiatives has grabbed the nation attention working on better policies improving infrastructural constraints. Among other sectors tourism received ample attention preserving historical sights and developing infrastructure which has been the biggest setback of the industry. Although the sector has been improving significantly for the past five years the recent security alert has led the country to lose

seven million dollars from the industry. However, the rising number of tourists and the progressive lift of security alerts is rescuing the country to recover from its loss.

The economic progress of developing countries which has been contributing for the global economic growth for the past ten years has been the focus for global poverty reduction and wealth sharing mission to take developing countries out of poverty.

The World Bank says over 40 per cent of the global poor population live in developing countries where growth during the 2015 fiscal year has been low.

To rectify this problem developing countries "should focus on building resilience to a weaker economic environment and shielding the most vulnerable. The benefits from reforms to governance and business conditions are potentially

large and could help offset the effects of slow growth in larger economies." Jim Yong Kim World Bank President said.

Public investment, consumer spending, and mining production is expected to grow Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Rwanda, and Tanzania sustaining rapid growth having the highest increases according to the World Bank Group economic analysis report.

The World Bank Group and Jumia Travel economic progress reports noted that Ethiopia had registered substantive growth in the past and predict it will continue to register growth in the coming years as well. Certainly, Ethiopia has been registering double digit economic growth due to the rising public investment and foreign direct investment and booming manufacturing and construction that helped the country to sustain its growth from all

sectors. During the last fiscal year the Ministry of Culture and Tourism crafted a transformational plan aiming to triple number of overseas travelers to over 2 million in the coming four years to become the continent top destination.

The country has been going through huge

transformation procedures to increase its revenue from the tourism sector in the coming year. Presently, Ethiopian tourism makes about 2.9 billion dollars annually creating close to a million jobs covering about 4.5 per cent of the GDP.

Several reports has been supporting Ethiopia's

ambitious mission to make the country one of the top destination in the world. "Ethiopia can be one of the five leading countries for tourist destinations in Africa, if it properly implements its Sustainable Tourism Master Plan by 2020" says Dr. Ray Muntida, Advisor to the IGAD Sustainable Tourism Master Plan.



Contrôle des substances appauvrissant la couche d'ozone (SAO) : Des douaniers mieux outillés

Le Ministère de l'Habitat, de l'Urbanisme et de l'Environnement, par l'entremise de sa direction de l'environnement et du développement durable, a organisé du 12 au 13 décembre 2016 un atelier de formation sur le contrôle de l'importation des substances appauvrissant la couche d'ozone. L'initiative ciblait une trentaine d'agents de l'administration douanière. Elle s'inscrivait dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de la Convention de Vienne et du Protocole de Montréal relatifs aux substances appauvrissant la couche d'ozone (SAO) dont Djibouti est signataire depuis 1999.

(15.12.2016 - La Nation)

La cérémonie de clôture de la session de formation s'est tenue dans la salle de conférence de la direction générale des douanes et des droits indirects. Et ce, faut-il ajouter, en présence du secrétaire général du MHUE, Dini Abdallah Omar, et du directeur général par intérim des douanes et des droits indirects, Abdourahman Aouad Izzi.

Ces assises avaient pour objectif de former les douaniers et autres participants sur le contrôle de l'importation des SAO et l'apprentissage et la maîtrise des techniques de détection des SAO. Tant mieux dans la mesure où les

émissions des SAO contribuent à la destruction de la couche d'ozone, bouclier céleste essentiel pour la survie sur terre.

Aussi, la cérémonie de clôture de l'atelier a été l'occasion pour le Ministère de l'Habitat, l'Urbanisme, et l'Environnement de remettre officiellement deux identificateurs des substances de dernière génération aux mains des responsables des douanes djiboutiennes.

Toujours est-il que ces outils permettront de renforcer le contrôle des substances appauvrissant la couche d'ozone au niveau national.

EVENTS

Addis Foto Fest Programme



THURSDAY - DECEMBER 15TH, 2016

PORTFOLIO REVIEW - DAY ONE
 SELECTED PARTICIPANTS ONLY
 9:00AM - 12:00PM

FESTIVAL INAUGURATION
 6:00PM - 11:00PM
 SHERATON ADDIS / LALIBELA BALLROOM
 INVITATION ONLY
 OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM DEC. 16 - 18, 2016
 10:00AM - 10:00PM

FRIDAY - DECEMBER 16TH, 2016

PORTFOLIO REVIEW - DAY TWO
 "ATWORK PUBLIC LECTURE"
 BY SIMON NJAMI AND ELENA KORZHENEVICH
 3:30PM - 5:00PM
 ITALIAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE ADDIS ABABA

SATURDAY - DECEMBER 17TH, 2016

PORTFOLIO REVIEW - DAY THREE

EXHIBITION
 "ATWORK ADDIS" PROJECT EXHIBITION OPENING
 12:00PM - 3:00PM
 DRHQ ART GALLERY THROUGH DEC. 21
 ARON SIMENEH'S STILL IN MOTION PHOTOGRAPHY
 EXHIBITION AND CULTURAL DANCE SHOW OPENING
 8:00PM - 2:00AM
 FENDIKA CULTURAL CENTER THROUGH DEC. 25

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 18TH, 2016

AFF CONFERENCE
 10:AM - 12:00PM
 MARRIOTT EXECUTIVE APARTMENTS ADDIS ABABA

EXHIBITION
 1% : PRIVILEGE IN A TIME OF GLOBAL INEQUALITY
 1:00PM - 5:00PM
 LELA ART GALLERY THROUGH DEC. 22

MONDAY - DECEMBER 19TH, 2016

AFF AWARD CEREMONY
 (INVITED GUESTS ONLY)
 6:30PM - 9:00PM
 MARRIOTT EXECUTIVE APARTMENTS



Italian Cultural Institute program for the month of December, 2016

2016



ADDIS ABERA

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DECEMBER PROGRAMME

Thursday - 1

Movie

Lunga vita alla signora / Long live the lady!

by **Ermanno Olmi**, 1987 – 115 min

English subtitles

6:30 pm

Friday - 2

Painting Exhibition - Opening

2-5 December - Exhibition Hall, Italian Cultural Institute

pARTitions

by **Monia Jaber**

Opening by invitation only

20:00 pm

Tuesday - 6 and Thursday - 8

Dining in the dark

Organized by **Together!**

More information and tickets at the Italian Cultural Institute

6:00 pm

Friday 9 - Saturday 10

In collaboration with Addis Foto Fest

Canon Street Photography Workshop

Reserved to APF students

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

In collaboration with the Italian Embassy in Addis Abeba

lettera   

Friday 9 – Tuesday 13

Art workshop

At-Work Addis Ababa

www.at-work.org

Selected students only

Thursday 15 - Saturday 17

Addis Foto Fest Portfolio Reviews

Reserved to APF students

8:30 - 12 :00 am

Friday - 16

At-Work Public Lecture

by **Simon Njami** and **Elena Korzhenevich**

Auditorium "Giuseppe Verdi"

Free entrance and refreshments

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Saturday 17

Opening

17- 21 December - DinQ Gallery

At-Work exhibition

12:00 am

Tuesday - 20

In collaboration with "Centro Nazionale del Cortometraggio"

Short movies

Il giorno più corto / Short Film Day

English subtitles

6:30 pm