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PRICE & POLICY

Bi-Weekly Monitor

AFRICA FOOD TRADE AND
RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

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The Africa Commodity Price and Policy Monitor is an AGRA bi-weekly publication that monitors changes in commodity prices amidst the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict across selected African countries where AGRA has presence. The monitor also tracks the policy responses and various measures that governments in these countries have put in place to mitigate the impact of the crisis and avert food insecurity. This publication provides commodity prices and policy updates for the bi-weekly period ending 29th of July 2022.

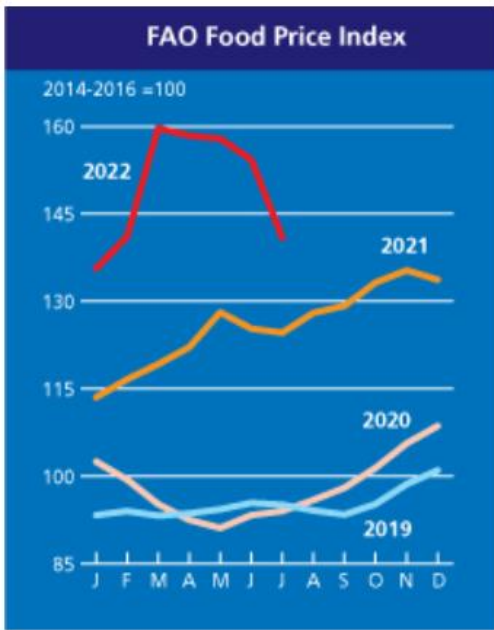
Key Messages and Recommendations

- 1. Global food and fertilizer prices continue to show downward trends, largely driven by an improvement in supply as some regions have begun to harvest, and the relief of the Ukraine grain deal. The low uptake of fertilizers due to high prices, and a low off-season demand, are influencing a decline in fertilizer prices.*
- 2. In East Africa, changes in commodity prices show mixed results. However, Uganda and Tanzania show a greater leaning towards declining food commodity prices in the immediate terms (such as 2-4 weeks), due to ongoing harvests. Except in Tanzania, maize prices have dropped in all selected East African countries compared to the last 2-4 weeks.*
- 3. In Mozambique, all food commodity prices have remained the same over the past one month. Most prices, however, remain above their previous levels three months ago, except maize, which is lower by 26.7%.*
- 4. In West Africa, changes in prices show mixed results. Nonetheless, the prices of most commodities in Burkina Faso and Mali show stability or some declines in the last 2-4 weeks but remain largely higher than they were three months ago. However, the prices of some commodities have experienced declines compared to 2-4 weeks ago.*
- 5. In terms of policy responses, most countries continue to implement tax waivers and subsidy programmes meant to ameliorate the impact of higher prices. Others are investing in local manufacturing capacities. Development partners' support has also gained momentum, with AfDB and Yara, and others committing funds to support governments and farmers.*

1.0 Global Overview

1.1 Global Food Price Trends

The FAO food price index took a further dip in August, dropping from 154.25 in June to 140.94 at the end of July 2022. This decline was largely driven by the cereal, vegetable oil, and dairy indices which fell by 11.5%, 19.2%, and 2.5%, respectively. The IGC Grains and Oilseeds Index also showed similar trends, dropping from 317 on 29th July to 304 on 16th August 2022. Apparently, the Russia-Ukraine grain deal, which seeks to unblock Ukraine's main Black Sea ports, is lowering grain prices. In addition, seasonal ongoing harvests are giving some respite to food availability and driving down most grain prices.¹



Source: FAO.org

IGC Grains and Oilseeds Index and sub-Indices (Daily)

Jan-00 = 100



Source: AMIS

World Bank Commodities Price Data (The Pink Sheet)

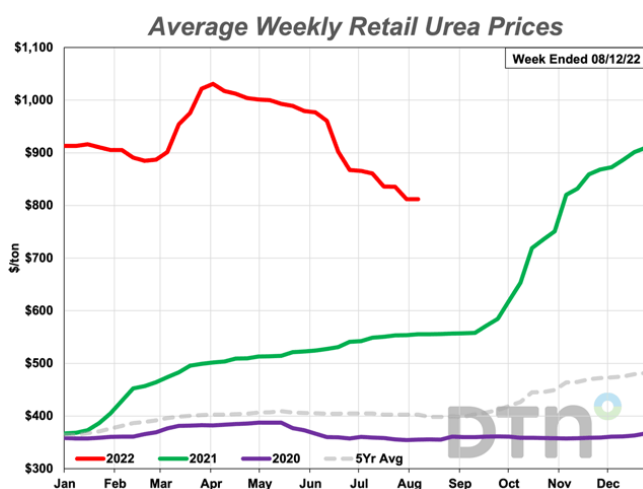
2-Aug-2022

Commodity	Unit	Annual Averages			Quarterly Averages				Monthly Averages			
		Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Jan-Dec	Apr-Jun	Jul-Sep	Oct-Dec	Jan-Mar	Apr-Jun	May	Jun	Jul
		2019	2020	2021	2021	2021	2021	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022
Maize	\$/mt b/	170.1	165.5	259.5	288.7	256.9	251.0	301.6	342.9	344.8	335.7	323.0
Rice, Thailand 5%	\$/mt b/	418.0	496.8	458.3	484.7	405.7	400.3	425.3	446.3	464.0	444.0	418.0
Rice, Thailand 25%	\$/mt	410.4	481.8	448.3	474.0	396.7	394.0	420.0	442.7	458.0	441.0	412.0
Rice, Thailand A1	\$/mt	393.5	474.6	436.1	459.6	386.4	380.7	405.4	426.5	442.9	427.6	405.7
Rice, Vietnam 5%	\$/mt	351.9	428.0	446.3	480.0	402.6	406.2	390.6	406.9	406.5	411.9	411.1
Sorghum	\$/mt	161.5	171.6
Wheat, U.S., HRW **	\$/mt b/	201.7	231.6	315.2	287.9	318.8	370.3	417.0	492.4	522.3	459.6	382.5
Wheat, U.S., SRW **	\$/mt	211.3	227.7	281.7	271.9	264.8	331.2	370.4	415.2	438.4	379.9	316.7

1.2 Global Fertilizer Price Trends

International fertilizer prices continue to fall with all types of fertilizer showing declines between July and August. For instance, dry urea price dropped by 6% from \$861/ton in July to \$812/ton in August, while potash price fell from \$885/ton to \$881/ton during the same period. The general hike in fertilizer prices as well as seasonal demands have lowered the global demand for fertilizer, with many countries in Africa cutting their subsidy programmes by half. All of these contributed to lower fertilizer prices over the period.

¹ <https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/>



Date Range	DAP	MAP	POTASH	UREA
Aug 9-13 2021	695	755	563	555
Sep 6-10 2021	699	757	575	558
Oct 4-8 2021	736	829	675	653
Nov 1-5 2021	814	900	750	820
Nov 29-Dec 3 2021	836	918	777	873
Dec 27-31 2021	864	931	809	911
Jan 24-28 2022	877	936	814	910
Feb 21-25 2022	874	934	815	885
Mar 21-25 2022	1014	1018	850	976
Apr 18-22 2022	1050	1079	879	1012
May 16-20 2022	1059	1083	878	993
Jun 13-17 2022	1046	1074	879	961
Jul 11-15 2022	100	1052	885	861
Aug 8-12 2022	982	1032	881	812

Source: DTN

2.0 East Africa Price and Policy updates

Rwanda

Commodity Prices

The average recorded commodity prices show mixed results in Rwanda. Between August 17 and 21, changes in prices show that maize, wheat flour, rice, banana and sugar prices decreased by 10%, 23.1%, 14.3%, 23.3%, and 17.6%, respectively, while cooking oil prices rose by 11.1%, as fuel and fertilizer prices remained unchanged. Compared to three months ago, while the prices of rice, soybeans, cooking oil, banana, and sugar declined, the prices of maize and maize flour, wheat flour, sorghum, beans, and potato increased. The price of potato increased by 50%, wheat flour by 40.4%, and sorghum by 33.3%. Fertilizer prices are down between 1% and 1.8% as a result of government subsidy – for instance, the market price for UREA (unsubsidized) is 1,257frw/kg; the government contributes 503 frw and the farmer pays 754 frw/kg; for DAP 1,428 frw/kg, the government pays 600 frw and the farmer pays 828 frw, and for NPK the government and farmer contributes 648 frw/kg and 882 frw respectively costing 1,530frw. The price of petrol and diesel, on the other hand, is higher than it was in May by about 18%.

Table 1: Average retail commodity prices in Rwanda

	April	May	June	July	07-Aug	21-Aug	% Change 7-21 Aug.	% Change 3 Months ago
Maize (kg)	400	437.5	400	458.5	500	450	-10.0	2.9
Maize meal/flour	800	900	800	875	900	950	5.6	5.6
Wheat flour	700	712.5	850	1050	1300	1000	-23.1	40.4
Rice (kg)	1200	1300	1225	1350	1400	1200	-14.3	-7.7
Soybeans	1000	1000	1000	1000	900	900	0.0	-10.0
Sunflower cooking oil (litre)	3800	3800	3800	3700	3600	4000	11.1	5.3
Cooking oil (liter)	3000	3150	3000	2700	2700	3000	11.1	-4.8
Sorghum (kg)	600	600	750	800	800	800	0.0	33.3
Beans /kg	700	737.5	715	750	850	900	5.9	22.0
Potato/kg	350	300	375	412.5	420	450	7.1	50.0
Banana/kg	290	250	260	270	300	230	-23.3	-8.0

	April	May	June	July	07-Aug	21-Aug	% Change 7-21 Aug.	% Change 3 Months ago
Sugar/kg	2000	1800	1700	1700	1700	1400	-17.6	-22.2
UREA (/1kg)	768	768	768	768	754	754	0.0	-1.8
DAP (/1kg)	832	832	832	832	824	824	0.0	-1.0
NPK 17:17:17 (/1kg)	882	882	882	882	882	882	0.0	0.0
Petrol (liter)	1359	1359	1460	1460	1609	1609	0.0	18.4
Diesel (liter)	1368	1368	1503	1503	1607	1607	0.0	17.5
Gas/kg	1600	1600	1600	#DIV/0!	1400	1400	0.0	-12.5

Policy responses to the crisis

The following are some of the measures that have been put in place to manage the impact of the crisis in the country:

- The government has set up a recovery fund to cushion the hardest-hit businesses
- Rwanda has extended its subsidy programme on agricultural inputs for the 2023 Season A as indicated above. Also, the country is currently building a plant to produce fertilizers locally.
- In the past four months, the government injected Rwf 23 billion in subsidizing petroleum products and there will be no increase in the cost of public transport because this subsidy has also been designed to benefit public transport operators.

Kenya

Commodity Prices

There are mixed price trends over the past two weeks and three months in Kenya as well. Commodities such as maize, finger millet, white sorghum, and rice have recorded price drops, whereas pearl rush millet, red sorghum, and wheat have recorded price surges over the past two weeks. Wheat prices have increased by 40% and red sorghum by 21%, whereas maize and white sorghum dropped by 23% and 19%, respectively. Compared to the past three months, however, most prices are higher, with wheat and maize rising by 76.7% and 36%, respectively. Apart from these, finger millet and white sorghum have recorded a drop in prices, by 6.5% and 11.2% when compared to three months ago. Fertilizer prices are generally lower than they were two weeks and three months ago, with DAP and NPK dropping significantly by 87.2% and 89.8%, respectively from the three-month level. This is due to the low demand of the product as the season has ended and farmers are harvesting.

Table 2: Average retail commodity prices in Kenya

Commodities	April	May	June	08-Jul	15-Jul	30-Jul	15-Aug	% Change 2 Weeks ago	% Change 3 months ago
Maize (Dry)	49	55.5	65.5	79	78	98.3	75.5	-23.3	36.0
Finger Millet	123	124.5	124.5	122	121	134.0	116.4	-13.2	-6.5
Pearl Rush Millet	85	87.25	92.5	104	105	85.0	91.7	7.8	5.1
Red Sorghum	68.333	70.75	79	79	75	71.1	86.2	21.1	21.8
White Sorghum	71	77.5	80.5	87	88	85.0	68.8	-19.0	-11.2
Rice	132.67	137.25	145.5	149	152	174.8	153.8	-12.0	12.1
Wheat	79.333	79.25	86.5	94	102	100.0	140.0	40.0	76.7
Beans	111.5	114	116	123	125				
DAP	1053	1065				132.5	136.7	3.1	-87.2
NPK 17 17 17	-	1025				112	105.0	-6.3	-89.8
Urea	1203	1233							

Commodities	April	May	June	08-Jul	15-Jul	30-Jul	15-Aug	% Change 2 Weeks ago	% Change 3 months ago
CAN						123	115.0	-6.5	

Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries & Cooperatives FSMC Report. 20 July 2022; and KAMIS

Source of Fertilizer Prices: AfricaFertilizer.org

Policy responses to the crisis

The government of Kenya continues to implement policy measures such as the suspension of levies on imports of maize and animal feed products; tariff exemptions for genetically engineered cottonseed cake, distillers' dried grains with solubles, and rapeseed cake, and a fertilizer subsidy programme. However, the four-week subsidy programme to bring the price of sifted maize flour prices to Ksh.100 is expected to end giving way to projected increases in maize flour prices.

Uganda

Commodity Prices

Most commodity prices in Uganda have eased in the last three weeks (between 1-19 August), with maize, maize flour, millet, and cassava prices decreasing by 11%, 19%, 12%, and 19.5%, respectively. This is as a result of the start of the harvesting season. The prices of fertilizer have, however, remained unchanged, whereas the prices of beans and fuel increased marginally over the same period - beans increased by 12.3%. Compared to May, only millet and soybean prices have decreased by 8.7% and 13.7%, respectively. Notably, the prices of maize and maize flour prices have remained above their previous level by around 11%, while beans, cassava, and matooke have risen by 32%, 12.1% and 21.9%, respectively. The demand for beans across the border was reported to be high, attributed to increased demand from traders in Kenya.

Table 3: Average wholesale commodity prices/Kg in Uganda

Commodities	April	May	June	July	1-5 Aug.	8-12 Aug.	15-19 Aug.	% Change 1-19 Aug.	% Change May - 19 Aug.
Maize	1382.5	1356.9	1656.3	1750.3	1696.0	1735.0	1510.0	-11.0	11.3
Maize meal/flour	2388.0	2474.0	2691.0	3259.5	3412.0	3372.0	2764.0	-19.0	11.7
Rice	3509.5	3610.6	3678.5	3899.0	4080.0	4104.0	3892.0	-4.6	7.8
Millet	2702.5	2874.0	2759.0	2840.5	2981.0	2977.0	2623.0	-12.0	-8.7
Soybeans	3181.5	3234.9	3098.8	3089.3	3083.0	3083.0	2791.0	-9.5	-13.7
Bean (K132)	2548.0	2689.0	2654.0	2990.3	3161.0	3604.0	3550.0	12.3	32.0
Fresh cassava	404.5	389.9	413.0	487.0	543.0	537.0	437.0	-19.5	12.1
Matooke	1033.0	645.7	574.5	715.3	855.0	905.0	787.0	-8.0	21.9
Nitrate fertilizer (Urea)/50kg		207500.0	220000.0	220000.0	220000.0	220000.0	220000.0	0.0	6.0
Phosphate fertilizer (DAP)/ 50kg		215000.0	225000.0	225000.0	225000.0	225000.0	225000.0	0.0	4.7
Petrol		1.5	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	4.3	13.6
Diesel		1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	3.2	8.3

Source of commodity prices: FarmGrain Africa 2022. Prices are collected from 25 towns in Uganda

Source of Fuel Prices: https://www.globalpetrolprices.com/diesel_prices/

Source of fertilizer Prices-Grain Pulse (A former Grantee of AGRA)

Policy responses to the crisis

The following are some of the measures that have been put in place to manage the impact of the crisis in the country:

- The Ugandan government continues to implement measures aiming at helping farmers grow alternative income generating crops such as vegetables, grains such as wheat and corn, sunflower and soybean
- The Ugandan government, under the Local Economic Growth Support Project (LEGS), is set to invest Shs7.87 billion into the establishment of agro-processing plants for processing maize, oilseeds, rice, and coffee in seven districts across the country.²

Tanzania

Commodity Prices

Commodities price changes over the last two weeks, and since April, show mixed results. Maize prices have generally been higher (6% – 39%) than they were on a week-on-week comparison, as well as compared to April. The prices of beans are also higher by 17% compared to April. Millet and sorghum prices have, however, recorded lower prices than the two comparable periods. Compared to April, millet prices dropped by 10.37%, while sorghum prices fell by 2.57%. Fuel prices generally remain higher for the two comparable periods.

Table 4: Average retail commodity prices in Tanzania

	11-17 Apr	25-30 Apr	April	May	June	8-12 Aug	15-19 Aug	% Change 8-19 Aug.	% Change April-Aug
Maize	61,900	65,000	63,450	70,900	78,300	82,900	88,000	6.15	38.69
Beans	170,000	185,200	177,600	183,900	186,900	206,100	208,100	0.97	17.17
Rice	188,700	188,600	188,650	193,000	202,400	210,500	210,200	-0.14	11.42
Millet	169,300	170,300	169,800	177,600		166,200	152,200	-8.42	- 10.37
Round potatoes	72,800	72,800	72,800	73,300	81,200	80,800	80,800	0	10.99
Sorghum	118,300	119,000	118,650	122,400	124,200	121,600	115,600	-4.93	- 2.57
Nitrate fertilizer (kg)	744	744	744	707	690				
Phosphate fertilizer (kg)	938	938	938	842.5	783.8				
Petrol (litre)		2,861	2,861	2,994	3220	3220	3410	5.90	19.19
Diesel (litre)		2,450	2,450	3,131	3143	3143	3322	5.69	35.59
Paraffin (litre)		2,682	2,682	3299	3442	3442	3765	9.38	40.38

Policy responses to the crisis

The following are some of the measures that have been put in place to manage impact of the crisis in the country:

- The government has launched a fertilizer subsidy programme, following which, a bag of DAP that previously cost sh131,675 now goes sh70,000, a bag of UREA, which used to sell at sh124,714 now costing sh70,000 only, while CAN will now cost sh60,000, down from 108,156 before the subsidy
- With the ongoing rise in fuel prices, the government has instituted a subsidy of 6.45% for petrol and 12.40% for diesel to cushion consumers. Kerosene remains unsubsidized.

² <https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/news/national/govt-to-build-agro-processing-plants-in-seven-districts-3911028>

3.0 Southern Africa Price and Policy Updates

Mozambique

Commodity Prices

All food commodities prices have remained the same over the past one month in Mozambique mostly due to stability from the impacts of conflicts. The price of urea has dropped by 7.9%, while the price of NPK fertilizer has not changed. Fuel prices have surged marginally by 1.2%, but gas prices have dropped by 3.5%. Compared to three months ago, i.e. May, prices recorded in August show that the price of maize had decreased by 26.7%, whereas the prices of wheat flour, bread, imported rice, and cooking oil increased by 23.1%, 33.3%, 5.9%, and 38.2%, respectively. Similarly, the prices of NPK fertilizer, petrol, diesel, and gas increased by 8.5%, 11.4%, 21.9%, and 22.4%, respectively. The price of urea, on the other hand, has not changed compared to May.

Table 5: Average wholesale commodity prices in Mozambique

Commodity	April	May	June	July	24-Aug	% change M/M	% Change 3 Months
Maize (100kg)	1500	1500	1300	1100	1100	0.0	-26.7
Maize meal/flour(100kg)	3200	3200	3200	3200	3200	0.0	0.0
Wheat flour(100kg)	6500	6500	7000	8000	8000	0.0	23.1
Bread (125g)	6	6	8	8	8	0.0	33.3
Rice - imported (100kg)	6800	6800	6800	7200	7200	0.0	5.9
Soybeans (100kg)				3500	3500	0.0	
Cooking oil (5litres)	850	850	1062.5	1175	1175	0.0	38.2
UREA (50kg)	3500	3500	3650	3,800	3,500	-7.9	0.0
NPK (50 kg)	2950	2950	3075	3,200	3,200	0.0	8.5
Petrol (MTN/Lit)	73	79	83.3	86.97	88	1.2	11.4
Diesel (MTN/lit)	79	73	78.48	87.97	89	1.2	21.9
Gas (ETB/Lit) (13kg bottle)	80.49	80.49	85.53	102.02	98.5	-3.5	22.4

Policy responses to the crisis

The following are some of the measures that have been put in place to manage impact of the crisis in the country:

- The government of Mozambique continues to implement measures such as VAT exemptions on seeds, insecticides, pesticides, fungicides, organic fertilizers and agricultural machinery, as well as subsidies and finance for companies that produce day-old chicks. Also, there are efforts to expand wheat production through the revitalization of the Instituto de Investigacao Agraria de Mocambique's (Agricultural Research Institute of Mozambique's) seed production in the country, with emphasis on production in the Niassa province.

4.0 West Africa Price and Policy updates

Burkina Faso

Commodity Prices

Table 6 below presents the average retail commodity prices since April 2022. Changes in prices over two comparable periods, August 7-21 and May to 21 August show mixed results. Over the two weeks in August, maize, paddy rice, imported rice, and soyabeans prices have decreased against their previous levels. The prices of paddy rice, imported rice, and soyabeans dropped the most by 37.6%, 11.7%, and 22.4%, respectively. On the other hand, the prices of red sorghum, sesame, and wheat flour increased by 43.1%, 8.5%, and 10%, respectively compared to what was recorded on 7th August 2022. The prices of cooking oil, fertilizers, and fuel remained unchanged over the periods in August. Compared to prices recorded in May, however, only soybeans, bread, and wheat flour registered lower prices. All other commodities have recorded higher prices than in May, with red sorghum increasing the most by 50.4%, followed by paddy rice (36.1%), white sorghum and sesame (14.2%), millet (13.8%), etc. The prices of NPK and Urea fertilizers were also higher than in May by 14.3% each, while petrol prices recorded 3.6% increase over the same period as diesel and gas prices remained static.

Table 6: Average retail commodity prices in Burkina Faso

	April	May	June	July	07-Aug	21-Aug	% Change 7-21 Aug.	% Change May – 21 Aug
Maize (kg)	289	281	299	299	299	293	-2.0	4.2
Yellow Maize (kg)	297	285	297	294	298	294	-1.3	3.1
White sorghum (kg)	296	307	332	331	345	350	1.4	14.2
Red sorghum (kg)	270	256	261	271	269	385	43.1	50.4
Millet (kg)	426	370	381	388	406	421	3.6	13.8
Cowpea (kg)	558	566	598	584	599	605	1.0	6.8
Paddy rice (kg)	198	183	195	180	399	249	-37.6	36.1
Local husk rice (kg)	388	360	388	395	395	403	2.0	11.9
imported rice (kg)	449	441	460	455	512	452	-11.7	2.4
Soyabean (kg)	765	445	459	422	500	388	-22.4	-12.8
Sesame (kg)	766	758	819	834	797	865	8.5	14.2
Bread/loaf	150	163	150	150	150	150	0.0	-7.7
Wheat flour (kg)	600	613	575	575	500	550	10.0	-10.2
Cooking oil (XOF/ liter)	1,300	1388	1500	1450	1400	1400	0.0	0.9
NPK/kg	600	613	575	675	700	700	0.0	14.3
Urea (kg)	600	613	575	675	700	700	0.0	14.3
Burkina Phosphate/kg	4,500	4500	4500	4500	4500	4500	0.0	0.0
Petrol (liter)	615	690	715	715	715	715	0.0	3.6
Diesel (liter)	545	645	645	645	645	645	0.0	0.0
Gas (bottle)	2,000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	0.0	0.0

Policy responses to the crisis

- On August 12, 2022, the government launched a free food distribution and cash transfer operation to help vulnerable populations. Approximately 1,839,550 people are targeted by the free food distribution. Each beneficiary will receive an allocation of food for three months, based on 400 grams of food required per day. The cash transfer will reach 1,537,232 people. Each household will receive 47,250 CFA francs (USD 72), or 6,750 francs per person. This operation will cost 61.3 billion CFA (USD 93.5 million) to the State.

Nigeria

Commodity Prices

During the week of 8-12 August, the prices of most commodities were stable on the Exchange, except the price of maize and soybean which fell by 4.12% and 3.15% respectively while the price of paddy rice increased by 2.02%. In the open market, price of maize and soybean fell for the third consecutive week while the price of paddy rice surged for the fourth week. The price of maize and sesame decreased by 2.52% and 5.19% while the price of sorghum and ginger increased by 1.63% and 6.99% respectively. The decline in maize prices is attributed to the release of grains into the market by government from its strategic grain reserve. Compared to the same period last year, the price of paddy rice, sorghum, sesame, and cashew increased by 14.94%, 57.56%, 5.29% and 11.84% respectively, while the price of maize fell by 17.67%. And in the open market, again maize price fell by 22.16% followed by soybean (17.35) and sorghum (8.43%) whereas the price of paddy rice and cashew increased the most by 22.43% and 30.05% respectively.

The prices of fertilizer in Nigeria have started to drop because of the end of the growing season, although prices still remained higher than previous periods, and still unaffordable for most farmers. For instance, as can be seen in the table below, the price of urea dropped by 2% between June and July, while it still remained above the price recorded in January by 26.6%. It is estimated that about 90,000MT of MoP remained unused by blenders because farmers are not buying due to high prices, and most farmers have resorted to organic fertilizers.

Table 7: Nigeria Commodity Prices 8-12 August 2022

	Exchange week close	Exchange Prices	Open Market Prices	International Prices	Exchange Prices	Open Market Prices	International Prices
	NGN/Contract	% ΔW-o-W			% ΔY-t-D		
Maize	200.57	4.12	2.52	4.94	17.67	22.16	22.06
Soybean	400.31	3.15	1.76	5.05	1.60	17.35	16.40
Paddy rice	252.81	2.02	0.45	0.82	14.94	22.43	16.02
Sorghum	306.46	0.00	1.63	0.40	57.56	8.43	0.96
Cocoa	1,198.33	0.00	0.12	4.15	2.84	1.18	8.52
Ginger	1,020.64	0.00	6.99	15.67	0.69	5.50	16.11
Sesame	760.00	0.00	5.19	0.40	5.29	6.72	25.21
Cashew	689.88	0.00	0.00	0.40	11.84	30.05	3.63

Source: Bloomberg, CBOT, Tridge, AFEX- KAINOS Research

Fertilizer Prices									
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	% Change Jun-Jul	% Change Jan-Jul
Urea	15,688	16,205	17,007	18,023	19,804	20,265	19,862	-2.0	26.6

Policy responses to the crisis

- The Nigeria government continues to implement existing measures such as the release of food stuff from the strategic grain reserves as wells subsidizing critical inputs for farmers.

Mali

Commodity Prices

The prices of most commodities over the past one month have remained largely unchanged except for the prices of maize, sorghum, and fuel, which are higher by 7.7%, 6.7%, and 4.7%, respectively. Compared to three months ago, current prices show higher trends, with maize and sorghum being higher by 31.3% and 36.4%, respectively. Nitrate and phosphate fertilizers have also increased by 7.7% and 16.7%, respectively while gas prices surged the most by 161.9%. The trend is ascribed to tight supplies due to virtually non-existence of carry-over stocks and a strong demand from poultry farmers and processing units for human and animal consumption.

Table 8: Average retail commodity prices in Mali

	April	May	June	July	07-Aug	% Change July/7 Aug.	% Change 3 months ago
Maize (kg)	210	267	350	325	350	7.7	31.3
Wheat flour	22,000	22,000	24,000	25,500	25,500	0.0	15.9
Bread (250g)	250	250	300	300	300	0.0	20.0
Rice (kg)	350	367	425	450	450	0.0	22.7
Millet (kg)	250	342	400	400	400	0.0	17.1
Cooking oil (liter)	1,000	1,200	1,300	1,500	1,500	0.0	25.0
Sorghum (kg)	220	293	400	375	400	6.7	36.4
Nitrate fertilizer (50kg)	32,500	32,500	35,000	35,000	35,000	0.0	7.7
Phosphate fertilizer (50kg)	30,000	30,000	32,500	35,000	35,000	0.0	16.7
Petrol (liter)	762	762	811	851	891	4.7	16.9
Diesel (liter)	760	760	809	849	889	4.7	17.0
Gas	2,800	2,863	2,990	7,500	7,500	0.0	161.9

Policy responses to the crisis

- The Malian government continues to implement tax/subsidy measures on rice and edible oil as well as bans on exports of millet, sorghum, and maize, aimed at reducing the impact of high food prices on the poor.

Ghana

Commodity Prices

Overall, all commodity prices have registered a higher average increase over the last one to four months, except maize which recorded a decline of between 0.5% and 4%, and millet price which declined by 4.5% over a one-month period. Sorghum prices, compared to one and four months ago, have risen by 9.9% and 11.9%, respectively, while local non-perfumed rice increased by about 15%, and soybean by between 24% and 26%.

Table 9: Average retail commodity prices in Ghana

Commodities Prices	April	May	July	13 Aug.	% Change 16 Jul/13 Aug.	% Change April/13 Aug.
Maize (White)	4.55	4.97	4.72	4.5	-4.0	-0.5
Maize (Yellow)	4.92	5.1	5.0	5.1	1.9	3.9
Millet	7.26	8.1	7.9	7.5	-4.5	3.9
Sorghum	6.01	6.7	6.1	6.7	9.9	11.9
Rice Local (perfumed)	7.31	8.0	7.8	8.6	9.8	17.0
Rice Local (non-perfumed)	5.84	6.3	5.8	6.7	15.7	15.4

Commodities Prices	April	May	July	13 Aug.	% Change 16 Jul/13 Aug.	% Change April/13 Aug.
Rice - Imported (perfumed)	9.39	10.5	10.4	11.0	6.0	17.1
Rice - Imported (non-perfumed)	7.09	7.9	7.6	7.7	2.2	9.0
Soya Bean	6.45	6.6	6.5	8.1	24.4	25.7

Policy responses to the crisis

- The government of Ghana continues to implement mitigation measures such as fertilizer subsidies, although this support has been scaled down.
- Yara International has committed \$20 million towards supporting Ghanaian smallholder farmers. As part of this commitment, the company will provide 20,000 metric tonnes of NPK fertiliser which will reach 100,000 smallholder farmers. Yara is working with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), and the African Fertilizer and Agribusiness Partnership (AFAB) to deliver this rapid-response initiative.



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