

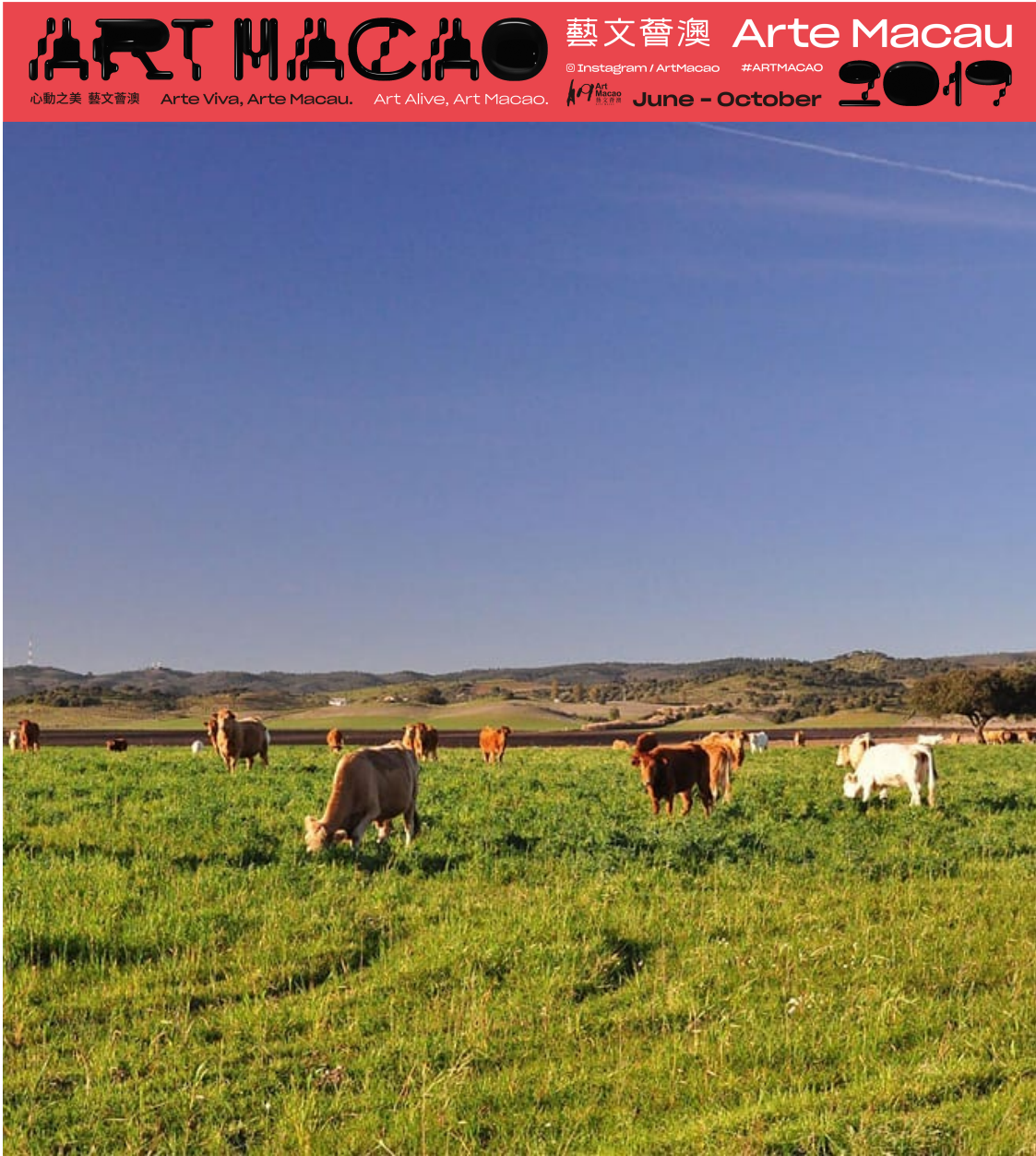


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Monte do Pasto farm

October 3, 2019



# CESL Asia completes Monte do Pasto purchase in deal valued at MOP331.9 mln

By LUSA

Local group CESL Asia, through its subsidiaries Focus Platform and Focus Agriculture, officialized, in Lisbon, the acquisition of the Monte do Pasto group from Portuguese bank Novo Banco in a transaction valued at 37.5 million euros (MOP331.9 million/US\$41 million), the company announced.

"This is a significant acquisition of important management and operations capabilities in Portugal, with the integration of Monte do Pasto's team at CESL Asia, as well as an asset comprising 3,700 hectares of agricultural land, mainly used as pasture, but which can be developed and valued through additional agricultural activities," the group said in a statement.

Asked by Lusa, CESL Asia's official source said, that "the transaction was valued globally at 37.5 million euros."

This group intends to develop with Monte do Pasto a "Portugal-Macau platform that enhances existing productions, allows the launch of new sustainable agricultural and livestock activities and contributes significantly to the development of the entire Alentejo region and the Portuguese economy".

On the other hand, CESL Asia also intends to intensify exports to Macau and China and "seize the opportunities to be created by the Macau platform for social and economic cooperation between China, Portugal and the Portuguese speaking countries".

Cited in the same document, the group's CEO, António Trindade, noted that this acquisition ushers in "a new era in the investment by private Macau companies and prosperous Portuguese companies".

According to Trindade, it is also up to the CESL group to consolidate the growth strategy and "the path to excellence" of the Macau platform for financing, management, and operation of businesses in the Greater Bay Area and Portuguese-speaking countries.

The signing of the agreement for the purchase of the Portuguese cattle producer group had **already taken place on March 1**.

At the same ceremony, the Macau company also signed a strategic cooperation agreement with the local branch of Bank of China.

In a statement issued today, Trindade stressed that this cooperation agreement "is of the utmost importance", and the Bank of China has shown "firm support" for the platform strategy.

"We look forward to diversifying investments in other sectors related to our expertise, such as agriculture, import/export of high-quality food and clean energy, through our wholly-owned subsidiary Focus Renewables, which already owns and operates three solar energy concentration technology centers in Portugal," he concluded.

At the same time, next Tuesday, CESL Asia will present to the Portuguese authorities in Lisbon "a vision of the international partnership with Monte do Pasto" for the development of the Focus platform, operational base for

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