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AGRA's Food Security Monitor provides an overview assessment of the food security outlook in AGRA focus countries in East, West and Southern Africa, taking into account the movement of prices of main food staples and government interventions that impact on domestic and regional food trade alongside the impact of forecast weather changes and environmental conditions on food security.

The Food Security Monitor is produced with support from the UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) through the Africa Food Trade & Resilience Programme. The opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not reflect the official policy or position of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), its employees, partners, or its affiliates in any way. While AGRA has made every effort to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information entered in this report, we assume no responsibility for any errors, inaccuracies, omissions, or inconsistencies included herein. The mention of specific companies, manufacturers or their products, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply endorsement or recommendation or approval by AGRA, its employees, partners or their affiliates in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. The descriptions, charts and maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of AGRA concerning the development, legal or constitutional status of any country.

Summary

Our monthly Food Security Monitor is one way that AGRA makes data available to key stakeholders to underpin evidence-based decision-making. Highlights from the April Food Security Monitor are summarized below.

Food Security Outlook. In April 2021, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and South Sudan were identified as Food Insecurity Hotspots - the countries where more than 50% of the total population has insufficient food for consumption.

East Africa remained in a crisis food security situation during the month, with the severity being driven by multiple shocks, including below-average agricultural production, ongoing conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic. In Southern Africa, most rural households are experiencing minimal food insecurity outcomes due to the ongoing green harvest. Meanwhile, in the West African and Sahel regions, most countries continued to experience a minimal food security situation, which is projected to persist until September.

Food Trade. Trade restrictions between Kenya and Uganda has seen an increase in illicit and informal trade activities between the two countries. To reduce revenue losses from illegal trade, most East African countries are adopting digital taxing solutions.

In Southern Africa, the SADC parliamentary forum's standing committee on trade, industry, finance and investment called for harmonising cross-border systems to reduce trade costs and time spent at border posts.

In West Africa, the ECOWAS Commission launched a training programme to strengthen the capacities of the private sector - with a focus on women - to take advantage of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Commodity Prices. Maize prices in the selected East African markets have declined in the past 1-3 months, except for Kenya and some in South Sudan. Similar trends are observed for changes in prices over the past 6-12 months. On the contrary, prices in South Sudanese markets have more than doubled in the past 12 months.

In Southern Africa, maize prices in selected markets remained the same or have declined over the past month. However, in the past three months, maize prices in Mozambique and Zambia have increased. Forecasts for selected markets in Mozambique and Zambia show that prices will decline in the next 3-6 months due to harvests.

In West Africa, 11 out of the 23 selected maize markets reported price increases, while the remaining either remained the same as in the previous month or declined. Price increments may be explained by the fact that the season is lean.

Climatic conditions. Predictions for East Africa indicate above-normal rainfall in the southern and equatorial parts of the region, creating conducive conditions for the ongoing cropping season. In Southern Africa, the declining rainfall trend continues as the harvesting of the main seasonal crops continues. West Africa is projected to receive above-normal rainfall along the coastal areas providing conducive conditions for seasonal crops such as rice, maize and sorghum.

Desert Locust Outbreak. The latest FAO desert locust situation update shows declining swarms in affected East Africa countries, particularly Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. However, the widespread April rains could result in some of the remaining swarms maturing, leading Ethiopia and Kenya to experience desert egg-laying, hatching and band formation in May.

Introduction

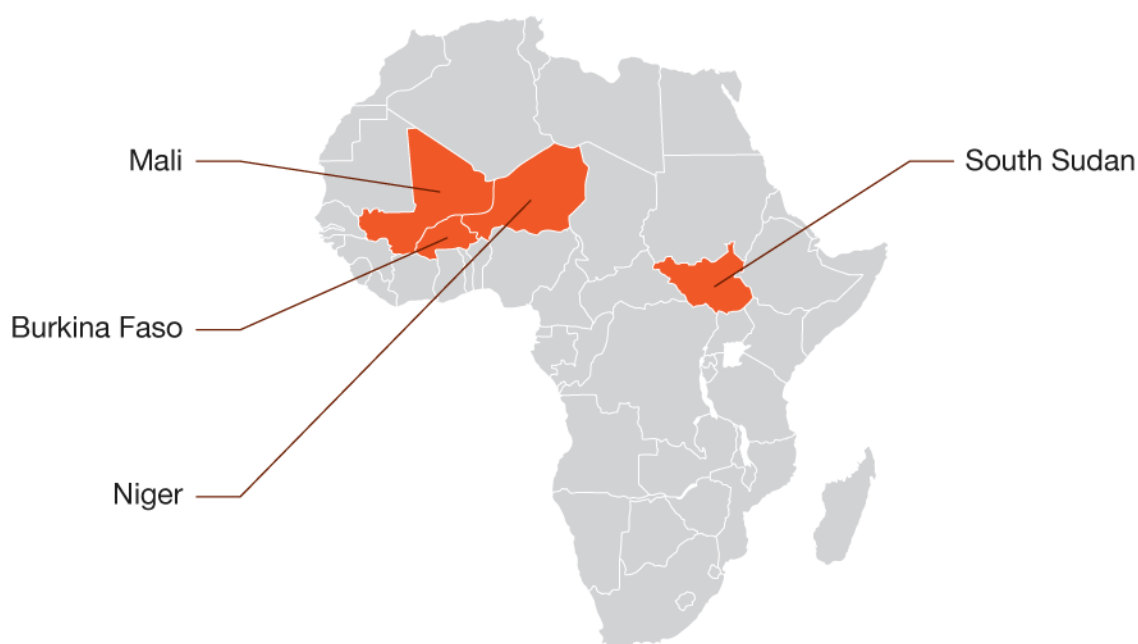
The AGRA Food Security Monitor reviews and discusses changes in selected variables and their implications on food trade and food and nutrition security. The discussions presented focus on selected countries of interest to the AGRA Regional Food Trade and Resilience Initiative: East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda), Southern Africa (Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and West Africa (Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Togo).

Food Security Outlook

Food Insecurity Hotspots

The total number of Food Insecurity Hotspots, defined as countries where more than 50% of the total population has insufficient food for consumption, stood at four in April 2021. These countries were: Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and South Sudan.

Figure 1: Early warning analysis of acute food insecurity hotspots, April 2021



Source: Own analysis based on data from WFP (2021)

The protracted conflict situation in South Sudan, coupled with persistent flooding, prolonged macroeconomic crises, and decimated livelihoods, continue to drive the high levels of food insecurity in the country. In Burkina Faso, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which have resulted in movement restrictions and disruptions at some of the country's border posts, continue to affect importing food into the country. This, together with the below-average market supplies of major cereals, are driving the high levels of food insecurity in the country¹. In Mali, the high levels of food insecurity are elevated by the ongoing conflict situation in the country. The resurgence of COVID-19

¹ <https://fews.net/west-africa/burkina-faso> Accessed 01 May 2021

cases in the country cases between March and April, which saw the reintroduction of restrictions in the country, led to losses of livelihoods for most low-income people in the country, resulting in high levels of food insecurity².

East Africa Outlook

The East Africa region continued to experience an IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) food security situation during April (Figure 2). The severity of food insecurity in the region is driven by multiple shocks, namely below-average agricultural production, protracted and ongoing conflicts, economic contraction due to the COVID-19 pandemic, above-average food prices, and constrained access to humanitarian assistance³.

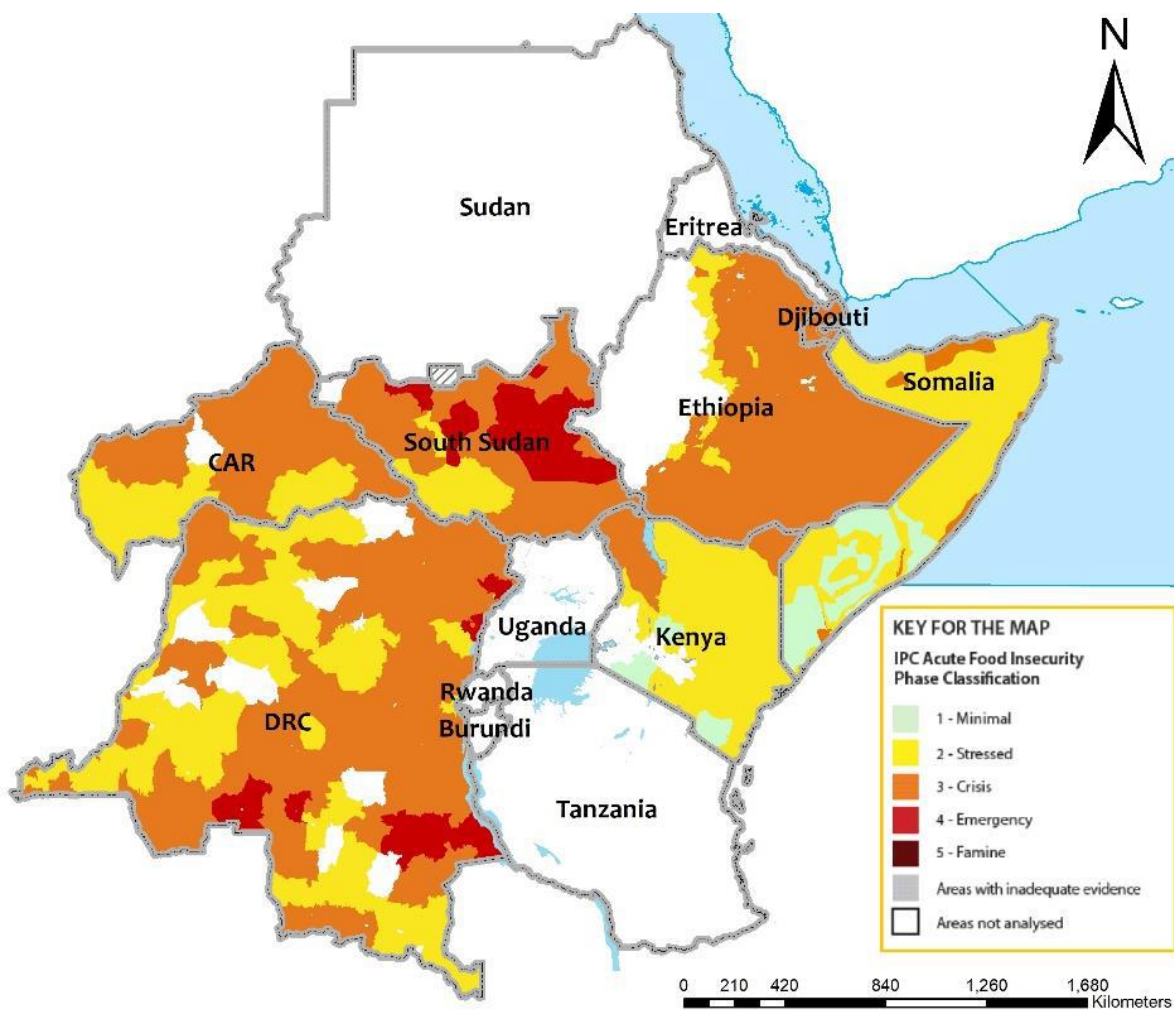


Figure 2: East Africa Current Acute Food Insecurity Classification, April 2021⁴

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in East Africa

The number of people with insufficient food for consumption across selected focus countries in East Africa stood at 62.1 million in April 2021. This is an 11.5 percent increase from March 2021, indicating

² <https://reliefweb.int/report/mali/mali-mise-jour-sur-la-s-curit-alimentaire-ins-curit-alimentaire-lev-e-li-e-la-d>
 Accessed 01 May 2021

³Regional Food Security Outlook (Food Security & Nutrition Working Group, April 2021)

⁴ Food Security & Nutrition Working Group (April 2021)

that the food security situation continues to deteriorate across the region (*Table 1*). Across the different countries, the number of people with insufficient food consumption was recorded in Ethiopia, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. In contrast, Kenya and Rwanda recorded a decrease during the month.

Table 1: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption across selected East African countries (April 2021)⁵

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Acute malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)	Chronic malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)
Ethiopia	109.20	16.80	22.40	20.51%	33.33%	↑	7.20%
Kenya	51.40	10.40	9.50	18.48%	-8.65%	↓	4.20%
Rwanda	12.30	3.50	2.50	20.33%	-28.57%	↓	38.30%
South Sudan	11.00	6.10	6.90	62.73%	13.11%	↑	22.70%
Tanzania	56.30	5.30	5.40	9.59%	1.89%	↑	31.80%
Uganda	42.70	13.60	15.40	36.07%	13.24%	↑	28.90%

● = no change; ↓ = decrease, ↑ = increase, *Previous month and ** Current month

Southern Africa Outlook

Most rural households across the Southern African region are experiencing minimal food insecurity outcomes due to the ongoing green harvest. Malawi experienced a minimal (IPC phase 1) food security outcome during April on the back of favourable harvests sustained by favourable rainfalls and increased access to inputs under the new Affordable Inputs Program. The country is projected to record a bumper maize harvest of 4.4 million metric tonnes, which is 29 per cent above the national requirement of 3.4 million metric tonnes⁶. Food prices have also been declining as traders continue to release old stocks, further contributing to improved food security outcomes.

In Mozambique, the conflict situation in the Northern parts of the country has elevated the food insecurity situation. The conflict is making access to livelihoods and humanitarian assistance difficult in the affected parts of the country. Relaxation of COVID-19

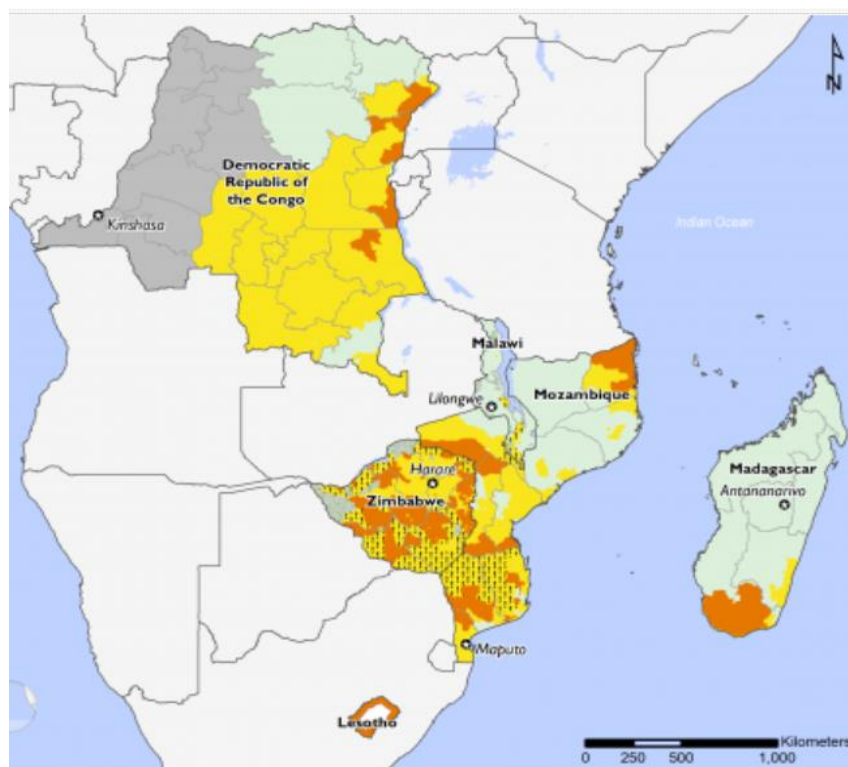


Figure 3: Southern Africa countries Food Security Outlook, February-May 2021

IPC v3.0 Acute Food Insecurity Phase
 Presence countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3: Crisis (orange), 4: Emergency (red), 5: Famine (dark red), National Parks/Reserves (grey)
 Remote monitoring countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3+: Crisis or higher (orange)

⁵ <https://hungermapping.wfp.org/> Accessed 28 April 2021.

⁶ <https://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/malawi-food-security-outlook-update-april-2021> Accessed 01 May 2021.

restrictions in some countries such as Zimbabwe and Malawi on the back of decreased cases has improved income-generating opportunities, particularly among urban households. This has contributed to improving food security outcomes, the ongoing harvests and starting of the tobacco marketing season, all of which are expected to increase the incomes of smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in Southern Africa

The number of people with insufficient food for consumption across selected focus countries in Southern Africa stood at 19.8 million in April 2021. This is a 15.3 percent decrease from the month than March, indicating that the food security situation improved across the region. According to the data presented in Table 2, all countries recorded a decrease in the number of people with insufficient food consumption during April.

Table 2: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (April 2021)⁷

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions) [*]	People with insufficient food consumption (millions) ^{**}	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Acute malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)	Chronic malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)
Malawi	18.10	4.00	3.80	20.99%	-5.00%	1.30%	39.00%
Mozambique	29.50	9.50	8.20	27.80%	-13.68%	4.40%	42.30%
Zambia	17.40	3.90	2.50	14.37%	-35.90%	4.20%	34.60%
Zimbabwe	14.40	6.00	5.30	36.81%	-11.67%	2.90%	23.50%

● = no change; ↓ = decrease, ↑ = increase, *Previous month and ** Current month

West Africa Outlook

Most countries in West Africa and the Sahel Region continued to experience a minimal (IPC Phase 1) food security situation during April (**Figure 4**). This situation is projected to persist until September, sustained by the ongoing above-average off-season harvests across the Sahelian countries. Persistent conflicts across some countries, together with COVID-19 control measures that are disrupting livelihood activities mainly in informal markets continue, to affect food availability in the affected areas.

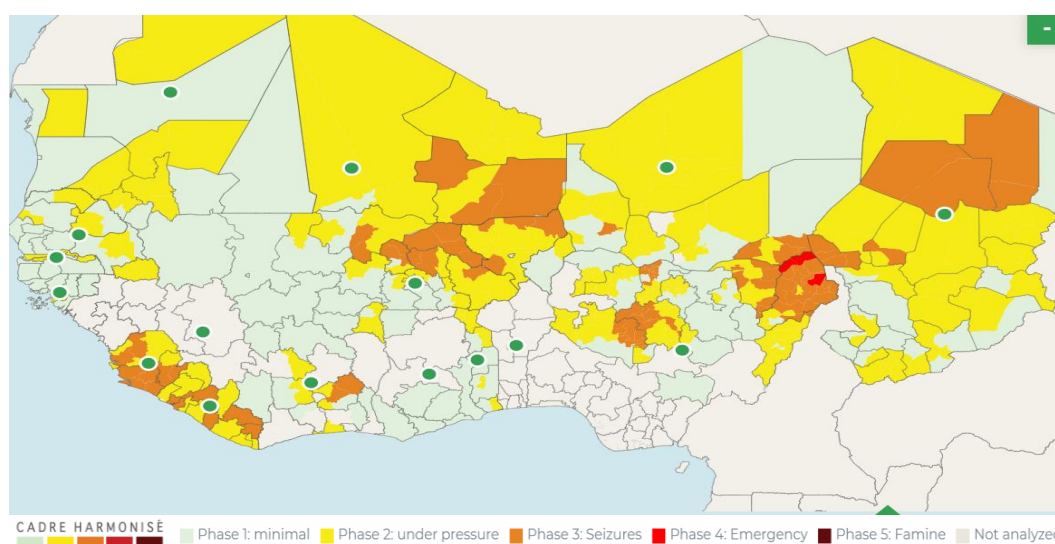


Figure 4: West Africa countries Food Security Outlook, February - May 2021

⁷ <https://hungermap.wfp.org/> Accessed 03 May 2021.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in West Africa

The number of people with insufficient food consumption across the focus countries in West Africa⁸ stood at 97.9 million for April 2021. This is a 1.5 percent increase from the previous month, suggesting that the region's food security situation deteriorated slightly over the past month. The situation varied across the different focus countries, with increases in people with insufficient food consumption recorded in Ghana, Mali, and Nigeria. Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, and Togo recorded decreases (*Table 3*).

Table 3: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected West African countries, April 2021⁹

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Acute malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)	Chronic malnutrition of children under 5 (%)
Burkina Faso	19.80	12.50	11.60	58.59%	-7.20%	↓	8.40%
Cote d'Ivoire	25.10	4.90	4.30	17.13%	-12.24%	↓	6.10%
Ghana	29.80	5.60	6.00	20.13%	7.14%	↑	6.80%
Mali	19.10	10.50	10.80	56.54%	2.86%	↑	9.00%
Niger	22.40	13.20	11.50	51.34%	-12.88%	↓	14.10%
Nigeria	202.80	47.00	51.40	25.35%	9.36%	↑	6.80%
Togo	7.90	2.80	2.30	29.11%	-17.86%	↓	5.70%

● = no change; ↓ = decrease, ↑ = increase, *Previous month and ** Current month

Food Trade Updates

AfCFTA updates

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which officially started trading on the 1st of January 2021, held its inaugural meeting of the Dispute Settlement Body on the 26th of April 2021. The Dispute Settlement Body, which is composed of representatives of all State Parties, monitors and evaluates the functions of the dispute settlement mechanism. This will offer a transparent, fast, efficient, and rules-based mechanism for settling disputes among the member states¹⁰.

The AfCFTA Secretariat and the Common Market for East and Southern Africa are set to establish a partnership framework through which both organizations will support the implementation of the AfCFTA trading regime¹¹. The Secretariat also signed a strategic partnership with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) to promote trade as a stimulus for Africa's socio-economic recovery from the COVID-19 crisis. The strategic partnership is expected to act as a driver of sustainable development, particularly for women and youth in Africa, in line with the SDGs and Agenda 2063¹².

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the African Union Commission's Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Development (AUC-DARBE) launched a guide to boosting intra-African agricultural trade under the

⁸ Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo

⁹ <https://hungermap.wfp.org/> Accessed 28 April 2021

¹⁰ <https://afcfta.au.int/en/events/2021-04-26/dispute-settlement-body-aims-settle-trade-disputes-between-member-states> Accessed 30 April 2021.

¹¹ <https://www.miningreview.com/gold/afcta-comesa-to-establish-cooperation-framework/> Accessed 04 May 2021

¹² <https://www.theafricalogistics.com/2021/04/19/afcfta-and-undp-announce-new-partnership-towards-inclusive-growth-in-africa/> Accessed 04 May 2021

new African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement. The AfCFTA is the largest free trade area in the world in terms of the number of countries covered. It represents a market of an estimated 1.2 billion consumers. The intra-African framework will act as a blueprint for expanding agricultural trade between African countries and aims to unlock the potential of the agricultural sector to contribute to sustainable and inclusive growth for Africa. Increased trade represents a paradigm shift away from business as usual and is an important part of the collaborative work towards boosting food security and nutrition for all Africans.

East Africa

The imposing of trade restrictions between Kenya and Uganda has seen an increase in illicit and informal trade activities between the two countries. Over the past month, there has been an increase in the smuggling of maize into Kenya, mainly along the Sofia, Marachi, Buteba, Buhehe, Lumino, Majanji, Busime and Masinya border points¹³. There have also been reports of increased illegal imports of poultry products into Kenya from Uganda despite the government imposing an import ban in January. Reports by the Kenya Poultry and Breeders Association indicate that the total dressed frozen chicken inventory in the country rose by over 60 per cent¹⁴. To curb these illicit trade activities and minimise revenue losses, most East African countries are beginning to adopt digital taxing solutions. After Kenya and Tanzania, Uganda recently became the third country to adopt this new technology through its digital tax stamps on sugar and cement¹⁵.

Despite these challenges, trade relations are improving with the two countries resolving the sugar trade dispute. The resolution will see the Kenyan government reverting to the March 2019 Joint Ministerial Commission Decision that allowed Uganda to export to Kenya duty-free 90,000 metric tonnes of wholly originating sugar annually¹⁶.

Figure 6: provides an update of the various events and activities recorded across different countries in East Africa over the past month impacting food trade in the region.

¹³ <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/traders-smuggle-tonnes-of-uganda-maize-into-kenya-3372522> Accessed 28 April 2021.

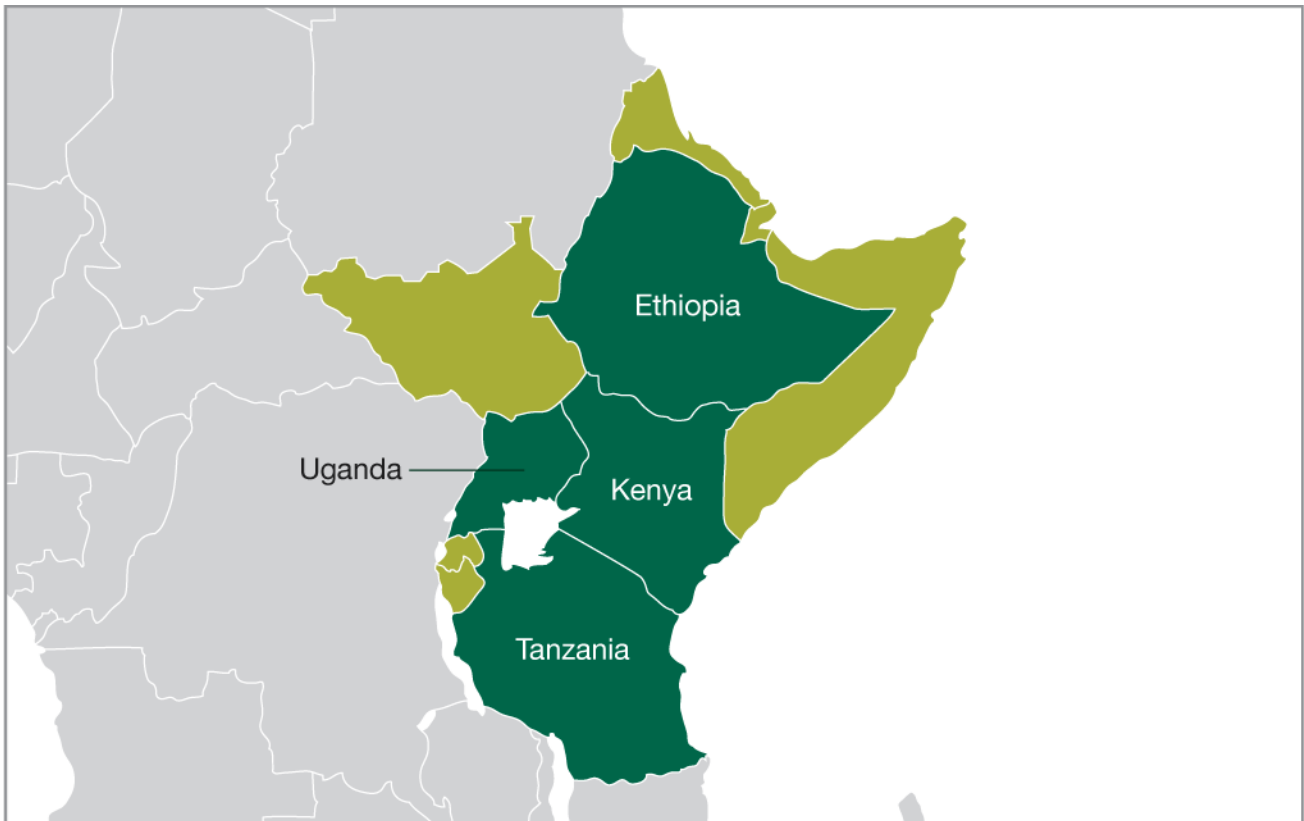
¹⁴ <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/bd/markets/commodities/traders-ugandan-poultry-products-import-ban-3368444> Accessed 28 April 2021

¹⁵ <https://www.ippmedia.com/en/business/why-east-africa%20adopting-technology-collect-tax>

¹⁶ <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/kenya-uganda-agree-on-ceasefire-in-trade-war-3368068> Accessed 28 April 2021.

¹⁴ <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/framework-boosting-intra-african-trade-agricultural-commodities-and-services> Accessed 1 May 2021

Figure 5: East Africa Cross border trade updates April 2021¹⁷



KENYA

- Kenya and Uganda have resolved to end a sugar trade dispute, after which Kenya will import 90 000 MT of sugar from Uganda provided the sugar is wholly produced in Uganda.
- Kenyan traders continue to import poultry products from Uganda despite the government imposing an import ban in January 2021.

TANZANIA

- There have been reports of trucks from Kenya being blocked from entering Tanzania at the Namanga Border signalling a trade dispute between the two countries despite the Kenyan government clarifying that maize imports from Tanzania are now permitted.
- Tanzania has entered into an agreement with China to export soybeans to China on the back of huge demand for the crop in the country.

UGANDA

- Trading between Uganda and South Sudan resumed after both governments began escorting drivers to Juba following an attack on Ugandan drivers leading to the death of eight Ugandan drivers, and resulting in a temporary disruption of trade between the two countries.
- The Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) started using digital tax stamps (DTSs) on cement and sugar early April in an effort to plug revenue leakages. This makes it the fourth EAC country to adopt the digital stamps.

ETHIOPIA

- The Ministry of Trade and industry issued a regulation which allows companies to import basic food items like rice, flour and other food items on duty free terms.

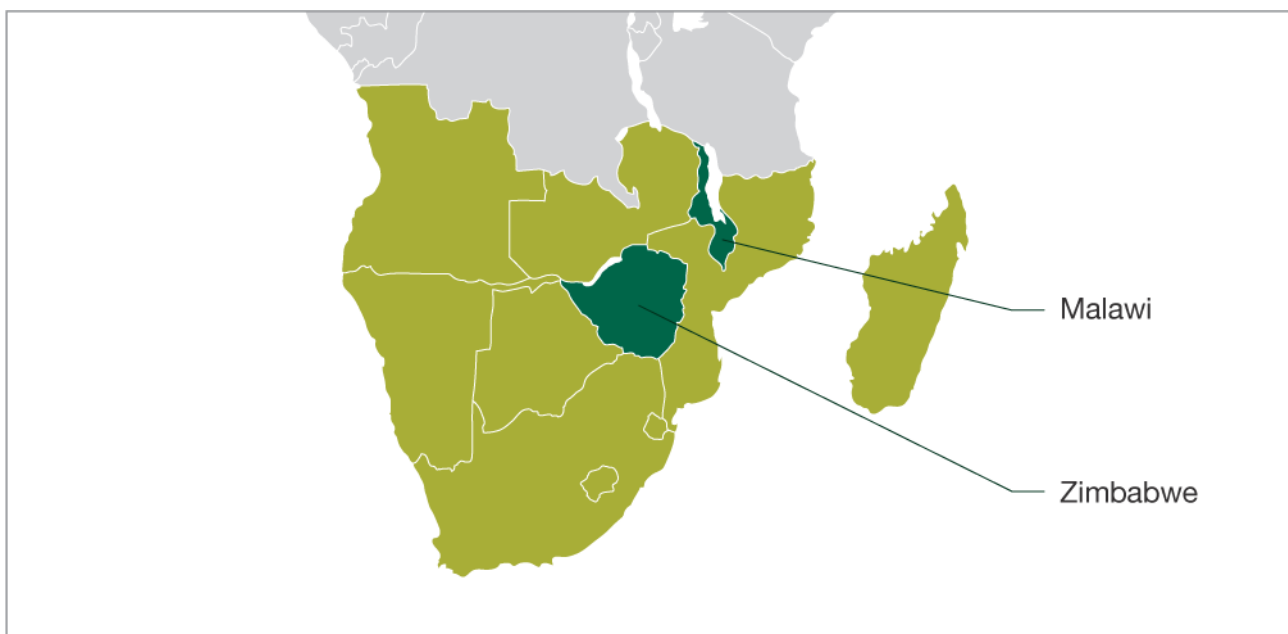
¹⁷ <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/trucks-namanga-maize-exports-3358772>
<https://www.ippmedia.com/en/news/tanzania-secures-huge-soya-beans-market-china>
<https://www.press.et/english/?p=33497#>

Southern Africa

The Botswana government announced that the Kazungula Bridge and One-stop Border Post, which connects Botswana and Zambia, is set to open on the 10th of May 2021. This development is expected to improve trade efficiencies across the region by offering an alternative and additional trade route¹⁸. The Southern Africa Customs Union (SACU) hosted a webinar on the 8th of April to disseminate information and raise awareness on the implementation of the AfCFTA. The webinar shared information regarding customs administrative arrangements for implementing the agreement, continent-wide market opportunities and export facilitation at the national level with the business community in the region¹⁹. To reduce trade costs and time spent at border posts, the Southern Africa Development Community Parliamentary Forum's standing committee on trade, industry, finance and investment has called for harmonising cross-border systems²⁰.

Figure 6: summarises some of the key activities and events recorded across Southern Africa that impact food trade activities.

Figure 6: Southern Africa Food Trade Updates in April 2021²¹



ZIMBABWE

- Trade development and promotion agency, ZimTrade, is conducting market surveys in Tanzania, Rwanda and the DRC as it explores opportunities for local products following the operationalisation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

MALAWI

- There is a fresh push for export reforms with agricultural stakeholders calling for the country to have sound policies that will maximise grains from commodities such as grains and maize.

¹⁸ <https://www.thesouthafrican.com/news/where-is-kazungula-bridge-connect-zambia-botswana-south-africa-beitbridge/> Accessed 02 May 2021.

¹⁹ <https://neweralive.na/posts/sacu-to-focus-on-implementation-of-african-free-trade> Accessed 01 May 2021.

²⁰ <https://www.news24.com/citypress/news/sadc-pushes-for-a-one-stop-cross-border-post-to-reduce-congestion-20210412>

²¹ <https://www.businessmalawi.com/fresh-push-for-export-reforms/>
<https://www.herald.co.zw/zimtrade-extends-market-survey-to-tanzania-drc/>

West Africa

The ECOWAS Commission, in collaboration with UNDP, launched a training programme on the 7th of April 2021 aimed at strengthening the capacities of the private sector in the region, more specifically, the capacities of women to take advantage of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). This programme was launched on the back of the recognition of the important role of the private sector in the newly established trade market. The training programme targeted trainees from Business Associations in the ECOWAS region²².

Figure 7: provides an update of issues and events reported in selected West African countries that impact food trade and food security in the region.

Figure 7: West Africa Cross border Trade Updates April 2021²³



GHANA

- The Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA) is set to introduce an additional e-payment system to enhance cargo clearing at the ports.

NIGERIA

- The country is looking to tap into trading opportunities under AfCFTA where it is seeking to export \$3 billion worth of derivatives from cocoa and \$300 million from the sale of the raw unprocessed commodity.

BURKINA FASO

- The Government of Burkina Faso, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), launched the work of the validation workshop for the National Strategy for the Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The validation of this strategy will provide Burkina Faso with a quality document for the implementation of the AfCFTA.

²² <https://newsghana.com.gh/ecowas-and-undp-launch-capacity-building-programme-for-the-private-sector-to-benefit-from-the-afcfta/> Accessed 29 April 2021

²³ <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2021/04/07/nigeria-can-export-3bn-worth-of-cocoa-derivatives-under-afcfta/>
<https://www.uneca.org/stories/burkina-faso-the-work-of-the-review-and-validation-of-the-national-afcfta-implementation>
<https://www.gbcghanaonline.com/news/business/ghana-ports-and-harbour-authority-to-introduce-additional-e-payment-platform/2021/>



Agricultural Commodities Price Monitoring

East Africa

Maize prices in the selected East African markets have been on the decline in the past 1-3 months, except markets in Kenya and some in South Sudan that exhibited low (0-5%) and moderate (5-15%) to high (more than 15%) increases. Similar trends are observed for changes in prices over the past 6-12 months. On the contrary, prices in South Sudanese markets have more than doubled in the past 12 months. These drastic surges in prices appear to result from multiple factors, including conflicts, macroeconomic crises (high currency depreciation, food inflation, and income reduction as a result of COVID 19), and shocks such as climate change COVID-19 impacts.²⁴ The situation is expected to result in famine in the next six months, particularly if the conflicts persist. Forecasts for the next 3-6 months predict an increase in prices in all the selected Rwandan markets except Kigeme, while the selected Tanzanian markets will generally see a decline in prices.

Table 4: Changes in maize prices in selected East African Countries²⁵

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Ethiopia	Maize (white)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Birr/KG***	11	-6.08 ↓	-16.67 ↓	-5.41 ↓	20.97 ×		
Ethiopia	Maize (white)	Diredawa, Ethiopian Birr/KG***	13	-5.88 ↓	-4.26 ↘	21.90 ×	-1.54 ↘		
Kenya	Maize (white)	Eldoret, Wholesale, KES/KG	25	0.72 ▲	0.20 ▲	-12.78 ↓	-19.85 ↓		
Kenya	Maize (white)	Nairobi, Wholesale, KES/KG*	36	2.74 ▲	2.57 ▲	5.64 ▲	3.72 ▲		
Kenya	Maize (white)	Nakuru, Wholesale, KES/KG	28	1.06 ▲	2.75 ▲	-3.49 ↘	-11.84 ↓		
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG	204	-43.68 ↓	-38.75 ↓	-32.69 ↓	2.08 ▲	23.62 ×	33.71 ×
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG	333	-13.04 ↓	-21.57 ↓	-4.94 ↘	2.56 ▲	-4.97 ↘	-0.98 ↘
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG	193	-42.43 ↓	-43.42 ↓	-27.50 ↓	-17.73 ↓	23.36 ×	35.48 ×
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG	192	2.68 ▲	-40.10 ↓	-27.90 ↓	-20.96 ↓	16.20 ×	18.57 ×
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Aweil, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	222	6.90 ↑	-17.73 ↓	-11.43 ↓	32.71 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Juba, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	407	-1.73 ↘	-4.94 ↘	83.27 ×	178.13 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Rumbek, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	368	28.60 ×	-10.26 ↓	-1.38 ↘	97.85 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Torit, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	215	-1.70 ↘	7.14 ↑	25.00 ×	80.72 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Wau, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	286	0.00 ●	-14.31 ↓	-35.23 ↓	66.67 ×		
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Arusha (urban), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	46,333	-12.16 ↓	-11.65 ↓	-12.88 ↓	-22.48 ↓	9.33 ↑	-13.75 ↓
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Dodoma (Majengo), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	49,278	-8.32 ↓	-13.46 ↓	-14.70 ↓	-13.62 ↓	-31.42 ↓	-34.43 ↓
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	47,140	-4.28 ↘	-14.19 ↓	-18.16 ↓	-26.05 ↓	-19.84 ↓	-11.68 ↓
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Morogoro, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	51,171	-16.80 ↓	-11.49 ↓	-10.04 ↓	-35.44 ↓	2.27 ▲	-0.38 ↘
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Moshi, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	59,667	-10.53 ↓	-8.20 ↓	-0.56 ↘	19.33 ×	7.67 ↑	-4.07 ↘
Uganda	Maize (white)	Kabale, Wholesale, USh/KG	750	-1.55 ↘	-3.72 ↘	7.25 ▲	-28.64 ↓		
Uganda	Maize (white)	Kampala, Wholesale, USh/KG	550	-25.61 ↓	-26.77 ↓	-25.79 ↓	-42.66 ↓		
Uganda	Maize (white)	Lira, Wholesale, USh/KG	520	-22.52 ↓	-21.37 ↓	-20.09 ↓	-40.89 ↓		
Uganda	Maize (white)	Masindi, Wholesale, USh/KG	523	-18.98 ↓	-17.76 ↓	-16.84 ↓	-41.74 ↓		

Note: Last price is for March 2021, *April, **February, ***January, ****December and *****November

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), × = high increase (>15%), ↘ = low decrease (0-5%), ↓ = moderate decrease (5-15%), ▼ = high decrease (>15%)

²⁴ WFP and FAO. 2021. Hunger Hotspots. FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity: March to July 2021 outlook. Rome

²⁵ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)

Overall, beans prices show declining trends in most selected markets over the past 1-12 months (Table 6). However, some markets such as in Rwanda (Mugera and Nyabiheke), Tanzania (Dodoma and Morogoro), and Uganda (Kampala and Lira) show price surges. The forecasts show that in the next three months, beans prices will rise in Kabuga, Kigeme, Arusha, and Moshi markets, while in the next six months, prices will rise in all markets of focus except Dodoma, Morogoro and Moshi, where prices will drop.

Table 5: Changes in bean prices in selected East African Countries²⁶

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG	407	-26.84 ↓	-36.95 ↓	-38.38 ↓	-14.39 ↓	14.50 ↑	13.56 ↑
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG	500	-1.32 ↘	-13.04 ↓	-32.74 ↓	-14.89 ↓	3.17 ▲	15.86 ⊗
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG	523	11.95 ↑	17.73 ⊗	-32.89 ↓	-15.20 ↓	-4.92 ↘	22.35 ⊗
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG	565	28.31 ⊗	-20.30 ↓	-25.92 ↓	-15.58 ↓	-10.59 ↓	16.59 ⊗
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Arusha (urban), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	158,889	-10.33 ↓	-13.86 ↓	-11.17 ↓	1.63 ▲	9.76 ↑	0.71 ▲
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Dodoma (Majengo), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	200,556	-1.45 ↘	-10.21 ↓	7.17 ↑	12.50 ↑	-0.40 ↘	-3.17 ↘
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	151,500	-3.43 ↘	-11.53 ↓	-23.68 ↓	-17.07 ↓	-7.69 ↓	0.15 ▲
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Morogoro, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	215,000	0.78 ▲	6.17 ↑	22.86 ⊗	-18.87 ↓	-8.68 ↓	-18.88 ↓
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Moshi, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	200,556	-12.33 ↓	-0.96 ↘	-12.42 ↓	-2.96 ↘	6.23 ↑	-7.31 ↓
Uganda	Bean (dry)	Kampala, Wholesale, USh/KG	2,563	10.68 ↑	27.22 ⊗	-12.47 ↓	-21.46 ↓		
Uganda	Bean (dry)	Lira, Wholesale, USh/KG	2,414	9.68 ↑	46.35 ⊗	-12.05 ↓	-13.70 ↓		

Note: Last price is for March 2021, *April, **February, ***January, ****December and *****November

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), ⊗ = high increase (>15%), ↘ = low decrease (0-5%), ↓ = moderate decrease (5-15%), ▼ = high decrease (>15%)

Similar observations compared to maize prices above also indicate that sorghum prices in South Sudan had a very high increase over the past 12 months, ranging from 83-177% (see Table 7). Also, prices over the past 1-6 months mostly show price surges. On the contrary, in Rwanda, sorghum prices generally declined in the past except for the last six months. A similar trend is expected in the next 3-6 months. Sorghum prices in Ethiopia declined in the past 1-3 months. On the contrary, the prices increased over the past 6-12 months.

Table 6: Changes in sorghum prices in selected East African Countries²⁷

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Ethiopia	Sorghum (red)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Birr/KG***	14	-0.73 ↘	-3.00 ↘	5.02 ↑	12.21 ↑		
Ethiopia	Sorghum (white)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Birr/KG***	22	-2.53 ↘	-8.85 ↓	-11.63 ↓	24.22 ⊗		
Rwanda	Sorghum	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG	442	-5.86 ↓	-9.56 ↓	0.38 ▲	-3.28 ↘	-8.73 ↓	-0.43 ↘
Rwanda	Sorghum	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG	350	-24.73 ↓	-27.08 ↓	25.00 ⊗	-10.26 ↓	7.01 ↑	-3.63 ↘
Rwanda	Sorghum	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG	350	-27.08 ↓	-27.08 ↓	16.67 ⊗	-17.32 ↓	-0.47 ↘	-7.12 ↓
South Sudan	Sorghum	Aweil, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	268	10.51 ↑	18.78 ⊗	-10.60 ↓	122.86 ⊗		
South Sudan	Sorghum	Juba, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	414	0.91 ▲	-3.60 ↘	86.46 ⊗	177.21 ⊗		
South Sudan	Sorghum	Rumbek, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	315	-1.17 ↘	7.32 ↑	2.33 ▲	83.33 ⊗		
South Sudan	Sorghum	Wau, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	348	1.42 ▲	18.73 ⊗	-22.34 ↓	122.89 ⊗		

Note: Last price is for March 2021, *April, **February, ***January, ****December and *****November

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), ⊗ = high increase (>15%), ↘ = low decrease (0-5%), ↓ = moderate decrease (5-15%), ▼ = high decrease (>15%)

²⁶ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

²⁷ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

Southern Africa

Compared to last month, maize prices in selected markets largely remained the same or have declined over the past month (see Table 8). Nonetheless, prices in five markets – Mzimba in Malawi, Maputo and Massinga in Mozambique, Livingstone and Lusaka in Zambia have had moderate price increases over the same period. However, in the past three months, except for prices in Pemba, maize prices in Mozambique and Zambia have increased, mostly exceeding 15%. While prices in Lilongwe, Nsanje, and the national average showed declining prices, Mzimba and Mzuzu had low (0-5%) to moderate (5-15%) increases over the same period. Compared to six months ago, maize prices in all markets, except Nsanje in Malawi, indicate a price surge, mostly exceeding 15%. These trends are closely related to the planting and pre-harvest seasons in these countries. However, in Mozambique, conflicts such as the cyclone witnessed in the recent past and restrictions after a spike in COVID-19 have impacted food availability and prices. On the contrary, in the past 12 months, maize prices have decreased in almost all markets, particularly in Malawi, where prices dropped from 37% to 51%. Forecasts for selected markets in Mozambique and Zambia show that prices are generally expected to decline in the next 3-6 months due to harvests. However, a few markets such as Pemba, Chibombo, and Mpika may experience price increases.

Table 7: Changes in maize prices in selected Southern African Countries²⁸

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Malawi	Maize (white)	Lilongwe, Retail, MWK/KG**	180	-7.69 ↓	-10.00 ↓	20.00	⊗ -51.35 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	Mzimba, Retail, MWK/KG	165	0.30 ▲	1.86 ▲	14.04	↑ -42.23 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	Mzuzu, Retail, MWK/KG	180	0.00 ●	5.88 ↑	20.00	⊗ -47.25 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, MWK/KG	182	-2.94 ▾	-9.48 ↓	0.28	▲ -39.75 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	Nsanje, Retail, MWK/KG	177	-12.95 ↓	-17.33 ↓	-10.41	↓ -37.69 ↓		
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Angónia, Retail, MZN/KG***	17	0.00 ●	7.13 ↑	21.56	⊗ -26.85 ↓	-17.74 ↓	-21.65 ↓
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/KG***	32	13.34 ↑	25.94 ⊗	20.37	⊗ 13.34 ↑	-2.16 ▾	-16.83 ↓
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Massinga, Retail, MZN/KG***	30	10.35 ↑	33.33 ⊗	39.18	⊗ -23.80 ↓	-6.46 ↓	-14.99 ↓
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Pemba, Retail, MZN/KG***	27	-11.57 ↓	-8.15 ↓	43.25	⊗ -4.48 ▾	13.37 ↑	5.83 ↑
Zambia	Maize (white)	Chibombo, Retail, ZMW/KG***	4	0.00 ●	26.73 ⊗	90.09	⊗ -4.95 ▾	10.90 ↑	-14.93 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Chipata, Retail, ZMW/KG***	4	0.00 ●	27.12 ⊗	36.49	⊗ -2.75 ▾	-3.86 ▾	-19.79 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Livingstone, Retail, ZMW/KG***	4	13.74 ↑	31.86 ⊗	31.86	⊗ -12.39 ↓	-10.54 ↓	-32.65 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Lusaka, Retail, ZMW/KG***	5	12.10 ↑	26.11 ⊗	36.34	⊗ 16.71 ⊗	-4.19 ▾	-8.37 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Mpika, Retail, ZMW/KG***	3	0.00 ●	24.72 ⊗	24.72	⊗ -45.50 ↓	19.22 ⊗	-21.32 ↓

Note: Last price is for March 2021, *April, **February, ***January, ****December and *****November

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), ⊗ = high increase (>15%), ▾ = low decrease (0-5%), ↓ = moderate decrease (5-15%), ▼ = high decrease (>15%)

West Africa

Overall, maize prices increased in the past 1-12 months, with severity in the Nigerian and Togolese markets (Table 9). In most of the selected West Africa markets, the price surges ranged from 25 to 120% in the past 12 months. In Nigeria, food inflation rose by almost 23% in March 2021.²⁹ Some of the driving factors in the Nigerian price increases, including conflicts (insurgencies and unrests), restrictions on food imports such as rice, and economic decline compounded by COVID-19 impacts,

²⁸ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

²⁹ <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/4/16/it-is-really-bad-nigerians-go-hungry-as-food-inflation-soars>

accounted for the food inflation situation.^{30,31} Price surges were also observed for Ghana in the past 6-12 months. However, the remaining periods under consideration have exhibited mixed results (while prices declined in the Bolga market, the Accra market saw a price increase). In Ghana and Togo, the impacts of Covid-19 and its attendant border and export restrictions may have influenced the food prices. In Cote d'Ivoire, maize prices in the past 1-12 months have increased by 5% or more in Man market, while in Korhogo, except for the last 3 months, maize prices have declined, and it is expected to remain the same over the next 3-6 months. Regarding the outlook for the next 3-6 months, the Ivorian markets - Accra, Gao, Kayes Centre and Niarela - are expected to experience price declines, while all other markets would see price surges.

Table 8: Changes in maize prices in selected West African countries³²

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Cote d'Ivoire	Maize (white)	Korhogo, Retail, XOF/KG	219	-7.89 ↓	9.38 ↑	-5.41 ↓	-12.50 ↓	-7.11 ↓	-10.80 ↓
Cote d'Ivoire	Maize (white)	Man, Retail, XOF/KG	217	8.33 ↑	8.33 ↑	8.33 ↑	23.81 ×	-6.16 ↓	-6.09 ↓
Ghana	Maize (white)	Accra, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	229	25.67 ×	33.83 ×	43.13 ×	40.21 ×	-0.35 ↘	-2.24 ↘
Ghana	Maize (white)	Bolga, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	149	-10.93 ↓	-15.28 ↓	-0.15 ↘	25.15 ×	4.84 ▲	16.47 ×
Ghana	Maize (white)	Kumasi, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	284	-8.14 ↓	47.44 ×	80.92 ×	45.07 ×	18.60 ×	25.76 ×
Ghana	Maize (white)	Techiman, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	169	9.85 ↑	-4.52 ↘	77.89 ×	69.00 ×	39.88 ×	-10.77 ↓
Mali	Maize (white)	Ansongo, Retail, XOF/KG***	200	0.00 ●	-9.09 ↓	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	5.56 ↑	9.78 ↑
Mali	Maize (white)	Badalabougou, Retail, XOF/KG***	200	14.29 ↑	14.29 ↑	18.34 ×	23.46 ×	-2.17 ↘	4.61 ▲
Mali	Maize (white)	Faladié, Retail, XOF/KG***	175	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-3.31 ↘	4.17 ▲	4.34 ▲	12.67 ↑
Mali	Maize (white)	Gao, Retail, XOF/KG***	225	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-5.50 ↓	-7.66 ↓
Mali	Maize (white)	Kayes Centre, Retail, XOF/KG***	250	23.15 ×	2.46 ▲	25.00 ×	25.00 ×	-16.06 ↓	-15.66 ↓
Mali	Maize (white)	Niarela, Retail, XOF/KG***	175	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	16.67 ×	-0.17 ↘	-0.13 ↘
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Ibadan, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	220	12.10 ↑	44.50 ×	10.55 ↑	117.28 ×		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Kano, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	198	8.94 ↑	38.51 ×	5.59 ↑	115.21 ×		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Kaura Namoda, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	181	4.12 ▲	23.54 ×	-3.16 ↘	92.85 ×		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Lagos, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	197	7.50 ↑	34.93 ×	-0.51 ↘	84.98 ×		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Maiduguri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	190	7.04 ↑	27.73 ×	4.83 ▲	120.29 ×		
Togo	Maize (white)	Amegnanran, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	175	16.67 ×	29.63 ×	10.76 ↑	34.62 ×		
Togo	Maize (white)	Anie, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	173	12.34 ↑	0.00 ●	23.57 ×	33.08 ×		
Togo	Maize (white)	Cinkassé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG**	180	27.66 ×	33.33 ×	17.65 ×	36.36 ×		
Togo	Maize (white)	Kara, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	200	6.95 ↑	4.17 ▲	6.38 ↑	38.89 ×		
Togo	Maize (white)	Kor bongou, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	192	23.08 ×	42.22 ×	28.00 ×	42.22 ×		
Togo	Maize (white)	Lomé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	212	10.42 ↑	10.42 ↑	7.07 ↑	26.19 ×		

Note: Last price is for March 2021, *April, **February, ***January, ****December and *****November

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), × = high increase (>15%), ↘ = low decrease (0-5%), ↓ = moderate decrease (5-15%), ▼ = high decrease (>15%)

Millet prices in all selected markets in the West African region show moderate (5-15%) to high (>15%) increases in the past 12 months (Table 10). In Nigeria, these increases ranged from 61-109%, while in the Burkinabe markets, some price changes are as high as 65%. Generally, the Nigerian market has exhibited price increases in the past 1-12 months. Some of the driving factors include conflict and economic decline compounded by COVID-19 impacts. Niger also experienced price increases in the past 1-3 months, with Goure showing the highest price change of 57%. In the past 1-6 months, the Burkinabe and Malian markets showed mixed results, with some prices remaining the same as

³⁰ WFP and FAO. 2021

³¹ <https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/4/16/it-is-really-bad-nigerians-go-hungry-as-food-inflation-soars>

³² Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

previous months, while others have increased or decreased. Similarly, forecasts for the next 3-6 months show mixed results for the Burkinabe, Malian, and Nigerien markets.

Table 9: Changes in millet prices in selected West African countries³³

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Burkina Faso	Millet	Batié, Retail, XOF/KG**	226	2.26 ▲	-14.07 ↓	13.00 ↑	37.80 ×	-7.58 ↓	-7.00 ↓
Burkina Faso	Millet	Bousse, Retail, XOF/KG**	179	0.00 ●	-5.29 ↓	0.00 ●	9.82 ↑	-1.62 ▾	-3.27 ▾
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dori, Retail, XOF/KG**	250	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-14.38 ↓	5.93 ↑	5.41 ↑	16.54 ×
Burkina Faso	Millet	Faramana, Retail, XOF/KG**	145	9.85 ↑	-13.69 ↓	-12.65 ↓	22.88 ×	4.72 ▲	8.06 ↑
Burkina Faso	Millet	Gourcy, Retail, XOF/KG**	230	4.07 ▲	6.48 ↑	11.65 ↑	33.72 ×	6.58 ↑	8.02 ↑
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouagadougou (Sankaryare), Retail, XOF/KG**	249	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-4.60 ▾	16.36 ×	-4.93 ▾	-7.16 ↓
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouargaye, Retail, XOF/KG**	203	3.05 ▲	-0.98 ▾	10.33 ↑	65.04 ×	2.90 ▲	-3.04 ▾
Burkina Faso	Millet	Titao, Retail, XOF/KG**	165	1.85 ▲	12.24 ↑	5.77 ↑	17.02 ×	11.02 ↑	11.85 ↑
Mali	Millet	Ansongo, Retail, XOF/KG***	230	-2.13 ▾	-16.36 ↓	-9.45 ↓	15.00 ↑	12.23 ↑	7.85 ↑
Mali	Millet	Badalabougou, Retail, XOF/KG***	225	9.22 ↑	-10.00 ↓	9.22 ↑	12.50 ↑	-2.48 ▾	-3.05 ▾
Mali	Millet	Faladié, Retail, XOF/KG***	200	0.00 ●	-11.11 ↓	-2.91 ▾	0.00 ●	-0.53 ▾	-0.26 ▾
Mali	Millet	Gao, Retail, XOF/KG***	265	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-2.21 ▾	6.00 ↑	-3.43 ▾	-5.05 ↓
Mali	Millet	Kayes Centre, Retail, XOF/KG***	265	2.71 ▲	-11.67 ↓	-3.28 ▾	5.16 ↑	3.60 ▲	1.74 ▲
Mali	Millet	Niarela, Retail, XOF/KG***	200	0.00 ●	-13.42 ↓	-11.11 ↓	14.29 ↑	3.47 ▲	2.38 ▲
Niger	Millet	Abalak, Retail, XOF/KG**	309	5.82 ↑	29.83 ×	-15.02 ↓	16.17 ×	6.01 ↑	16.63 ×
Niger	Millet	Bonkaney, Retail, XOF/KG	262	3.97 ▲	13.91 ↑	-14.38 ↓	11.97 ↑	1.93 ▲	10.02 ↑
Niger	Millet	Goure, Retail, XOF/KG	307	0.66 ▲	57.44 ×	-6.69 ↓	7.34 ↑	10.10 ↑	4.17 ▲
Niger	Millet	Katakou, Retail, XOF/KG	276	3.76 ▲	36.63 ×	-10.10 ↓	15.00 ↑	-3.41 ▾	2.20 ▲
Nigeria	Millet	Ibadan, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	235	16.38 ×	37.94 ×	11.67 ↑	109.38 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Kano, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	193	5.33 ↑	38.30 ×	7.22 ↑	99.09 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Kaura Namoda, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	210	11.26 ↑	37.24 ×	5.53 ↑	100.91 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Lagos, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	214	4.01 ▲	4.78 ▲	-9.43 ↓	61.63 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Maiduguri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	189	6.34 ↑	25.83 ×	6.34 ↑	104.05 ×		

Note: Last price is for March 2021, *April, **February, ***January, ****December and *****November

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), × = high increase (>15%), ▾ = low decrease (0-5%), ▽ = moderate decrease (5-15%), ↓ = high decrease (>15%)

Except for the Badalabougou, Faladie, and Gao markets in Mali, and the Anie market in Togo, all focus markets have experienced moderate (5-15%) to high (>15%) price surges over the past 12 months (Table 11). The Nigerian and Togolese markets have again shown similar high price increases for sorghum, just as Maize and Millet, over the past 12 months. Most sorghum prices in the selected Malian markets remained unchanged from the previous month (February 2021). Over the past one month, all sorghum prices have risen in the Nigerien and Nigerian markets. In Togo, except for the Anie and Lome markets, sorghum prices have increased in all selected markets over the past 1-6 months. Forecasts for the next 3-6 months in the Malian and Nigerien markets show mixed results. Prices are likely to surge in all markets in Niger for the next 6 months. Most Malian markets are predicted to have price declines in the next 3-6 months.

³³ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)

Table 10: Changes in sorghum prices in selected West African countries³⁴

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Mali	Sorghum	Ansongo, Retail, XOF/KG***	225	0.00 ●	-10.00 ↓	-4.26 ↘	12.50 ↑	4.44 ▲	3.86 ▲
Mali	Sorghum	Badalabougou, Retail, XOF/KG***	200	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	10.50 ↑	0.00 ●	-3.60 ↘	-3.16 ↘
Mali	Sorghum	Faladié, Retail, XOF/KG***	200	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-2.91 ↘	0.00 ●	5.14 ↑	11.52 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Gao, Retail, XOF/KG***	250	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-4.09 ↘	-6.35 ↓
Mali	Sorghum	Kayes Centre, Retail, XOF/KG***	250	11.11 ↑	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	1.21 ▲	-3.06 ↘	-5.06 ↓
Mali	Sorghum	Niarela, Retail, XOF/KG***	181	3.43 ▲	-3.72 ↘	-9.50 ↓	11.73 ↑	-3.36 ↘	-1.54 ↘
Niger	Sorghum	Abalak, Retail, XOF/KG**	295	6.12 ↑	7.66 ↑	-8.67 ↓	67.61 ⊗	11.95 ↑	15.69 ⊗
Niger	Sorghum	Bonkaney, Retail, XOF/KG	258	2.38 ▲	2.79 ▲	-7.86 ↓	6.17 ↑	-0.65 ↘	8.84 ↑
Niger	Sorghum	Goure, Retail, XOF/KG	268	0.75 ▲	43.32 ⊗	-9.76 ↓	10.74 ↑	6.00 ↑	7.53 ↑
Niger	Sorghum	Katakou, Retail, XOF/KG	255	2.41 ▲	40.11 ⊗	-9.57 ↓	6.25 ↑	-3.92 ↘	13.58 ↑
Nigeria	Sorghum	Ibadan, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	220	8.64 ↑	-15.38 ↓	4.76 ▲	108.04 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Kano, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	184	8.88 ↑	36.87 ⊗	-0.74 ↘	95.87 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Kaura Namoda, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	188	4.62 ▲	22.87 ⊗	-8.19 ↓	100.53 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Lagos, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	207	0.03 ▲	-7.37 ↓	-11.06 ↓	80.01 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Maiduguri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	181	2.11 ▲	-31.17 ↓	2.11 ▲	126.56 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Anie, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	210	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-14.29 ↓	-2.78 ↘		
Togo	Sorghum	Cinkassé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	210	17.98 ⊗	32.91 ⊗	44.83 ⊗	57.89 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Kara, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	270	3.05 ▲	10.20 ↑	3.85 ▲	22.73 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Korbongou, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	210	5.00 ▲	11.70 ↑	50.00 ⊗	36.36 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Lomé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	297	0.00 ●	-0.34 ↘	-7.19 ↓	23.75 ⊗		

Note: Last price is for March 2021, *April, **February, ***January, ****December and *****November

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), ⊗ = high increase (>15%), ↘ = low decrease (0-5%), ↓ = moderate decrease (5-15%), ▼ = high decrease (>15%)

³⁴ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)



Climatic Conditions and Potential Implications for Food and Nutrition Security

Similar to the previous month, predictions for East Africa indicate above-normal rainfall in the southern and equatorial parts of the region (Figure 9). As reported last month, the rainfall creates conducive conditions for the ongoing cropping season in the region. In Southern Africa, the declining rainfall trend continues as the harvesting of the main seasonal crops continues. The limited rainfall conditions in areas where harvesting is ongoing could be conducive for ensuring quality harvests. Heavy rainfall could result in the deterioration of harvests leading to high post-harvest losses, especially where farmers lack adequate storage facilities. The West African region is projected to receive above-normal rainfall along the coastal areas providing conducive cropping conditions for seasonal crops such as rice, maize and sorghum already planted. The improvements in rainfall compared to the previous month could improve seasonal harvests and supplies at the end of the ongoing cropping season.

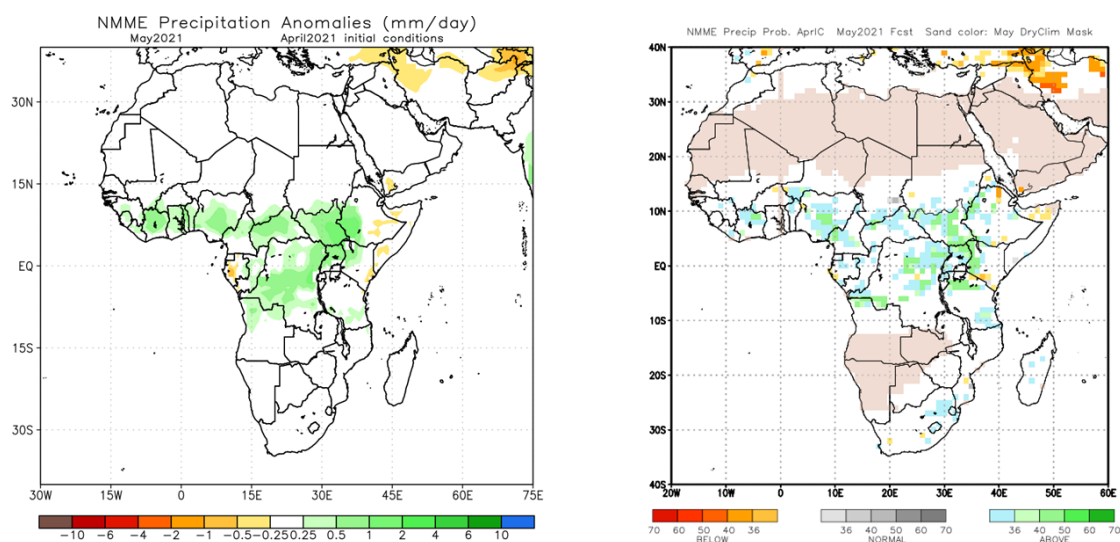


Figure 8: North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) rainfall forecast for May 2021, based on April 2021 initial conditions³⁵

³⁵ The image on the left shows the probabilistic forecast and the right image shows the standardized forecast anomaly (the average across the models). The orange/red and green colours indicate the dominant category (below-normal or above-normal) forecast by the NMME models – colour intensity shows the corresponding probability of the forecast. White indicates where there is disagreement amongst models as the most likely tercile category. Original images are available at www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov



Desert Locust Outbreak and Impacts on Food Security and Trade

Compared to last month, the FAO desert locust situation shows declines in swarms in affected East Africa countries, particularly Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia (Figure 10). The control operations continue in these countries. Also, unlike the previous month, the widespread rains experienced in April could result in some of the remaining swarms maturing. As a result, Ethiopia and Kenya could experience desert egg-laying, hatching and band formation in May, although at a smaller scale compared to last year. Similar to the previous month, regional food trade and humanitarian activities are essential to providing nutritious food to vulnerable communities that have experienced the brunt of multiple risks in the region.

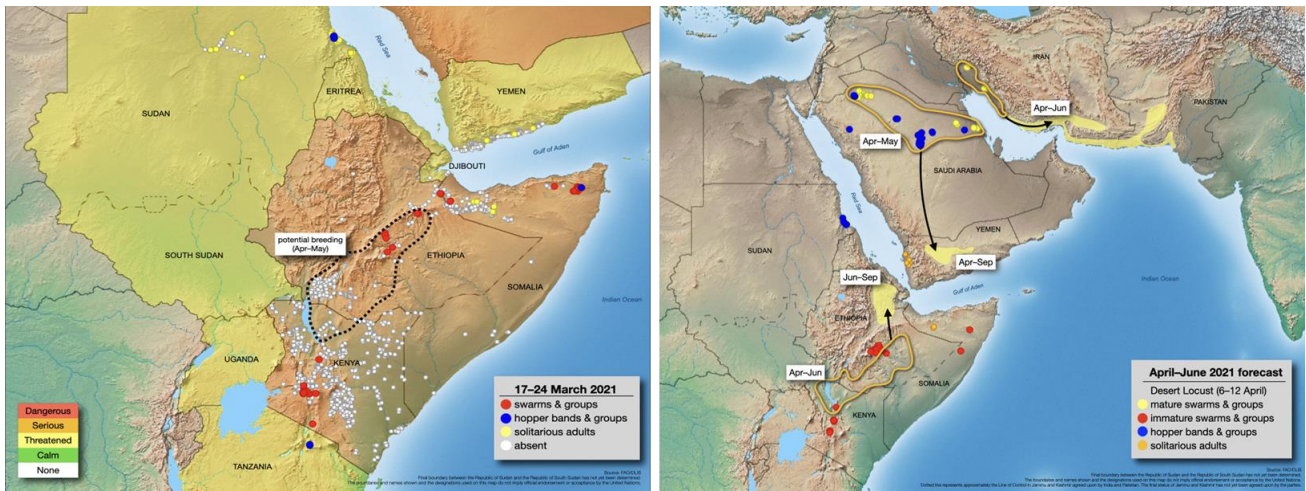


Figure 9: Situation, threat and forecast of desert locust in East Africa³⁶

³⁶ <http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts/common/ecg/75/en/210325DLupdate.jpg>. Accessed 2 April 2021 and <http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts/common/ecg/75/en/210413DLforecast.jpg>. Accessed 29 April 2021



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