FOOD SECURITY MONITOR

AFRICA FOOD TRADE AND RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

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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, considering 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.

Contents

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 March Food Security Monitor are summarised below:

Global Food Security update

A total of 396,025 MT of grains including wheat, maize, soybean, and barley were shipped to African countries in March 2023. The recipients of these shipments included Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia.

Regional Food Security Updates

Overall, the number of people with insufficient food consumption has increased in all regions compared to past month and year, except in West Africa where it declined by 3.4% over the previous month. Much of the East African region continues to experience atypically high food prices due to worsening macroeconomic conditions and persistent low domestic cereal supplies. However, the situation is improving in Rwanda, where food prices are beginning to fall thanks to new harvests.

In Southern Africa, IPC Phase 3 outcomes will continue to dominate most countries until April. However, countries like Mozambique are beginning to experience IPC Phase 1 outcomes driven by the ongoing green harvests that are increasing food reserves and market purchases.

In West Africa, the food security situation in the region is expected to deteriorate as the lean season starts early April and projected to last until September, worsening the situation for countries, which are currently experiencing mostly IPC Phase 2 to IPC Phase 4 outcomes.

Food Trade

The African Union has approved the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) draft protocols on investment, intellectual property rights and competition policy paving way for their implementation. The AfCFTA Secretary General announced that trading of services across the continent will begin in the next phase of the Guided Trade Initiative this year.

TradeMark Africa and its subsidiary Trade Catalyst Africa (TCA) have entered an agreement to work together with the Tony Blair Institute (TBI) to accelerate cross-border trade on the continent.

The African Continental Free Trade Area Secretariat has hinted that a protocol meant for digital trading activities will be finalized by June this year.

Commodity Prices

In East Africa, the prices of food commodity remain elevated except maize which show some declines in Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uganda due to available stocks from new harvests and imports as well as food assistance. On the other hand, climate shocks, conflicts and insecurity, poor macroeconomic conditions, etc. continue to drive up prices.

In Southern Africa, maize prices generally remained elevated compared to the past 1–12-month in Malawi and Zambia. However, prices in Mozambique depict stability or are reporting some downward trends. Generally, changes in prices reflect seasonality patterns as well as strong regional demands. As part of measures to increase supplies and lower food prices, the Zambian government has suspended duty on all imports of maize flour effective 6th April 2023.

In West Africa, price movements generally show mixed results. In Mali and Togo price stability/declines are seen, while Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Niger have also registered some stability and declines to some extent, but Nigeria generally have had increases in prices. Despite new harvests in the region, conflicts and insecurity in the region, as well as droughts and strong demand, continue to sustain higher prices.

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 here 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, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Togo).

Food Security Dashboard

The Food Security Dashboard in table 1 provides a quick overview of the changes in the number of people that are food insecure, and the average changes in food[1] prices over the past 6 and 12 months. Overall, the number of people with insufficient food consumption[2] remains elevated in most monitored countries except in Cote d'Ivoire, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe compared to the past 1 - 2 years. However, Rwanda, Togo, and Zambia have experienced declines compared to March 2021. Similarly, food commodity prices remain elevated in most countries. Nonetheless, average prices declined in Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, Togo, and Uganda over the past 6 months, and in Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo compared to a year ago.

Table 1: Changes in Food Security Situation and Commodities Price Changes

Country	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from March 2022		Change in people with insufficient food consumption from March 2021		Commodity Price Changes in the last 6 months		Commodity Price Changes in the last 1 year	
Burkina Faso	6.84	↑	0.00	●	-10.16	↓	10.61	↑
Cote d'Ivoire	-32.20	↓	-18.37	↓	-27.82	↓	0.72	↑
Ethiopia	2.77	↑	54.76	↑	7.38	↑	28.31	↑
Ghana	57.89	↑	60.71	↑	48.48	↑	133.95	↑
Kenya	96.88	↑	21.15	↑	5.61	↑	115.85	↑
Malawi	137.04	↑	60.00	↑	88.98	↑	223.67	↑
Mali*	12.00	↑	33.33	↑	-32.27	↓	1.60	↑
Mozambique	-3.09	↓	-1.05	↓	32.75	↑	-13.31	↓
Niger	0.60	↑	28.03	↑	-15.38	↓	-14.45	↓
Nigeria	12.04	↑	34.68	↑	4.86	↑	-0.17	↓
Rwanda	11.11	↑	-14.29	↓	-0.35	↓	91.32	↑
South Sudan	6.25	↑	11.48	↑	9.48	↑	120.91	↑
Tanzania	17.31	↑	15.09	↑	26.60	↑	95.95	↑
Togo	28.57	↑	-3.57	↓	-6.01	↓	-10.64	↓
Uganda	3.95	↑	16.18	↑	-7.53	↓	36.02	↑
Zambia	14.81	↑	-20.51	↓	34.24	↑	32.94	↑
Zimbabwe	-25.00	↓	-35.00	↓				

Key: ● *No Change* ↑ = *increase* ↓ = *decrease*

[1] Maize is the main commodity being tracked on this dashboard, except in Mali, where we use millet. It should be noted that the price changes presented here are average price changes over a number of selected markets, which implies that in certain markets, the prices may actually be higher or lower.

[2] **People with insufficient food consumption refers to those with poor or borderline food consumption, according to the Food Consumption Score (FCS)**. The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a proxy indicator for food security that measures the diversity of household diets, and how frequently food is consumed. The FCS is calculated using the frequency of consumption of eight food groups by a household during the 7 days before the survey, using standardized weights for each of the food groups reflecting its respective nutrient density. It then classifies households as having 'poor', 'borderline' or 'acceptable' food consumption. **Poor food consumption** typically refers to households that are not consuming staples and vegetables every day, and never, or very seldom, consume protein-rich food such as meat and dairy (FCS of less than 28). **Borderline food consumption** typically refers to households that are consuming staples and vegetables every day, accompanied by oils and pulses a few times a week (FCS of less than 42). **Acceptable food consumption** typically refers to households that consume staples and vegetables every day, frequently accompanied by oils and pulses, and occasionally meat, fish and dairy (FCS greater than 42).

Global Market Update

Black Sea Grain Initiative

The Black Sea Grain Deal, which ended on 18th March, has been extended for another 4 Months, allowing the exports of grain from Russia and Ukraine until June 2023. Prospects, however, look gloomy as Western traders such as Cargill, Viterra, and the Louis Dreyfus Company (LDC) plan to exit Russia by July 2023. A total of 396,025 MT worth of commodities including wheat, maize, soybean, and barley were shipped to African countries in March 2023 under the Black Sea Grain Initiative. Recipients of these shipments include Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Libya, Morocco, and Tunisia. The volume of each commodity shipped to different countries is provided in *Table 2* below.

Table 2: Shipment of commodities under the Black Sea Grain Initiative

Country	Commodity	Volume traded (Mar 2023, MT)	Volume traded (Cumulative, MT)
Algeria	Wheat	30,450	212,220
Egypt	Wheat	-	202,200
	Soybeans	27,000	79,497
	Corn	111,975	535,906
	Sunflower meal		1,503
	Sunflower oil		3,100
Ethiopia	Wheat	30,000	227,759
Kenya	Wheat	49,550	258,096
Libya	Barley	15,500	110,781
	Corn	52,000	313,300
	Wheat		53,800
	Sunflower meal	2,700	2,700
Morocco	Sunflower meal	19,800	55,790
Somalia	Wheat		53,500
Sudan	Wheat		65,340
Tunisia	Corn	57,050	233,448
	Barley		73,500
	Wheat		170,150
	Vegetable oil		3,300
	Soya oil		2,970

Source: United Nations[3]

Global Food Prices

The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) continue its downward trend, although it declined by a marginal 0.6% over February. Overall, however, the FFPI has fallen about 18.7% from March 2022. This decline is supported by the fall in the vegetable oil, dairy, cereals, and meat sub-indices as a result of weak demand. On the other hand, the sugar price sub-index rose driven by bleak production forecasts for India. Meanwhile, the IGC commodity price indices show a rise in the wheat and rice sub-indices but a decline in the maize and soybean sub-indices. In general, food price inflation remains high in almost all low- and middle-income countries.[4]

[3] https://www.un.org/en/black-sea-grain-initiative/vessel-movements
[4] World Bank Food Security Update, March 2023

Figure 1: Global Food Commodity Prices[5]

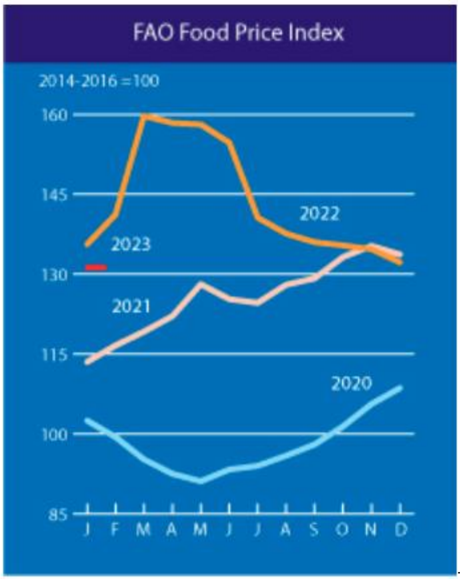


Table 3: IGC Commodity Price Indices

IGC commodity price indices

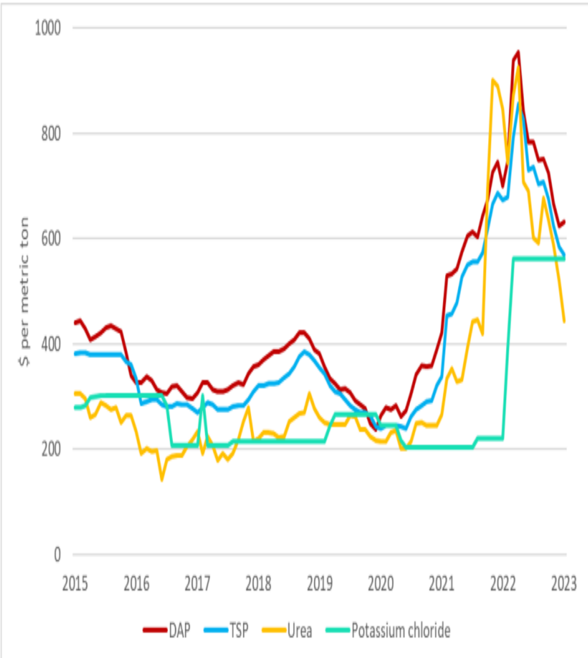
		GOI	Wheat	Maize	Rice	Soybeans
2022	February	**315.4**	295.4	310.4	167.8	323.0
	March	**353.4**	353.6	369.7	169.6	344.0
	April	**349.6**	354.8	358.9	171.6	336.0
	May	**352.6**	375.3	347.9	177.3	334.3
	June	**343.3**	353.8	335.7	177.0	334.1
	July	**308.2**	302.5	299.7	174.3	306.3
	August	**309.4**	292.8	306.7	174.1	313.0
	September	**306.4**	299.9	307.4	179.5	303.3
	October	**309.6**	309.2	320.7	179.9	300.2
	November	**311.1**	300.2	314.4	183.1	308.0
	December	**306.3**	287.7	309.6	190.0	304.8
2023	January	**306.5**	280.6	311.5	198.9	306.0
	February	**305.4**	282.0	312.3	199.4	302.8

(.......... January 2000 = 100 ....)

Global Fertilizer Prices

All major fertilizer prices continued to decline over February-March and against the one-year level according to DTN data (table 4). While on month-on-month basis the four major fertilizer types (DAP, MAP, Potash, and Urea) have declined only marginally, the highest being urea at 5.9%, there were significant drops in prices — exceeding 20% — compared to March 2022. Urea and Potash have seen the most declines at 38.6% and 25.7% respectively. This trend is further corroborated by the World Bank's fertilizer tracking in figure 2.

Figure 2: International Fertilizer Price Index



Source: World Bank Food Security Update, March 2023

Table 4: Global Fertilizer Prices

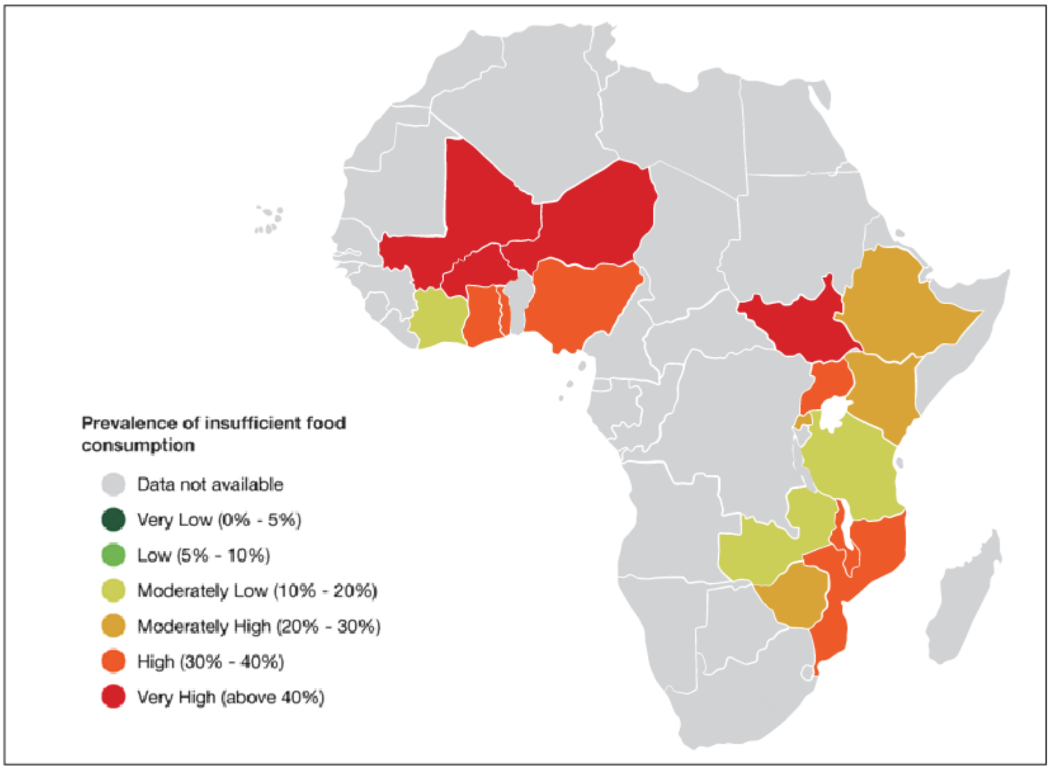
Date Range	DAP	MAP	POTASH	UREA
Jan 3-7 2022	863	931	807	913
Jan 31-Feb 4 2022	877	933	813	905
Feb 28-Mar 4 2022	879	937	815	887
Mar 28-Apr 1 2022	1033	1045	868	1022
Apr 25-29 2022	1049	1082	881	1004
May 23-27 2022	1056	1082	879	989
Jun 20-24 2022	1040	1058	885	902
Jul 18-22 2022	1007	1043	887	836
Aug 15-19 2022	978	1026	881	807
Sep 12-16 2022	952	1009	877	808
Oct 10-14 2022	925	986	863	824
Nov 7-11 2022	931	980	853	812
Dec 5-9 2022	920	950	819	784
Jan 2-6 2022	876	879	752	739
Jan 30-Feb 3 2023	847	862	704	698
Feb 20-Feb 24 2023	836	834	673	666
Mar 20-Mar 24 2023	821	812	645	627
% Change Feb 20 - Mar 20	-1.8	-2.6	-4.2	-5.9
% Change Mar 2022 - Mar 2023	-20.5	-22.3	-25.7	-38.6

Source: DTN

[5] FAO & AMIS. Accessed at https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/ and https://www.amis-outlook.org/fileadmin/user_upload/amis/docs/Market_monitor/AMIS_Market_Monitor_current.pdf on 23rd February 2023

Food Insecurity and Hunger Hotspots Snapshot

Figure 3 provides a status update of the prevalence of insufficient food consumption[6] across 17 selected East, Southern and West African countries during the month. In March 2023, the number of food insecurity hotspots, defined as countries where more than 50 percent of the total population has insufficient food for consumption, remained at four. These were: South Sudan (61.8%), Burkina Faso (63.1%), Mali (73.3%) and Niger (75.5%). In addition, six more countries including Ghana, Togo, Nigeria, Uganda, Malawi, and Mozambique are seen inching towards a hotspot status.



Source: Own analysis based on data from WFP (2022)[7]

Figure 3: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption, March 2023

[6] **People with insufficient food consumption refers to those with poor or borderline food consumption, according to the Food Consumption Score (FCS)**. The Food Consumption Score (FCS) is a proxy indicator for food security that measures the diversity of household diets, and how frequently food is consumed. The FCS is calculated using the frequency of consumption of eight food groups by a household during the 7 days before the survey, using standardized weights for each of the food groups reflecting its respective nutrient density. It then classifies households as having 'poor', 'borderline' or 'acceptable' food consumption. **Poor food consumption** typically refers to households that are not consuming staples and vegetables every day, and never, or very seldom, consume protein-rich food such as meat and dairy (FCS of less than 28). **Borderline food consumption** typically refers to households that are consuming staples and vegetables every day, accompanied by oils and pulses a few times a week (FCS of less than 42). **Acceptable food consumption** typically refers to households that consume staples and vegetables every day, frequently accompanied by oils and pulses, and occasionally meat, fish and dairy (FCS greater than 42).
[7] https://hungermap.wfp.org/.

East Africa Food Security Update

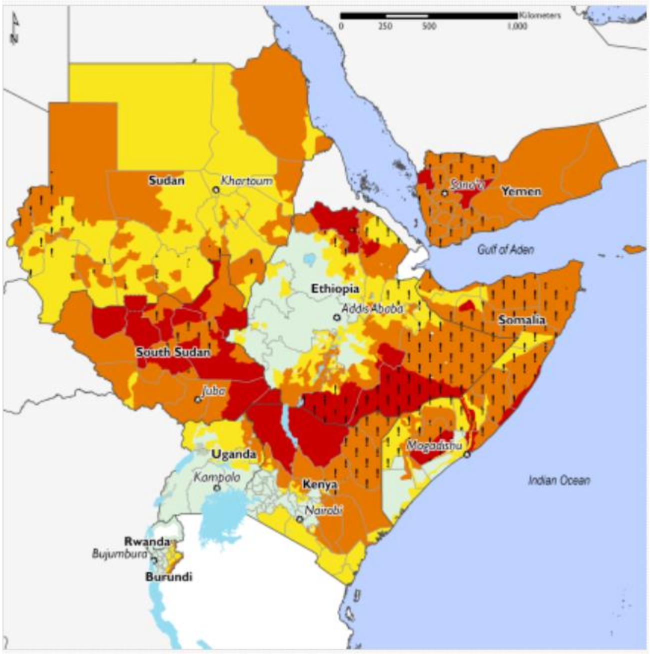


Figure 4: East Africa countries Food Security Outlook, Feb-May 2023

IPC v3.0 Acute Food Insecurity Phase
Presence countries: 1: Minimal 2: Stressed 3: Crisis 4: Emergency 5: Famine National Parks/Reserves
Remote monitoring countries: 1: Minimal 2: Stressed 3+: Crisis or higher

Kenya: High staple food prices and below-average household incomes are impacting household purchasing power, driving Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes, with the worst affected areas entering the Crisis (IPC Phase 3)[8] stage.

Rwanda: The prevalence of diverse income-generating opportunities driven by economic recovery post the pandemic, coupled with a decline in food prices due to the Season A harvest is contributing to IPC Phase 1 outcomes particularly in Kigali[9].

South Sudan: The country is expected to experience IPC Phase 4 outcomes as it enters its lean season from May to September. Persistent conflicts continue to affect food access and humanitarian assistance leading to high food prices, which are worsening food security outcomes. In some parts of the country namely, Unity, Lakes, and Jonglei, ongoing humanitarian assistance has helped mitigate high levels of food insecurity[10].

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

As of 31st March 2023, a total of 70.3 million people across six selected East African countries did not have sufficient food for consumption. This represents a 6% increase from the previous month, indicating that the food security situation deteriorated across these focus countries over that month. Countries that contributed to this upward trend during the period included Ethiopia, South Sudan and Uganda. The number of food insecure people in the region has increased when compared to the same period last year (61.2 million people) and a similar period two years ago (55.7million). *Table 5* below provides updates of how the prevalence of insufficient food consumption changed across each of the selected East African countries during the month.

Table 5: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption across selected East African countries (Mar 2023)11

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 (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from Mar 2022	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from Mar 2021
Ethiopia	109.20	24.00	26.00	23.81	8.33	2.77	54.76
Kenya	51.40	10.50	12.60	24.51	20.00	98.88	21.15
Rwanda	12.30	3.00	3.00	24.39	0.00	11.11	-14.29
South Sudan	11.00	6.70	6.80	61.82	1.49	6.25	11.48
Tanzania	56.30	5.80	6.10	10.83	5.17	17.31	15.09
Uganda	42.70	16.30	15.80	37.00	-3.07	3.95	16.18

**Previous month and ** Current month*

[8] https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya
[9] https://fews.net/east-africa/rwanda
[10] https://fews.net/east-africa/south-sudan
[11] https://hungermap.wfp.org/

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

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of commodity prices in EA[12]

	Climatic Shocks	Climate change effects such as droughts and flooding remain a contributing factor to poor farming activities and harvests, resulting in high food prices.
	Conflicts	Conflicts and insecurity, particularly in Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Uganda continue to be a driving factor for food commodity price changes in the East African region.
	Macroeconomic Shocks	Poor macroeconomic conditions, driven by high food inflation, and high fuel and transport costs in some East African countries, are impacting food prices.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia continues to experience high commodity prices amidst a multi-year stretch of historic droughts, conflicts and insecurity as well as below-average harvests from the 2022 *meher* and *belg* agricultural seasons. Except for wheat prices in Bale Robe, the prices of most commodities monitored, i.e., maize, sorghum, teff, and wheat, remain above their levels in 1-12 months. Compared to the past one year, the prices were about 12% - 51% higher in March 2023 than in March 2022. Conflicts, below average harvests from previous season, and poor macroeconomic conditions are contributing factors to the rising prices.[13]

Table 6: Changes in prices in Ethiopia[14]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month		3 Months		6 Months		1 Year	
Maize	Addis Ababa, ETB/100 kg*	3,113.00	7.63	↑	5.10	↑	11.06	↑	30.58	⊗
Maize	Bahirdar, ETB/100 kg*	2,900.00	7.41	↑	1.75	▲	7.41	↑	26.09	⊗
Maize	Diredawa, ETB/100 kg*	3,100.00	1.14	▲	2.31	▲	3.68	▲	28.28	⊗
Sorghum (red)	Addis Ababa, ETB/100 kg*	2,975.00	-2.06	↘	0.85	▲	-4.42	↘	12.97	↑
Sorghum (white)	Addis Ababa, ETB/100 kg*	3,825.00	4.97	▲	7.75	↑	-1.29	↘	20.95	⊗
Teff (mixed)	Addis Ababa, ETB/100 kg*	7,183.00	42.83	⊗	48.62	⊗	49.27	⊗	70.84	⊗
Wheat (white)	Addis Ababa, ETB/100 kg*	4,775.00	4.71	▲	-0.42	↘	16.10	⊗	38.91	⊗
Wheat (white)	Bale Robe, ETB/100 kg	3,607.50	-2.63	↘	-7.50	↓	-3.80	↘	18.28	⊗
Wheat (white)	Debre Marcos, ETB/100 kg*	4,250.00	3.03	▲	4.94	▲	13.33	↑	39.34	⊗
Wheat (white)	Diredawa, ETB/100 kg*	4,950.00	11.78	↑	18.80	⊗	6.00	↑	31.07	⊗
Wheat (white)	Jimma, ETB/100 kg	4,687.50	1.36	▲	4.17	▲	14.33	↑	51.21	⊗
Wheat (white)	Shashemene, ETB/100 kg	4,700.00	21.29	⊗	13.25	↑	14.63	↑	41.71	⊗

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)*

[12] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/east-africa accessed on 24th February 2023.
[13] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/east-africa/ethiopia
[14] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)

Kenya

Maize prices in Eldoret and Nakuru show declines over most of the comparison periods largely driven by the 2022 short and long rains harvests in most parts of the country (table 7).[15] A significant decrease is particularly seen in Nakuru — falling 18.56% and 22.52% compared to the past 6 and 12 months, respectively. On the contrary, maize price in Eldoret are 33.75% and 115.85% above the past 6- and 12-month levels, respectively. In Nairobi, retail maize prices, observed from the Kenya Market Information System (KAMIS), remained largely stable over February and March, ranging between KS80/kg and KS90/kg.[16] In a bid to reduce food prices, the Kenya government has instituted exemption from duty on imports of yellow maize and soyabean, among others.[17] The government has also taken a step to contract maize producers in Zambia to supplement its deteriorating production due to persistent droughts. The prices of all types of fertilizers also demonstrated downward trends compared to the past 1-6 months except for NPK fertilizers which are above their 3-6 months level.

Table 7: Changes in prices in Kenya[18]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	National, USD/50kg**	45.03	-0.84	-4.07	-7.02	
Diammonium Phosphate	National, USD/50kg**	51.09	-0.83	-3.51	-5.49	
Maize	Eldoret, Wholesale, KS/kg****	53,881.00	-1.52	-9.70	33.75	115.85
Maize	Nakuru, Wholesale, KS/kg**	50,030.00	-7.35	-18.56	-22.52	
NP 23-23-0	National, USD/50kg**	51.22	-0.83	4.59	0.97	
NPK 17-17-17	National, USD/50kg**	51.22	-0.83	2.85	0.71	
Urea	National, USD/50kg**	49.79	-0.84	-4.58	-14.10	

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)*

Rwanda

The commodity prices in Rwanda show mixed results (table 8). While beans have had high increases (between 15% and 430%) compared to the past 1-12 months, maize and sorghum prices generally declined. For instance, the prices of both commodities (maize and sorghum) have declined below their levels 3 months ago, with Kabuga and Mugera recording the highest drop in maize prices by 28.57% and 23.71% respectively. These declines are largely driven by favourable season A and B harvests. Nonetheless, sorghum prices remain above their 6 – 12-month levels. The prices of fertilizers have either remained unchanged or experienced marginal declines.

[15] https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya
[16] https://amis.co.ke/index.php/site/market?product=1&per_page=1500
[17] Government of Kenya, Gazette Notice No. 3423 dated March 17 2023
[18] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023).

Table 8: Changes in prices in Rwanda[19]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Bean (dry)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG*	1,150.00	21.62	15.77	59.39	303.51
Bean (dry)	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	1,464.91	20.52	65.84	81.04	328.75
Bean (dry)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG*	1,716.67	59.69	149.09	112.52	430.93
Bean (dry)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	1,642.11	30.44	122.29	106.05	362.17
DAP	National, RWF/KG****	824.00	0.00	0.00	-0.96	
Maize (white)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG*	500.00	20.00	-28.57	-14.32	124.72
Maize (white)	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	662.28	9.30	-10.35	16.27	120.76
Maize (white)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG*	450.00	-8.69	-23.71	-13.60	36.36
Maize (white)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	624.56	15.30	-8.32	10.23	83.45
NPK 17:17:17	National, RWF/KG****	882.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sorghum	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG	666.67	-4.76	-11.11	11.11	27.80
Sorghum	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG	750.00	7.14	-6.25	15.38	50.00
Sorghum	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG	560.00	12.00	-2.61	31.76	44.83
Urea	National, RWF/KG****	754.00	0.00	0.00	-1.82	

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

South Sudan

Food commodity prices in South Sudan generally show higher trends driven by conflict, floods, and poor macroeconomic conditions.[20] Particularly, commodities have recorded between 14% and 250% higher prices than a year ago. Some markets have, however, experienced declines in prices for some commodities. For instance, maize prices have declined between 16% and 29% in Rumbek compared to the past 1-6 months. Generally, also, many markets have seen declines in maize and sorghum prices compared to the past one month including Juba, Torit, Aweil, and Rumbek. The availability of food from the main harvests in December, and through food assistance, have supported lower prices in some of these markets.

[19] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023).
[20] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/east-africa/south-sudan

Table 9: Changes in prices in South Sudan[21]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Cassava	Juba, SSP/Kg*	915.20	-4.76	5.33	21.40	117.98
Groundnuts	Juba, SSP/Kg*	1,700.00	-2.30	18.22	68.48	73.65
Maize (white)	Aweil, SSP/Kg*	407.55	9.70	23.91	8.28	70.66
Maize (white)	Gogrial, SSP/Kg*	486.20	13.33	6.25	70.00	183.33
Maize (white)	Juba, SSP/Kg*	780.49	-2.29	3.96	13.71	91.91
Maize (white)	Rumbek, SSP/Kg*	507.65	-16.98	-29.00	-21.11	83.56
Maize (white)	Torit, SSP/Kg*	414.70	-3.33	3.57	-9.38	107.14
Maize (white)	Wau, SSP/Kg*	674.96	6.16	18.00	-4.65	188.86
Sorghum (Feterita)	Aweil, SSP/Kg*	490.49	-0.12	18.77	21.63	150.36
Sorghum (Feterita)	Bor, SSP/Kg*	1,001.00	40.00	16.67	40.00	250.00
Sorghum (Feterita)	Gogrial, SSP/Kg*	371.80	2.60	14.24	73.33	147.62
Sorghum (Feterita)	Juba, SSP/Kg*	895.18	-1.36	4.13	6.81	117.81
Sorghum (Feterita)	Rumbek, SSP/Kg*	572.00	-3.61	-20.00	-33.33	185.71
Sorghum (Feterita)	Wau, SSP/Kg*	657.80	9.94	15.00	-8.00	149.19
Wheat (flour)	Juba, SSP/Kg*	1,257.00	-3.83	10.46	35.60	14.90

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

Tanzania

Overall, food commodity prices remain high in Tanzania, depicted by the current prices that are well above the figures of the past 3-12 months, except for the prices of rice in Arusha and Dodoma, which declined over the past 3 months. Compared to the past one month, the prices of beans, and the national average price of maize and rice have risen. Nonetheless, the prices of maize declined in Arusha, Kigoma and Moshi but increased in Dodoma and Morogoro. Similarly, the prices of rice declined in Dodoma, Morogoro and Moshi but increased in Arusha and Kigoma. Changes in prices in Tanzania are reflective of seasonality patterns and strong regional demands.

[21] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2022) and FAO (2022).

Table 10: Changes in prices in Tanzania[22]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Bean (dry)	Arusha (urban), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	295,000.00	0.12	13.46	52.59	64.72
Bean (dry)	Dodoma (Majengo), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	307,500.00	11.11	20.59	39.77	66.50
Bean (dry)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	281,923.00	1.49	16.50	56.62	112.77
Bean (dry)	Morogoro, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	311,667.00	4.32	11.31	39.76	65.62
Bean (dry)	Moshi, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	350,000.00	0.00	16.67		89.19
Beans	National Average, TZS/100KG***	288,500.00	2.63	25.35	54.36	
Maize	National Average, TZS/100KG***	111,800.00	3.14	18.68	42.78	
Maize (white)	Arusha (urban), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	108,667.00	-3.13	12.61	14.34	78.14
Maize (white)	Dodoma (Majengo), Wholesale, TZS/100KG	118,125.00	5.14	7.39	33.34	92.64
Maize (white)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	117,962.00	-3.57	16.36	28.92	90.26
Maize (white)	Morogoro, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	113,455.00	1.20	10.49	29.79	90.73
Maize (white)	Moshi, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	138,333.00	-7.78	15.28		127.96
Nitrate fertilizer	National, TZS/KG****	601.00	0.00	0.00	-14.99	
Phosphate fertilizer	National, TZS/KG****	784.00	0.00	0.00	-6.94	
Rice	National Average, TZS/100KG***	278,000.00	2.21	22.17	37.35	
Rice (Wholesale)	Arusha (urban), TZS/100KG	299,583.00	1.31	-1.78	33.15	46.14
Rice (Wholesale)	Dodoma (Majengo), TZS/100KG	280,417.00	-10.27	-4.70	19.35	45.50
Rice (Wholesale)	Kigoma, TZS/100KG**	275,000.00	10.99	26.15	46.67	72.68
Rice (Wholesale)	Morogoro, TZS/100KG	299,091.00	-2.45	10.77	37.51	74.07
Rice (Wholesale)	Moshi, TZS/100KG	325,000.00	-6.67	3.17		80.56

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

Uganda

Changes in the price of beans and maize in Uganda show mixed result (table 11). Generally, the price of beans remained above the past 1-12 months by between 3.7% and 89.45%. However, the price of maize mostly shows declines/stability. For instance, the price of maize remained stable in Mbarara but declined in Gulu compared to the past 1-6 months supported by increased supply and reduced demand after the second season harvest.[23] Overall, maize prices remained above the one-year level due to protracted insecurity, three consecutive years of poor harvests, and tight regional supplies and above-average regional demand.[24]

[22] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2022) and FAO (2022).
[23] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/east-africa/uganda
[24] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/east-africa/uganda

Table 11: Changes in prices in Uganda[25]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Beans	Gulu, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	6,000.00	4.35	17.92	40.85	89.45
Beans	Mbarara, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	4,666.67	3.70	16.67	9.80	55.56
Beans	Mbale, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	4,000.00	28.00	11.64	23.08	28.82
Maize	Mbarara, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	66.67
Maize	Gulu, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	1,416.67	-5.56	-28.27	-29.17	8.97
Maize	Mbale, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	1,900.00	8.57	-16.19	6.56	32.40

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **January, ***December, and ****November*

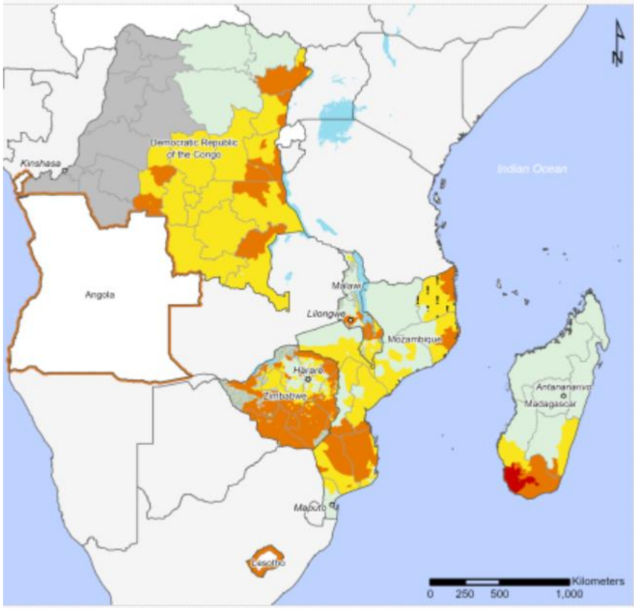
= no change; = low increase (0-5%), = moderate increase (5-15%), = high increase (>15%), = low decrease (0-5%), = moderate decrease (5-15%), = high decrease (>15%)

Seasonal Monitor and Crop Yield Forecasts

In **Kenya**, most households across the marginal agricultural areas are finalising land preparation with planting ongoing for the March to May production season, where light showers have been received. The March to May long rains have generally been good with the cumulative rainfall across most of western, central, northern, and north-eastern Kenya being largely over 150 percent of the 40-year average[26]. In **Rwanda**, the Season A harvest was generally average, as are projections of Season B harvests. However, parts of the Eastern and Western Provinces are expected to realize below-average harvests[27].

[25] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2022) and FAO (2022).
[26] https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya
[27] https://fews.net/east-africa/rwanda

Southern Africa Food Security Update



Malawi: IPC Phase 3 outcomes are expected to persist until April when harvests in parts of southern and central Malawi, as well as in the Karonga district of the northern region will be realized. The activities of the tropical storm cyclone Freddy in recent times, however, threaten these expectations. Humanitarian assistances have been ongoing during the lean season in the southern parts of the country, driving IPC Phase 2 outcomes[28].

Mozambique: The ongoing green harvests are increasing food reserves and market purchases, driving IPC Phase 1 outcomes across parts of the country. However, the southern parts of the country are experiencing IPC Phase 2 outcomes driven by the second consecutive year of poor production, along with the impact of heavy rainfall and flooding since February 2023[29]

Zimbabwe: IPC Phase 3 outcomes are likely to persist in traditionally deficit-producing regions until the start of the harvest season in April after which IPC Phase 2 outcomes will be experienced. The surplus producing regions will continue to experience IPC Phase 1 outcomes[30].

Figure 5: East Africa countries Food Security Outlook, Feb-May 2023

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

As of March 28, 2023, the number of people with insufficient food for consumption across four selected countries in Southern Africa, was 22.8 million. This represents a 14.5 % increase from February 2023, indicating that the region's food security situation deteriorated across the monitored countries (table 12). Countries that contributed to this upward trend during the period are Mozambique and Zambia. When compared to the same period last year (20.3 million people) and two years ago (23.4 million people), the number of food insecure people in the region increased last year, but decreased compared to 2021.

Table 12: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (Mar 2023) 31

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 (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from Mar 2022	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from Mar 2021
Malawi	18.10	7.90	6.40	35.36	-18.99 ↓	137.04 ↑	60.00 ↑
Mozambique	29.50	5.20	9.40	31.86	80.77 ↑	-3.09 ↘	-1.05 ↘
Zambia	17.40	2.50	3.10	17.82	24.00 ↑	14.81 ↑	-20.51 ↓
Zimbabwe	14.40	4.30	3.90	27.08	-9.30 ↘	-25.00 ↓	-35.00 ↓

**Previous month and ** Current month*

[28] https://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/malawi-food-security-outlook-update-february-september-2023
[29] https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/mozambique-food-security-outlook-february-2023-september-2023
[30] https://fews.net/southern-africa/zimbabwe
[31] https://hungermap.wfp.org/

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

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of prices in the Southern Africa region[32]

	Seasonality Patterns	The Southern African region is in its lean season, and combined with strong regional demand, as well as poor past harvests, prices are generally under upward pressure in Malawi and Zambia.
	Weather Shocks	The effects of cyclone Gombe and dry spells in the southern part of Mozambique are holding back full price recovery from the highs seen in 2022. But more recently, the occurrence of the tropical storm cyclone Freddy has aggravated the situation in Malawi.

Malawi

The prices of food commodities remain elevated in almost all monitored markets in Malawi (table 13). Except maize and rice prices in Lilongwe, which have seen some declines or stability, all markets have had surges in prices, particularly maize prices, which increased by between 3% and 267%. The country is currently in its lean season and hopes for near-time harvests are completely dashed by the devastating impact of the tropical storm cyclone Freddy, which swept away most crops and food stocks. Grain prices were reported to be skyrocketing in Malawi after the cyclone.[33] The prices of fertilizer in Malawi also remain largely elevated except for nitrate fertilizer, which shows a decline against the past 1-3 months. The Russian government has donated 20,000 tons of fertilizer to Malawi, which is expected to reach 400,000 farming households to boost their agricultural production.[34]

Table 13: Changes in prices in Malawi[35]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Cassava	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg**	1,225.00	10.11 ↑	0.23 ▲	30.67 ⊗	117.78 ⊗
Maize	Lilongwe, MWK/Kg**	300.00	-7.69 ↓	-0.11 ↘	22.45 ⊗	73.08 ⊗
Maize	Liwonde, MWK/Kg	661.00	27.05 ⊗	34.24 ⊗	94.41 ⊗	228.86 ⊗
Maize	Mzimba, MWK/Kg	492.25	3.63 ▲	28.46 ⊗	89.33 ⊗	267.35 ⊗
Maize	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg	504.50	9.20 ↑	22.75 ⊗	44.14 ⊗	191.62 ⊗
Maize	National Average, MWK/Kg	608.50	22.87 ⊗	32.86 ⊗	88.98 ⊗	223.67 ⊗
Maize	Nsanje, MWK/Kg	633.25	12.03 ↑	31.53 ⊗	82.49 ⊗	201.55 ⊗
Nitrate fertilizer	National Average, Retail, MWK/50KG***	63,000.00	-3.08 ↘	-9.35 ↓	28.57 ⊗	
Phosphate fertilizer	National Average, Retail, MWK/50KG***	74,500.00	3.47 ▲	9.56 ↑		
Rice	Lilongwe, MWK/Kg**	1,400.00	0.00 ●	0.02 ▲	0.00 ●	40.00 ⊗
Rice	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg**	1,800.00	5.88 ↑	0.45 ▲	65.52 ⊗	135.29 ⊗

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **January, ***December, and ****November*

[32] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/southern-africa. Accessed 27th January 2023
[33] https://ratin.net/site/news_article/12821
[34] https://ratin.net/site/news_article/12619
[35] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023).

= no change; = low increase (0-5%), = moderate increase (5-15%), = high increase (>15%), = low decrease (0-5%), = moderate decrease (5-15%), = high decrease (>15%)

Mozambique

The prices of maize and rice in Mozambique remain mostly stable or have declined against most previous periods. The availability of food reserves and ongoing green harvests have supported price stability.[36] The prices of maize in Angonia and Massinga, however, are 28%-74% and 21%-23% respectively higher than they were 3-6 months ago, respectively. Also, the price of rice in Massinga is 5% higher than a year ago. The effects of cyclone Gombe and dry spells in the southern parts of Mozambique are holding back full price recovery despite good harvests in 2022. The prices of NPK and urea fertilizers declined by 4.94% and 8.94% in January compared to December 2022.

Table 14: Changes in prices in Mozambique[37]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Maize (white)	Angonia, Retail, MZN/KG***	20.00	0.00	28.45	74.98	
Maize (white)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/KG**	22.86	0.00	0.00	2.14	-11.74
Maize (white)	Massinga, Retail, MZN/KG**	27.30	-1.16	23.81	21.12	-14.87
NPK	National, MZN/50KG**	3,040.00	-4.94			
Rice (imported)	Angonia, Retail, MZN/KG***	60.00	0.00	-14.29	-8.48	
Rice (imported)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/KG**	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rice (imported)	Massinga, Retail, MZN/KG**	60.56	0.93	-1.13	0.00	5.01
Urea	National, MZN/50KG**	3,176.67	-8.94			

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

Zambia

The Zambian national average retail price of maize in February remained above those of January and in the past 3-12 months. The February price is 4.64% higher than in January, while compared to 3-12 months ago, the current price is higher by between 22% and 34%. The country is currently in its lean season, and previous strong regional demands have led to reduced stocks. As part of measures to increase supplies and lower food prices, the Zambian government has suspended duty on all imports of maize flour effective 6th April 2023. Fertilizer prices also remain high in Zambia.

Table 15: Changes in prices in Zambia[38]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
D Compound Fertilizer	National Average, Retail, ZK/50KG**	931.00	8.89			
Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, Kwacha/KG	4.89	4.64	22.52	34.24	32.94
Urea (50 kg)	National Average, Retail, ZK/50KG**	918.00	0.33	2.00	-9.11	

*Note: Last price is for January 2023, *February, **December, and ***November*

[36] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/southern-africa/mozambique
[37] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023).
[38] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023).

= no change; = low increase (0-5%), = moderate increase (5-15%), = high increase (>15%), = low decrease (0-5%), = moderate decrease (5-15%), = high decrease (>15%)

Tropical Cyclone Freddy Update

Tropical Cyclone Freddy continued to leave a trail of disasters during the month of March. According to a government of Malawi situation report[39], a state of disaster was declared in the 14 districts that were severely affected by the cyclone. As of March 31, 2023, 676 people had been reported dead while 537 were missing. Access to nutritious food continues to be affected leading to high prevalence of malnutrition among children and pregnant and lactating women. Current humanitarian assistance is estimated at US$70.6 million[40]. In **Malawi**, crop production estimates point to a reduction due to limited and delayed access to subsidized fertilizer for most subsistence farmers. The situation is expected to be worsened by the impacts of tropical cyclone Freddy, which resulted in severe floods and landslides across the southern parts of the country. The full extent of the impact of the cyclone on the country's food production is yet to be determined. **Mozambique** was also affected by the tropical storm with reports from the country's National Institute for Disaster Risk Management and Reduction indicating that 38,100 hectares of agricultural land have been affected, particularly in low-lying areas[41].

West Africa Food Security Update

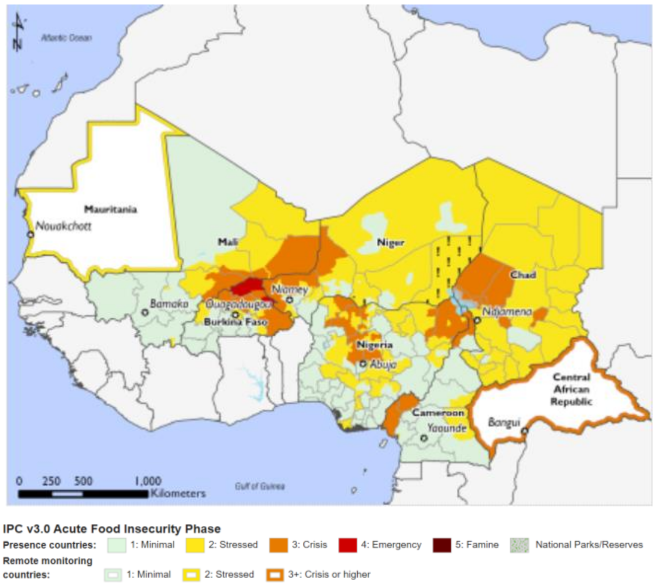


Figure 6: West **African countries Food Security Outlook, Feb-May 2023**

The harvests of market garden produce and other cereals including maize, from the dry season, are increasing the availability and diversity of food in the market, and providing income for households[42].

Burkina Faso: IPC Phase 4 outcomes remain in place across the Sahel and northern regions of the country, where armed conflicts are limiting the access to food and humanitarian assistance[43].

Niger: IPC Phase 3 outcomes remain in place across the pastoral, agro-pastoral and agricultural areas of Tillabéry and Tahoua, where a majority of the households have reportedly exhausted their food stocks and are struggling to access food due to ongoing insecurity. The Diffa region is experiencing IPC Phase 2 outcomes thanks to improved road access, which is making it possible to distribute food to areas of need[44].

Nigeria: The food security situation is expected to deteriorate as the lean season is expected to start early in April, lasting until September. During this period the country will experience IPC Phase 3 outcomes. The North-eastern parts of the country are experiencing IPC Phase 4 outcomes due to limited food stocks and poor access to markets and humanitarian assistance[45].

[39] https://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/malawi-tropical-cyclone-freddy-department-disaster-management-affairs-dodma-situation-report-no-9-23-24-march-2023
[40] https://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/malawi-tropical-cyclone-freddy-flash-update-no-11-31-march-2023
[41] https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/mozambique-food-security-outlook-february-2023-september-2023
[42] https://fews.net/west-africa
[43] https://reliefweb.int/report/burkina-faso/burkina-faso-perspectives-sur-la-securite-alimentaire-apres-un-sous-blocus-la-population-de-djibo-fait-face-un-risque-de-famine-phase-5-de-lipc-fevrier-septembre-2023
[44] https://reliefweb.int/report/niger/niger-perspectives-sur-la-securite-alimentaire-fevrier-septembre-2023
[45] https://reliefweb.int/report/nigeria/nigeria-food-security-outlook-february-2022-may-2023

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

The number of people with insufficient food for consumption across seven selected countries in West Africa stood at 122.4 million as of March 31, 2023. This is a 3.4% decrease from the last reporting period in February 2023, suggesting that the food security situation improved across the monitored countries. The countries that contributed to this downward trend included Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger and Nigeria (table 16). When compared to the same period last year (111.2 million people) and two years ago (96.5 million people), the number of food insecure people across the monitored countries in the region increased over both periods.

Table 16: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected West African countries (Mar 2023)

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 (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from Mar 2022	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from Mar 2021
Burkina Faso	19.80	12.60	12.50	63.13	-0.79	6.84	0.00
Cote d'Ivoire	25.10	4.10	4.00	15.94	-2.44	-32.20	-18.37
Ghana	29.80	9.00	9.00	30.20	0.00	57.89	60.71
Mali	19.10	14.00	14.00	73.30	0.00	12.00	33.33
Niger	22.40	19.10	16.90	75.45	-11.52	0.60	28.03
Nigeria	202.80	65.20	63.30	31.21	-2.91	12.04	34.68
Togo	7.90	2.70	2.70	34.18	0.00	28.57	-3.57

**Previous month and ** Current month*

= no change; = low increase (0-5%), = moderate increase (5-15%), = high increase (>15%), = low decrease (0-5%), = moderate decrease (5-15%), = high decrease (>15%)

Commodity prices

Key drivers of the price movements in West Africa include[46]:

	Insecurity & Armed Conflicts	Conflict and insecurity in parts of the West African region, particularly in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Nigeria, continue to disrupt agriculture, trade, and food assistance activities resulting in below-average food availability and sustaining high prices.
	Economic Shocks	Macroeconomic conditions, driven by high fuel and transport costs, and the depreciation of local currencies are pushing up food prices.
	Seasonal Harvests	Most countries in West Africa have had their main and minor harvests improving supplies and driving prices down in some markets.

Burkina Faso

The changes in prices in the monitored markets of Burkina Faso show mixed results (table 7). The prices of maize are generally higher compared to almost all previous periods, except in Ouagadougou, where they are lower than the past 1-12 month. In Bousse, Faramana, Gourcy, Ouargaye, and Titao, the prices are lower than they were 6 months ago. Compared to a month ago, the price of maize only declined in Ouagadougou and Titao, falling by 4.25% and 15.16%, respectively. The price of millet showed a stronger downward trend. Except in Batie, the prices of millet are mostly lower compared to the past 3-6 months. However, compared to its one-year level, the price of millet is generally higher except in Gourcy, Ouagadougou, and Ouargaye, where it declined. In addition to the fact that the country is in its lean season, armed conflicts and insecurity continue to restrain the movement of people, trading activities, and humanitarian assistance, driving up prices in some

[46] FEWSNET, 2023. Accessed at https://fews.net/west-africa on 27th January 2023.

markets. It is, however, expected that the prices will begin dropping in the next 3-6 months when the country begins new harvests.

Table 17: Changes in prices in Burkina Faso[47]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Maize	Batié, Retail, XOF/KG	269.00	1.51	3.46	1.89	19.56	-13.81	-12.39
Maize	Bousse, Retail, XOF/KG	257.00	5.76	1.18	-12.59	5.76	-9.91	-7.59
Maize	Dori, Retail, XOF/KG	338.00	3.68	2.11	2.11	17.77	-19.41	-13.82
Maize	Faramana, Retail, XOF/KG	174.00	9.43	27.01	-17.54	-7.94	-19.75	9.03
Maize	Gourcy, Retail, XOF/KG	261.00	0.38	1.56	-17.67	1.56	-13.97	-0.20
Maize	Ouagadougo (Sankaryare), Retail, XOF/KG	248.00	-4.25	-3.50	-13.89	-11.11	-6.30	11.79
Maize	Ouargaye, Retail, XOF/KG	210.00	0.48	29.63	-11.02	6.60	-30.16	-3.01
Maize	Titao, Retail, XOF/KG	403.00	-15.16	0.00	-12.58	52.65	-40.98	-34.42
Millet	Batié, Retail, XOF/KG	421.00	1.94	4.99	30.75	60.08	-29.75	-31.87
Millet	Bousse, Retail, XOF/KG	329.00	4.78	-22.04	-7.06	17.08	-35.13	-9.96
Millet	Dori, Retail, XOF/KG	410.00	-0.24	1.49	-7.45	20.59	-17.16	-13.95
Millet	Faramana, Retail, XOF/KG	240.00	9.09	-15.79	-23.57	2.56	-31.15	-2.99
Millet	Gourcy, Retail, XOF/KG	272.00	0.37	-11.69	-33.50	-9.33	-5.91	10.86
Millet	Ouagadougo (Sankaryare), Retail, XOF/KG	334.00	0.00	-23.92	-28.63	-6.70	-12.20	8.15
Millet	Ouargaye, Retail, XOF/KG	243.00	-1.62	-40.59	-38.32	-6.90	2.28	13.06
Millet	Titao, Retail, XOF/KG	479.00	-12.11	14.32	-3.43	72.92	-51.80	-40.07

*Note: Last price is for January 2023, *February, **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%)

Cote d'Ivoire

The current (February) prices look generally lower than the past 1-12 months in most monitored markets except for the price of imported rice in Man, which shows a surge of at most 5.59%. Also, the price of maize in Korhogo increased by 13.88% while imported rice surged marginally by 0.75% over January. Most commodity prices remain marginally above their one-year level except for the price of maize in Korhogo and local rice in Man. These trends generally reflect seasonality as well as the impact of global economic dynamics.

Table 18: Changes in prices in Cote d'Ivoire[48]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Maize (white)	Korhogo, Retail, XOF/KG	223.21	13.88	-2.95	-34.22	-4.76
Maize (white)	Man, Retail, XOF/KG	275.00	-8.49	-10.20	-21.43	6.21
Rice (denikassia imported)	Man, XOF/KG	450.00	0.75	2.86	2.86	5.59
Rice (Local)	Korhogo, Retail, XOF/KG	452.23	-3.52	13.06	-2.30	-0.20
Rice (Local)	Man, Retail, XOF/KG	475.00	-10.94	-5.00	-9.52	1.79

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

[47] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023).
[48] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)

Ghana

Generally, the prices of maize and rice in the selected markets of Ghana remain elevated compared to the past 3-12 months (table 19). For the past one month, however, the prices of maize and rice are mostly stable except for maize in Techiman and rice in Accra, where they rose by 8.42% and 33.3%, respectively. The price of imported rice declined in Bolga and Techiman, and remained unchanged in Kumasi, compared to the past 3 months. The decline/stability in prices is a result of the second season harvests in December to January. On the other hand, the prices of maize and rice are between 33% and 254% above their six months and one-year levels. The outlook for the next 3-6 months shows the prospects of significant decreases in prices when new harvests are expected. The prices of all types of fertilizers have also declined against their 1- and 6-months levels but remain above what was recorded 3 months ago.

Table 19: Changes in prices in Ghana[49]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Maize (white)	Accra, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	6.46	0.00	27.42	41.67	108.39	-32.80	-52.91
Maize (white)	Bolga, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	5.65	0.00	1.62	45.24	129.67	-47.47	-56.37
Maize (white)	Kumasi, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	9.13	0.00	72.26	73.24	167.74	-24.87	-55.54
Maize (white)	Techiman, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	5.15	8.42	17.58	33.77	131.98	-34.56	-53.10
NPK 20-10-10	National, USD/50kg	32.98	-5.85	18.85	-21.59			
NPK 23-10-5	National, USD per ton	37.32	-6.84	25.36	-14.03			
Rice (imported)	Accra, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	13.33	33.30	33.30	81.86	244.44	-59.43	-60.38
Rice (imported)	Bolga, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	8.73	0.00	-29.94	254.88	105.41	-43.33	-51.03
Rice (imported)	Kumasi, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	9.53	0.00	0.00	58.83	134.15	-43.13	-37.64
Rice (imported)	Techiman, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	12.28	-1.84	-10.17	18.65	96.79	-53.55	-65.51
Urea	National, USD/50kg	44.73	-6.64	21.52	-6.44			

*Note: Last price is for January 2023, *February, **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%)

Mali

In general, the prices of most commodities in selected markets show downward trends (table 20). Millet and sorghum particularly have had high decreases in prices (>15%) over the past 3-6 months. For all types of rice, however, the current prices remain above their past 6-12 months levels except for few markets. The price changes in February over January show mostly unchanged or moderate falls in most markets except in Bamako, Sikasso, Gao and Segou. Despite insecurity, the available food stocks through past harvests and humanitarian assistance continue to support stable/declining prices.

[49] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2022) and FAO (2022)

Table 20: Changes in prices in Mali[50]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Millet	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	26,000.00	4.00	-35.00	-31.58	-5.45
Millet	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	30,000.00	-14.29	-25.00	-31.82	0.00
Millet	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	30,000.00	-23.08	-30.23	-25.00	7.14
Millet	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	26,500.00	0.00	-33.75	-29.33	-7.02
Millet	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	24,000.00	0.00	-36.84	-42.86	-4.00
Millet	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,500.00	10.00	-35.29	-31.25	10.00
Millet	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	30,000.00	-14.29	-33.33	-33.33	3.45
Rice	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	46,000.00	0.00	8.24	2.22	12.20
Rice	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	45,000.00	0.00	-10.00	4.65	5.88
Rice	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	50,000.00	0.00	-3.85	6.38	19.05
Rice	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	45,000.00	0.00	-5.26	0.00	20.00
Rice	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	45,000.00	-2.17	2.27	7.14	12.50
Rice	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	50,000.00	11.11	11.11	11.11	31.58
Rice	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	45,000.00	0.00	-10.00	0.00	12.50
Rice (imported)	Bamako,Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	43,000.00	0.00	16.22	16.22	17.81
Rice (imported)	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,000.00	0.00	0.00	-1.18	6.33
Rice (imported)	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	40,500.00	0.00	17.39	12.50	24.62
Rice (imported)	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	2.56	6.67
Rice (imported)	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	44,000.00	4.76	4.76	12.82	10.00
Sorghum	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	11.11	-23.08	-30.56	-5.66
Sorghum	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	35,000.00	16.67	0.00	-20.45	27.27
Sorghum	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	-10.71	-30.56	-32.43	-7.41
Sorghum	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	22,000.00	0.00	-45.00	-33.33	-12.00
Sorghum	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	24,000.00	6.67	-26.15	-40.00	-4.00
Sorghum	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	22,000.00	0.00	-37.14	-24.14	0.00
Sorghum	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	30,000.00	-14.29	-20.00	-40.00	20.00

*Note: Last price is for January 2023, *February, **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%)

Niger

Overall, changes in prices in Niger show mixed results (table 21). Although current maize, millet, and sorghum prices remain well-below the 6–12-month levels, they are, however, largely above their levels in the past 1-3 months. Compared to a month ago, maize prices declined in Abalak, while millet prices fell in Bonkaney and Goure, and sorghum prices declined in Goure and Katako. Apart from these, all other markets have had increments in prices. Lower food stocks due to off-season limited supplies and insecurity issues are restricting trade activities as are export bans from neighbouring countries Burkina Faso and Mali.[51] Although the prospects of the next 6 months look gloomy in terms of higher prices, the scenario looks mixed in the next 3 months, when moderate declines and increments could occur.

[50] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)
[51] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/west-africa/niger

Table 21: Changes in prices in Niger[52]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Maize	Abalak, Retail, XOF/KG	302.00	-9.31	-6.07	-19.03	-14.69	-0.83	18.66
Maize	Goure, Retail, XOF/KG	328.00	3.14	23.31	-11.11	-15.03	-6.08	18.90
Maize	Katako, Retail, XOF/KG	247.00	6.47	-21.59	-15.99	-13.64	3.76	11.63
Millet	Abalak, Retail, XOF/KG	341.00	3.02	-11.43	-13.67	-8.09	-12.84	5.85
Millet	Bonkaney, Retail, XOF/KG	294.00	-0.34	29.52	-23.04	-5.16	3.33	5.66
Millet	Goure, Retail, XOF/KG	307.00	-3.46	10.04	-18.57	-14.01	-0.99	20.63
Millet	Katako, Retail, XOF/KG	292.00	4.66	8.96	-25.13	-7.01	0.82	11.10
Sorghum	Abalak, Retail, XOF/KG	271.00	0.00	0.37	-15.31	-21.22	12.21	28.38
Sorghum	Bonkaney, Retail, XOF/KG	280.00	0.72	27.85	-14.11	-2.78	-1.29	2.50
Sorghum	Goure, Retail, XOF/KG	272.00	-2.51	49.45	-24.86	-21.16	-1.69	29.29
Sorghum	Katako, Retail, XOF/KG	277.00	-0.72	0.73	-14.24	-5.78	-2.82	10.10

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

Nigeria

Largely, changes in the prices of food commodities in Nigeria show rising trends, although with several pockets of declines in some markets against certain past periods. For example, the prices of maize increased over the past 1-6 months except in Lagos and Maiduguri, where they are lower than 6 months ago. Similarly, the prices of millet generally show higher trends compared to the past 1-12 months except Giwa, where they are lower than the past 3-12 month, and in Lagos and Maiduguri, where they declined by 1.4% and 2.1%, respectively, against the previous month. The prices of rice are also mostly higher than they were in the past 3-12 months, but the price of imported rice declined against the past one month in most markets, while that of milled rice remains higher. Changes in the price of sorghum show mixed results. Compared to a month ago, the prices are higher except in Lagos and Maiduguri. Kano and Maiduguri have experienced declines in sorghum prices against the past 3-12 months. According to FEWSNET, restricted access to cash, anticipated election violence, and persisting conflict are contributing factors of higher food demand and prices.[53] In addition, conflicts and insecurity, as well as poor macroeconomic conditions emanating partly from the redesign of the Naira resulting in currency shortages, have significantly contributed to higher food prices in Nigeria.

[52] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)
[53] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/west-africa/nigeria

Table 22: Changes in prices in Nigeria[54]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Maize (white)	Giwa, NGN/Kg**	206.25	13.01	3.13	10.74	-10.33
Maize (white)	Ibadan, NGN/Kg**	271.00	4.23	32.20	7.54	12.22
Maize (white)	Kano, NGN/Kg**	254.18	15.97	11.31	17.44	4.91
Maize (white)	Kaura Namoda, NGN/Kg**	227.25	3.60	11.84	1.61	-7.13
Maize (white)	Lagos, NGN/Kg**	246.75	0.41	11.53	-3.33	7.28
Maize (white)	Maiduguri, NGN/Kg**	207.00	-1.43	2.22	-4.83	-8.00
Millet	Giwa, NGN/Kg**	227.50	1.11	-13.74	-14.15	-9.00
Millet	Ibadan, NGN/Kg**	293.00	0.51	0.34	10.98	17.20
Millet	Kano, NGN/Kg**	254.18	2.01	10.82	-6.82	6.29
Millet	Kaura Namoda, NGN/Kg**	258.50	6.73	13.10	5.75	8.34
Millet	Lagos, NGN/Kg**	282.00	-1.40	6.72	3.11	9.20
Millet	Maiduguri, NGN/Kg**	232.50	-2.11	3.33	-8.82	1.09
NPK 15 15 15	National, USD per ton**	46.12	-2.43	-0.09	-1.50	
NPK 20 10 10	National, USD per ton**	52.78	-1.49	-1.53	-6.42	
Rice (imported)	Giwa, NGN/Kg**	770.00	-1.28	21.26	37.50	36.89
Rice (imported)	Ibadan, NGN/Kg**	655.00	-7.75	-4.03	10.08	16.24
Rice (imported)	Kaura Namoda, NGN/Kg**	656.90	-1.78	-2.46	9.52	23.13
Rice (imported)	Lagos, NGN/Kg**	880.50	-0.06	23.32	41.90	54.47
Rice (imported)	Maiduguri, NGN/Kg**	847.50	-0.88	1.50	25.56	44.87
Rice (milled)	Giwa, NGN/Kg**	1,100.00	0.46	5.77	3.77	25.71
Rice (milled)	Kano, NGN/Kg**	629.03	2.43	4.14	12.48	41.65
Rice (milled)	Kaura Namoda, NGN/Kg**	1,096.20	5.61	6.27	14.73	32.47
Rice (milled)	Maiduguri, NGN/Kg**	1,095.00	0.00	1.86	13.47	28.82
Sorghum (white)	Giwa, NGN/Kg**	200.00	14.29	-0.62	1.91	-9.09
Sorghum (white)	Ibadan, NGN/Kg**	280.00	33.33	1.63	-1.06	8.32
Sorghum (white)	Kano, NGN/Kg**	217.10	6.15	-11.09	-10.38	-4.43
Sorghum (white)	Kaura Namoda, NGN/Kg**	246.75	7.05	2.92	4.07	-3.31
Sorghum (white)	Lagos, NGN/Kg**	281.50	-0.53	0.00	5.83	9.32
Sorghum (white)	Maiduguri, NGN/Kg**	187.50	-2.60	-8.54	-9.64	-13.79
Urea	National, USD per ton**	57.23	-1.72	-2.49	-7.14	

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

Togo

The prices of monitored commodities in Togo continue to remain largely stable or declined over the past 1-12 months. The prices in February over January were only up in Kara (for Cassava) and Cinkasse (for sorghum) by 4.88% and 2%, respectively. Although prices of maize remained mostly below their 1-month, 6-month, and 12-month levels, they are higher than those reported 3 months ago. Lomé recorded the highest maize price increase of 15.22%. The prices of sorghum have also shown low increases (0-5%) above their one-year level in three of the five monitored markets. The carryover stocks from the previous seasons' harvests continue to support stable/lower prices of these products. The prices of fertilizer also remain stable over the past 6 months.

Table 23: Changes in sorghum prices in Togo[55]

[54] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)
[55] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2022)

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Cassava (gari)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg	295.00	-1.67	-1.67	-1.67	5.36
Cassava (gari)	Anie, XOF/Kg	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-16.43
Cassava (gari)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	430.00	-2.27	-0.92	-2.27	-2.05
Cassava (gari)	Kara, XOF/Kg	430.00	4.88	4.88	13.16	8.04
Cassava (gari)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	430.00	-0.92	0.00	0.00	-0.92
Cassava (gari)	Lomé, XOF/Kg	420.00	-1.18	-3.45	5.00	6.33
Maize (white)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg	257.00	0.00	11.74	-6.55	-14.33
Maize (white)	Anie, XOF/Kg	220.00	0.00	10.00	-6.38	-13.04
Maize (white)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	250.00	-0.79	-1.19	-3.85	-1.96
Maize (white)	Kara, XOF/Kg	250.00	-0.79	5.04	-5.66	-7.06
Maize (white)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	247.00	-1.20	3.78	-5.00	-3.14
Maize (white)	Lomé, XOF/Kg	265.00	-0.75	15.22	-8.62	-24.29
NPK 15 15 15	National, USD per ton**	18,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Rice (imported)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg	560.00	0.00	0.00	1.82	0.00
Rice (imported)	Anie, XOF/Kg	460.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rice (imported)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	460.00	0.00	0.00	-1.08	0.00
Rice (imported)	Kara, XOF/Kg	460.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2.54
Rice (imported)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	500.00	0.00	4.17	3.09	0.00
Rice (imported)	Lomé, XOF/Kg	460.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sorghum	Anie, XOF/Kg	265.00	0.00	0.00	-10.17	-10.17
Sorghum	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	255.00	2.00	-10.53	-12.07	4.08
Sorghum	Kara, XOF/Kg	255.00	-7.61	-15.00	-17.74	-7.27
Sorghum	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	255.00	-0.78	-15.00	-17.74	3.24
Sorghum	Lomé, XOF/Kg	335.00	-1.47	-1.47	4.69	4.69
Urea	National, USD per ton**	18,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

*Note: Last price is for February 2023, *March, **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%)

Continental Food Trade Updates

The following are some of the major events and activities during March 2023 that have had an impact on food trade across the continent:

- The African Union has approved the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) draft protocols on investment, intellectual property rights and competition policy paving way for their implementation[56].
- The AfCFTA Guided Trade Initiative (GTI) is the latest development designed to boost trade in the Africa's continent-wide free trade zone. The GTI was launched in October 2022 with the aim of testing meaningful, continuous trade under AfCFTA and to assist in the development of regional value chains that will allow for more climate-friendly, sustainable trade across the continent. The GTI will also focus on increasing opportunities for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), youth and women in trade[57].
- Pan-African cross-border trade promoter TradeMark Africa and its subsidiary Trade Catalyst Africa (TCA) have entered an agreement to work together with the Tony Blair Institute (TBI) to accelerate cross-border trade on the continent[58].
- The AfCFTA Secretary General announced that trading of services across the continent will begin in the next phase of the Guided Trade Initiative this year. The initiative, launched in October 2022, sought to test the environmental, legal and trade policy basis for intra-African trade in a pilot phase that involved eight countries namely, Cameroon, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Tunisia, Tanzania and Rwanda[59].
- The AfCFTA Secretariat has hinted that a protocol meant for digital trading activities will be finalized by June this year. The protocol on digital trade can help unlock the full potential of the free trade pact, which can benefit African economies, enhance competitiveness and improve digital inclusion efforts[60]

East Africa Food Trade Updates

The following are some of the major events and activities that occurred during the month that have implications on regional food trade within the East African region:

- The EAC Secretary General Hon. (Dr.) Peter Mathuki and the Managing Director of the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI), Dr. Martin Lwanga, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing a framework of collaboration in jointly developing training and capacity-building activities in trade-related areas, in a bid to foster greater business development and enhance the region's competitiveness[61].
- The East African Community (EAC) wants the US government to make the rules governing access to their markets more flexible under the planned renewal of the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA)[62].

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56 https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/au-approves-afcfta-draft-protocols-4139080
57 https://www.zawya.com/en/economy/north-africa/an-update-on-free-trade-in-africa-the-guided-trade-initiative-regional-value-chains-and-measures-for-sustainable-trade-nc83vc2f
58 https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/insitutes-partner-to-boost-intra-africa-trade-4141552
59 https://www.newtimes.co.rw/article/5742/news/economy/trade-in-services-to-begin-under-afcfta-guided-trade-initiative
60 https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Protocol-on-Digital-Trade-to-be-finalised-by-June-2023-AfCFTA-Secretariat-1732055
61 https://www.eac.int/press-releases/2734-eac-and-esami-to-partner-on-capacity-building-on-regional-trade-issues
62 https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/eac-seeks-improved-trade-under-agoa-4156260

Figure 7 below 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.

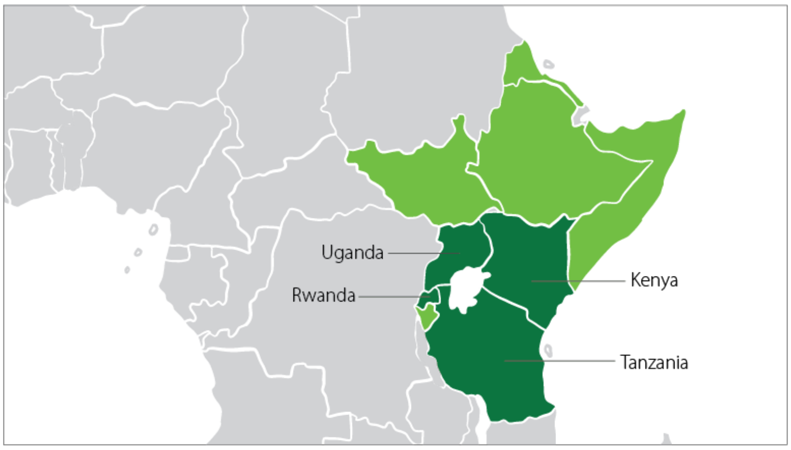


Figure 7: East Africa Cross border trade updates March 2023

UGANDA

- Uganda's Deputy Speaker, Thomas Tayebwa has asked the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) member states to remove all Non-Tariff Barriers [NTB] saying that they are a hindrance to the entry of goods, especially from developing countries.
- Uganda and South Africa have eased tax procedures for exporters on both sides, aimed at enhancing the movement of goods between the two countries.
- The Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA) and the Private Sector Foundation Uganda have appealed to government to engage its counterparts in Kenya over its decision to unilaterally ban importation of

RWANDA

- Rwanda on March 10, 2023 signed a host agreement with the Secretariat of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the Afreximbank for a $10 billion Adjustment Fund aimed at supporting all initiatives geared towards the implementation of the AfCFTA.
- Recent statistics from the Central Bank show that Rwanda's export value increased by 33.2 percent in 2022, mainly driven by commodity prices and strong domestic manufacturing activities exported in the region.

TANZANIA

- The Tanzanian contractor working on the LPG plant project at Dongo Kundu in Kenya's Mombasa County has appealed to Kenya's president, William Ruto, to help remove trade barriers hampering businesses in the EAC region.

KENYA

- The Government of Kenya, through its gazette notice no. 3423 dated 17th March 2023, has instituted exemption from duty on imports of yellow maize, soya bean and meal, and other animal feed products. The exemption is however only applicable till 6th August 2023.
- Sugar consumers may see the price come down in the coming days as the ships carrying the first consignment of the duty-free sweetener docks at the port of Mombasa.
- The Kenya Dairy Board (KDB) has suspended the importation of milk powder to cushion local producers ahead of the long rainy season of March to May. The directive will apply to all importers in the country.
- Kenya and Egypt have agreed to establish free visa-entry for diplomatic and official passports holders from April 1.
- Kenya will sign contracts with farmers in Zambia to grow maize exclusively for export to the Kenyan market as the government seeks to lower the cost of the staple, with the first consignment under the agreements expected in August.
- Kenya has suspended a recent ban on the importation of milk powder into the country "to allow for the Dairy Industry (Import and Export) Regulations 2021 to apply accordingly."
- Kenya has called upon other East Africa Community States to consider the harmonization of the legal frameworks, that would ensure smooth movement of aquaculture products across the borders.
- The Board of Directors of the African Development Bank Group has approved a $30 million Trade & SME Finance Facility for Family bank Limited (FBL) in Kenya. The facility is expected to boost intra-Africa trade, promote regional integration and contribute to the reduction of the trade & SME finance gap.
- Nairobi closed the Kenya-Uganda border in Busia District, which includes 57 kilometres of porous borders and over 200 illegal routes stretching from Lake Victoria in Majanji to River Malaba in Buteba Sub-County

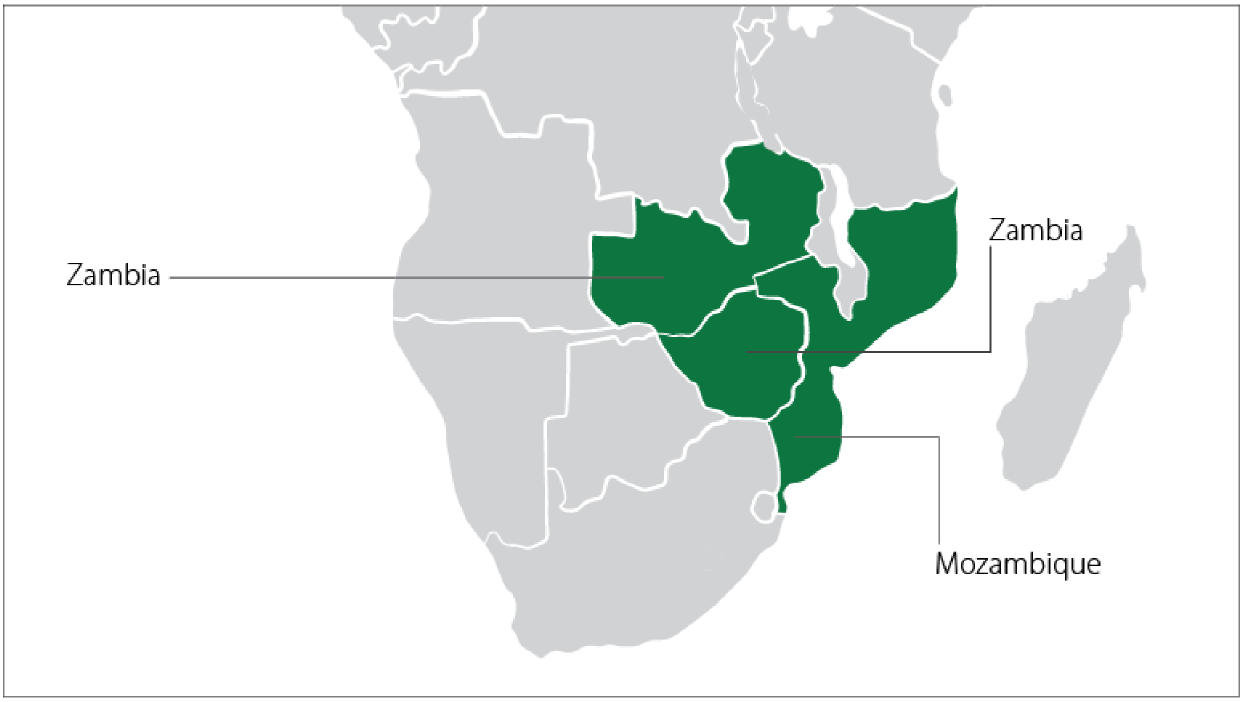
Southern Africa Food Trade Updates

The following are some of the major events and activities that occurred during the month, with implications on regional food trade within the Southern African region:

- The Council of Ministers of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) met on 18-19 March 2023 in Kinshasa, DRC to deliberate on issues aimed at consolidating regional integration, cooperation and development[63]
- The Council of Ministers of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have adopted legal instruments to implement the Tripartite Free Trade Agreement (TFTA) once it enters into force[64].

Figure 8 summarises some of the key activities and events recorded across Southern Africa that impact food trade activities.

Figure 8: Southern Africa Food Trade updates for February 2023[65]



MOZAMBIQUE

- The Mozambican Association of smallscale importers, known as "mukheristas', has decided to suspend trips to South Africa to prevent possible violence against Mozambican trucks during the current protests.

ZAMBIA

- Zambia and Namibia have agreed to revive the joint trade and investment committee (JTIC) to strengthen bilateral cooperation on trade, trade-related and investment matters.

ZIMBABWE

- Zimbabwe became the sixth signatory to the Establishment Agreement of the Fund for Export-Development in Africa (FEDA), the development impact-oriented subsidiary of African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank).

[63] https://www.sadc.int/latest-news/sadc-council-ministers-discuss-programmes-policies-and-interventions-consolidate
[64] https://www.comesa.int/tripartite-council-of-ministers-adopt-legal-instruments-to-implement-the-tripartite-free-trade-area/
[65] https://www.tralac.org/news/article/15906-tralac-daily-news-2-february-2023.html
https://www.herald.co.zw/zimtrade-to-capacitate-smallholder-horticulture-farmers/

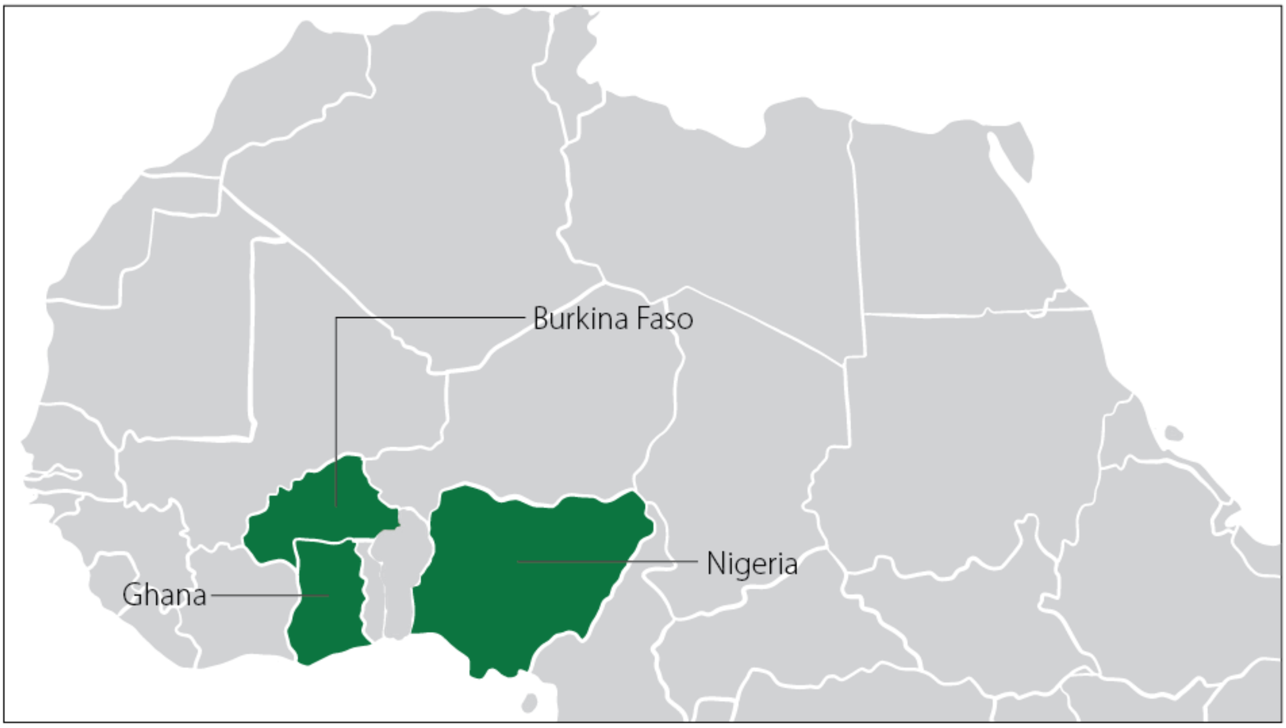
West Africa Food Trade Updates

The following are some of the major events and activities that occurred during the month, with implications on regional food trade within the West African region:

- The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) parliament has kick-started a process aimed at ensuring seamless communication within the West African sub-region.

Figure 9 provides an update of issues and events reported in selected West African countries, which have implications on food trade and food security in the West African region.

Figure 9: West Africa Cross Border Trade Updates March 2023[66]



NIGERIA

- The Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) and African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank)'s Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to help connect payments and accelerate Africa's trade by transforming and facilitating payment, clearing and settlement for cross-border trade across the continent.

BURKINA FASO

- Burkina Faso, in West Africa, has suggested creating a joint bank with Russia to facilitate financial transactions between the two countries and promote trade.

GHANA

- The GCB Bank Plc, one of the largest banks in Ghana, on March 8, 2023 announced the successful completion of the first Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) client transaction in Ghana.
- The transaction involved a Ghanaian incorporated entity initiating a supplier payment from GCB in Ghana Cedis to a beneficiary in Nigeria, who received the payment in Naira instantly

[66] https://www.myjoyonline.com/gcb-bank-completes-first-pan-african-payment-and-settlement-system-client-transaction-in-ghana/
https://sunnewsonline.com/nigeria-papss-sign-mou-to-accelerate-cross-border-transactions/
https://www.russia-briefing.com/news/proposals-made-for-establishing-a-joint-russia-african-bank.html/

The digital Regional Food Balance Sheet provides near real-time estimates and projections for core staple crop production, stock levels, and other information in East and Southern Africa.

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