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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. The opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not reflect the official policy or position of AGRA, its employees, partners, or its affiliates in any way. While AGRA has made every effort to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information entered in this report, we assume no responsibility for any errors, inaccuracies, omissions, or inconsistencies included herein. The mention of specific companies, manufacturers or their products, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply endorsement or recommendation or approval by AGRA, its employees, partners or their affiliates in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. The descriptions, charts and maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of AGRA concerning the development, legal or constitutional status of any country.

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 April Food Security Monitor are summarised below:

Global Food Security update

A total of 345,927 MT worth of commodities including wheat, maize, soybean, and barley were shipped to African countries in April 2023 under the Black Sea Grain Initiative. 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 decreased in all regions compared to past month but increased against their levels 1 - 2 years ago.

High food prices continue to dominate much of the East African region due to the compounded effects of the lean season, low stocks because of past five consecutive failed rainy seasons and seasonal floods, conflicts and insecurity, and worsening macroeconomic conditions. However, the situation is improving in Rwanda, where food prices are beginning to fall due to the season A harvests.

In Southern Africa, IPC Phase 3 outcomes continue to dominate most countries except Zimbabwe, where IPC 1 and 2 outcomes persist due to the start of the 2023 harvests.

In West Africa, IPC 3 and 4 outcomes persist largely due to low carryover stocks, restrictions on cereal exports in some countries, high transport costs and insecurity in the Sahel; while in the coastal countries of the Gulf of Guinea, they reflect a strong demand, high prices on the international market, high production costs and falling exchange rates.

Food Trade

The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) has created the African Trade Facilitation Programme through which it is forging strong partnerships with African commercial banks to help them finance intra-African trade.

The East African Community (EAC) secretariat has commenced the process of digitising its Common External Tariff (CET).

COMESA Member States and cooperating partners have held the Technical Working Group on the implementation of a regional Single Window, which is expected to have a harmonized and standard data connectivity platform among other government agencies and private stakeholders that are active players across the trade supply chain.

The ECOWAS Regional Trade Facilitation Committee (RTFC) held a meeting on March 27 - 29 in Accra, Ghana, to review the implementation of regional trade facilitation reforms and consider innovative approaches to improve free movement of goods in the region.

Commodity Prices

In East Africa, food commodity prices remain high in most countries, although some notable declines are seen in Rwanda and Uganda.

In Southern Africa, except Mozambique, commodity prices are generally elevated driven largely by the aftermath of cyclones and seasonal changes in food stocks.

In West Africa, price movements generally show mixed results. Whereas in Cote d'Ivoire prices are generally lower, in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo, the changes in prices are mixed. However, in Ghana and Nigeria, the prices of food commodities are mostly elevated.

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 last two years. Compared to the same period last year, the number of people with insufficient food consumption[2] has dropped in Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. In terms of food prices, the average price has gone down in Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, and Uganda, compared to the past six months. Meanwhile, the average prices have dropped over the last one year in Cote d'Ivoire, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, and Togo.

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

Country	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from last 1 year		Change in people with insufficient food consumption from last 2 years		Commodity Price Changes in the last 6 months		Commodity Price Changes in the last 1 year	
Burkina Faso	3.81	↑	-6.03	↓	-8.89	↓	0.45	↑
Cote d'Ivoire	-30.19	↓	-13.95	↓	-2.48	↓	-8.93	↓
Ethiopia	-13.31	↓	1.79	↑	7.38	↑	28.31	↑
Ghana	33.33	↑	26.67	↑	47.46	↑	39.66	↑
Kenya	87.69	↑	28.42	↑	1.53	↑	90.71	↑
Malawi	115.38	↑	47.37	↑	113.65	↑	276.49	↑
Mali*	20.00	↑	22.22	↑	-30.20	↓	-14.70	↓
Mozambique	-16.33	↓	0.00	●	29.59	↑	-16.18	↓
Niger	0.00	●	32.17	↑	-16.95	↓	-16.25	↓
Nigeria	17.05	↑	28.21	↑	4.86	↑	-0.17	↓
Rwanda	7.14	↑	20.00	↑	-16.55	↓	45.19	↑
South Sudan	1.59	↑	-7.25	↓	9.48	↑	120.91	↑
Tanzania	3.77	↑	1.85	↑	25.24	↑	97.61	↑
Togo	28.57	↑	17.39	↑	3.57	↑	-6.33	↓
Uganda	-3.07	↓	2.60	↑	-6.04	↓	52.99	↑
Zambia	42.31	↑	48.00	↑	50.88	↑	41.30	↑
Zimbabwe	-35.42	↓	-41.51	↓				

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] See footnote 9 under "Hunger Hotspots Snapshot" for definition of "People with insufficient food consumption"

Global Market Update

Black Sea Grain Initiative

According to a study by the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy and its Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Threats and Emergencies (CREATE), disruptions in the export of grain as a result of the Ukraine and Russia war will result in a $1.6 billion loss for the global economy during the first year of conflict.[3] Meanwhile, a total of 345,927 MT worth of commodities, including wheat, maize, soybean, and barley, were shipped to African countries in April 2023 under the Black Sea Grain Initiative. The recipients of these shipments included 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 (April 2023, MT)	Volume traded (Cumulative, MT)
Algeria	Wheat	126,087	338,307
Egypt	Wheat	31,500	233,700
	Soybeans		79,497
	Corn		535,906
	Sunflower meal		1,503
	Sunflower oil		3,100
Ethiopia	Wheat	30,000	257,759
Kenya	Wheat	49,840	307,936
Libya	Barley		110,781
	Corn	52,500	365,800
	Wheat		53,800
	Sunflower meal		2,700
Morocco	Sunflower meal	18,700	74,490
Somalia	Wheat		53,500
Sudan	Wheat		65,340
Tunisia	Corn	37,300	270,748
	Barley		73,500
	Wheat		170,150
	Vegetable oil		3,300
	Soya oil		2,970

Source: United Nations[4]

Global Food Prices

The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) increased slightly by 0.6% over March, after several months of decline, driven by a steep increase in the sugar and meat sub-indices despite declines in the cereal, dairy and vegetable oil sub-indices. Nonetheless, the IGC Grains and Oil Index (GOI) show a decline of about 7% at the end of April compared to the end of March. Food inflation, however, remains high in most countries globally according to the latest World Bank Food Security Update.[5] Specifically, the report indicates that food inflation levels exceed 5% in 70.6% of the low-income countries, 90.9% of lower-middle-income countries, and 87% of upper-middle-income countries, with many experiencing double-digit inflation. Global maize prices have also remained high due to a tight supply outlook in Argentinian and US stocks, continued Chinese buying, and the ongoing war in

[3] https://ratin.net/site/news_article/12871
[4] https://www.un.org/en/black-sea-grain-initiative/vessel-movements
[5] https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/agriculture/brief/food-security-update

Ukraine, although maize continues to leave Ukraine. Wheat prices, on the other hand, continue to decline due to competitive Black Sea supplies.[6]

Figure 1: Global Food Commodity Prices[7]

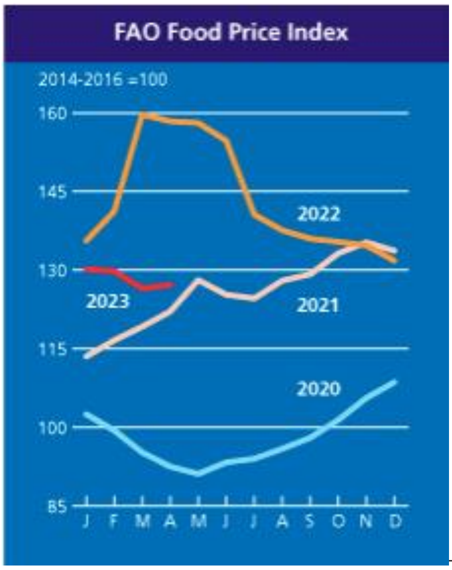

Figure 2: IGC GOI Commodity Price Indices[8]

Global Fertilizer Prices

Global prices for all major fertilizer types continue to decline both over one-month and compared to a year ago *(Table 3)*. While on month-on-month basis the four major fertilizer types (DAP, MAP, Potash, and Urea) have declined only marginally, there were significant drops compared to a year ago, ranging from 22% to 37%.

Table 3: Global Fertilizer Prices

Date Range	DAP	MAP	POTASH	UREA
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
Apr 3-7 2023	818	809	642	625
% Change March-April 2023	**-0.4**	**-0.4**	**-0.5**	**-0.3**
% Change Apr 2022 - Apr 2023	**-22.0**	**-25.2**	**-27.1**	**-37.7**

Source: DTN

[6] https://ratin.net/site/news_article/12865
[7] FAO, 2023. Accessed at https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/ on 8th May2023
[8] AMIS, 2023. Accessed at https://www.amis-outlook.org/fileadmin/user_upload/amis/docs/Market_monitor/AMIS_Market_Monitor_current.pdf on 23rd February 2023

Food Insecurity Updates

Hunger Hotspots Snapshot

Figure 3 provides a status update of the prevalence of insufficient food consumption[9] across 17 selected East, Southern and West African countries in April. During the month, 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: Burkina Faso (55.1%), Mali (69.1%), South Sudan (58.2%), and Niger (67.9%). In addition, six more countries including Malawi, Nigeria, Togo, and Uganda, inched towards hotspot statuses.

Source: Own analysis based on data from WFP (2022)[10]

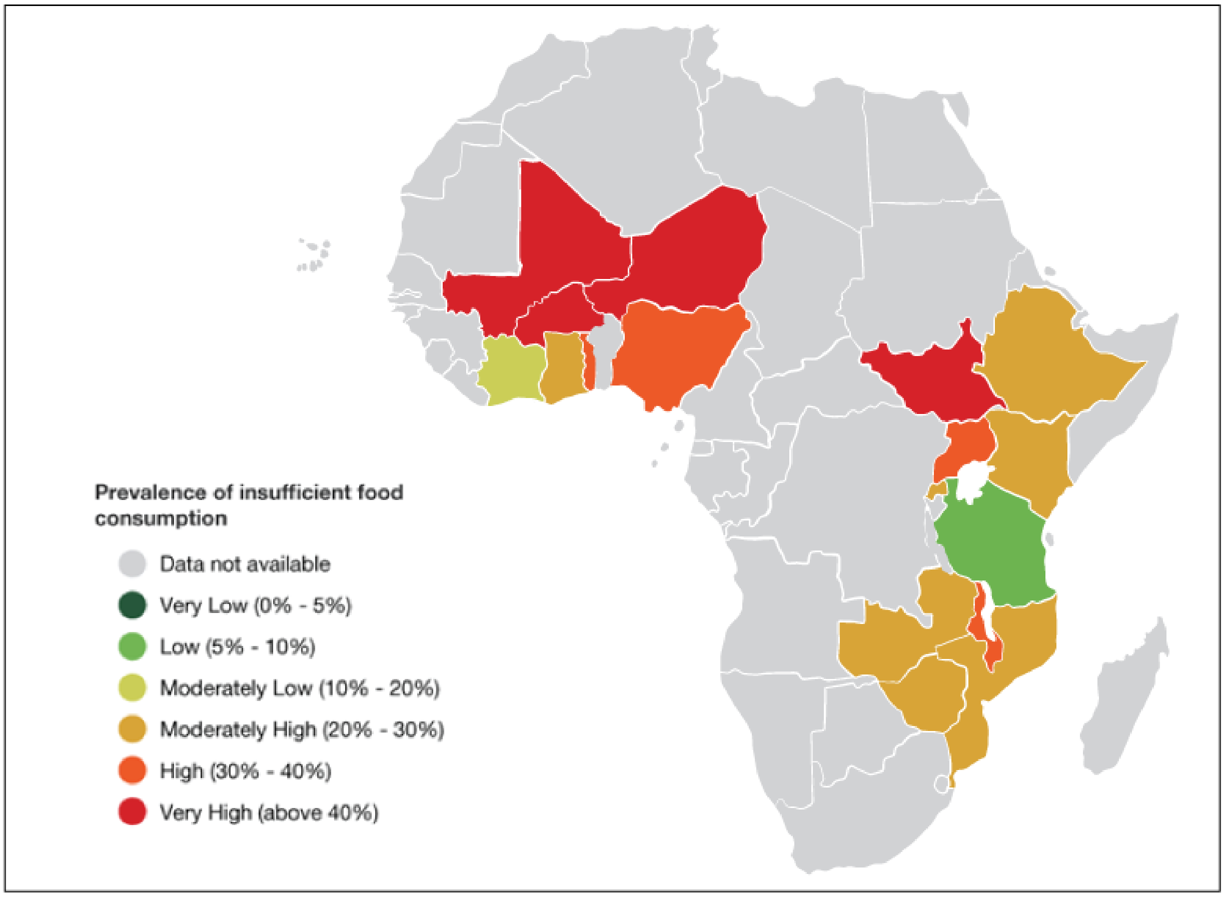

Figure 3: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption, March 2023

[9] **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 over 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 do not consume 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 consume 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).
[10] https://hungermap.wfp.org/.

East Africa Food Security Update

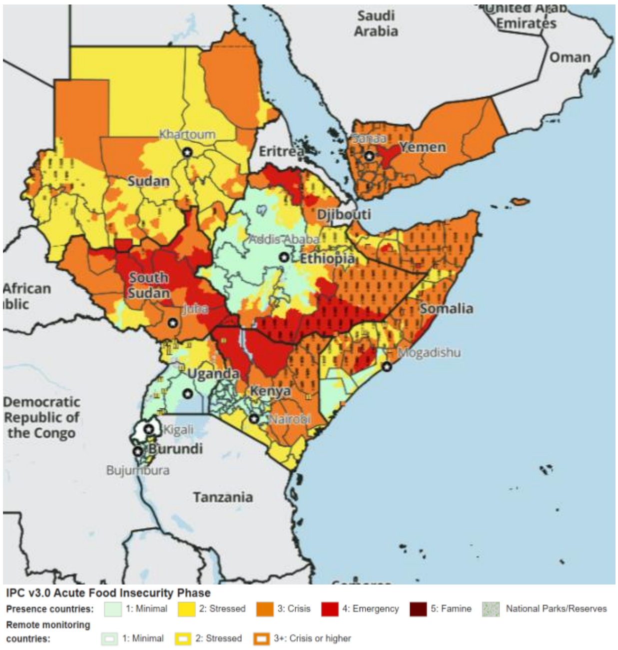

Figure 4: East Africa countries Food Security Outlook, March-May 2023

Kenya: The long rains are expected to drive gradual improvements in food security with most of the country recording above-average rainfall.[11] Currently, however, an ongoing humanitarian assistance is driving Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, as high food prices continue to constrain household food access and driving widespread Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes in marginal agriculture areas.[12]

Rwanda: Minimal (IPC Phase 1) outcomes are expected due to available food stocks from Season A harvests and seasonal income from agricultural labor.[13] However, localized staple food deficits, erratic rains, disruption of trade, and the inception of the minor lean season in the Eastern, Western, and Southern provinces is expected to drive Stressed (IPC 2) outcomes in rural areas.[14]

South Sudan: The multiple impacts of high food and non-food prices, conflict and insecurity, poor macro-economic conditions, combined with the seasonal declines in food stocks as well as low income-earning opportunities are expected to drive IPC Phase 4 outcomes in the country.[15]

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

As of 28th April 2023, a total of 65.7 million people across six selected East African countries did not have sufficient food for consumption. This represents a 6.5% decline from the previous month, indicating that the food security situation has improved across these countries over the past one month. Countries that contributed to this downward trend include Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, and Tanzania. However, the number of food insecure people in the region has increased to 65.7 million up from 63.5 million in April last year, and 62.1 million two years ago. *Table 4* below provides updates of how the prevalence of insufficient food consumption changed across each of the selected East African countries during the month.

Table 4: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption across selected East African countries (April 2023)[16]

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 April 2022	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from April 2021
Ethiopia	109.20	22.80	26.00	20.88	-12.31 ↓	-13.31 ↓	1.79 ↗
Kenya	51.40	12.20	12.60	23.74	-3.17 ↘	87.69 ↑	28.42 ↑
Rwanda	12.30	3.00	3.00	24.39	0.00 ●	7.14 ↗	20.00 ↑
South Sudan	11.00	6.40	6.80	58.18	-5.88 ↘	1.59 ↗	-7.25 ↘
Tanzania	56.30	5.50	6.10	9.77	-9.84 ↘	3.77 ↗	1.85 ↗
Uganda	42.70	15.80	15.80	37.00	0.00 ●	-3.07 ↘	2.60 ↗

**Current month and **Previous month*

● = No change; ↗ = Low increase (0-10%); ↑ = Moderate increase (10-30%); ↑ = High increase (>30%)

↘ = Low decrease (0-10%); ↓ = Moderate decrease (10-30%); ↓ = High decrease (>30%)

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[11] https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya
[12] Ibid
[13] https://fews.net/east-africa/rwanda/key-message-update/march-2023
[14] https://fews.net/east-africa/rwanda/key-message-update/march-2023
[15] https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-key-message-update-food-assistance-will-remain-critical-preventing-emergency-ipc-phase-4-several-areas-march-2023
[16] https://hungermap.wfp.org/

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of commodity prices in EA[17]

	Climatic Shocks	The compounded effects of the past five consecutive failed rainy seasons, and seasonal floodings continue to restrain farming activities and harvests, resulting in high food prices.
	Conflicts	Conflicts and insecurity continue to be driving factors for higher food commodity prices in East Africa.
	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

The prices of food commodities continue to escalate in Ethiopia and are higher than they were in the past 1 - 12 months in almost all monitored markets (table 5). Bale Robe was the only market that demonstrated declines compared to the past 1 - 6 months. Also, in Addis Ababa, the prices of sorghum were lower in April compared to March and 6 months ago. The compounded effects of the past five consecutive failed rainy seasons, seasonal flooding, and conflicts and insecurity in most parts of Ethiopia, on agricultural and marketing activities continue to sustain higher food prices.[18]

Table 5: Changes in prices in Ethiopia[19]

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	1.35	▲	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 March 2023, *April, **February, ***January, and ****December*

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

[17] Reliefweb, 2023. https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/usaidbha-ethiopia-assistance-overview-april-2023 accessed on 1st May 2023.
[18] Ibid
[19] Author's construction based on data from FAO (2023)

Kenya

Overall, food commodity prices are well above their levels in the past 1 - 12 months in selected markets of Nairobi, Nakuru, and Eldoret (table 6). This is largely driven by strong demand, successive below-average harvests, and external shocks.[20] Bean prices are particularly higher — ranging from 5% to 144% across the comparable periods. The wholesale prices of maize were, however, lower (in the range of 7% to 22.5%) in Nakuru over the past 1-6 months. Fertilizer prices in Kenya continue to show declining trends over the past 1-3 months.

Table 6: Changes in prices in Kenya[21]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Beans (Rosecoco)	Eldoret, Wholesale, KES/Kg	175.84	5.10	22.32	32.71	144.53
Beans (Rosecoco)	Nairobi Kangemi, Wholesale, KES/Kg	157.78	16.87	39.39	65.11	103.48
Beans (Rosecoco)	Nakuru Wakulima,Wholesale, KES/Kg	147.36	17.58	36.29	23.95	110.51
DAP Com	National, US$/Ton	932.00	-4.70	-9.51		
Maize (white)	Eldoret, Wholesale, KES/Kg	72.71	10.55	22.45	21.75	89.15
Maize (white)	Nairobi Kangemi, Wholesale, KES/Kg	66.99	23.60	4.25	5.61	101.41
Maize (white)	Nakuru Wakulima, Wholesale, KES/Kg	64.13	7.89	7.75	1.26	81.57
Maize (white)	Nakuru, Wholesale, KES/Kg***	50.03	-7.00	-18.56	-22.52	
NPK 17-17-17 Com	National, US$/Ton	962.00	-4.37	-6.87		
Urea Com	National, US$/Ton	895.00	-3.97	-10.86		

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

= 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

Generally, food commodity prices in Rwanda, particularly for maize and sorghum, are showing declining trends *(table 7).* Compared to March, the April prices for beans declined in Kabuga, Mugera, and Nyabiheke (Camp) by 10.87%, 15.61% and 15.17%, respectively, while maize prices fell in Kubuga and Nyabiheke (Camp) by 10.32% and 18.88%, respectively. Meanwhile, sorghum prices declined in Kigeme only, where a 3.57% reduction was reported. The prices of maize and sorghum were lower compared to their levels 3 - 6 months ago, while, overall, all food commodity prices remained above their one-year levels. Increased food stocks from the Season A harvests have tamed the prices in some markets, while the inception of the minor lean season from April, and global factors are sustaining higher prices in certain markets.[22]

[20] https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya
[21] Author's construction based on data from FAO (2023).
[22] https://reliefweb.int/report/rwanda/rwanda-key-message-update-minimal-ipc-phase-1-outcomes-expected-due-season-harvest-march-2023

Table 7: Changes in prices in Rwanda[23]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Bean (dry)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG*	1,076.97	-10.87	30.98	-1.18	218.20
Bean (dry)	Kigeme, Retail, RWF/KG*	1,431.25	7.15	30.69	33.04	246.27
Bean (dry)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG*	1,216.67	-15.61	25.00	40.38	198.99
Bean (dry)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	1,320.83	-15.17	40.35	44.18	221.13
Maize (white)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG*	470.83	-10.32	-20.98	-21.53	47.49
Maize (white)	Kigeme, Retail, RWF/KG*	581.25	1.33	-1.81	-11.71	69.79
Maize (white)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG*	500.00	5.73	-16.74	-15.85	32.65
Maize (white)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	506.67	-18.88	-21.04	-17.11	30.84
Sorghum	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG*	658.34	1.28	-5.95	-10.23	49.06
Sorghum	Kigeme, Retail, RWF/KG*	675.00	-3.57	0.00	-1.22	43.87
Sorghum	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG*	530.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	34.18

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

= 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

The prices of food commodities remained generally elevated in South Sudan, particularly compared to the past 3 - 12 months (table 8). Over the past one month, however, most monitored markets have experienced price drops. For instance, maize prices dropped in Juba, Rumbek, and Torit by 2.29%, 16.98%, and 3.33%, respectively. The prices of maize and sorghum in Rumbek, particularly, have experienced substantial declines in the past 3 - 6 months. The prices of food are atypically higher than the same period last year, ranging from 15% - 250%. This is largely due to the multiple impacts of conflict and insecurity, poor macro-economic conditions, and seasonal declines in food stocks.[24]

Table 8: Changes in prices in South Sudan[25]

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	6.61	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

[23] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023).
[24] https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-key-message-update-food-assistance-will-remain-critical-preventing-emergency-ipc-phase-4-several-areas-march-2023
[25] Author's construction based on data from WFP (FAO (2023).

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

● = 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

The prices of food commodities in Tanzania have begun to recede in recent months but are still well-above the levels of the past 3 - 12 months due to the past prolonged dry spells. Compared to the past one month, the prices of beans, maize and rice in Tanzania have generally declined or had low increases (<5%). For instance, the price of beans declined in Kigoma, while maize prices dropped in Arusha and Moshi by 3.13% and 7.78% respectively, as rice prices declined in almost all monitored markets except in Arusha where it went up by a marginal 1.31%.

Table 9: Changes in prices in Tanzania[26]

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	1.49 ▲	20.59 ⊗	39.77 ⊗	66.50 ⊗
Bean (dry)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG****	279,850.50	-0.74 ↘	16.60 ⊗	33.26 ⊗	123.88 ⊗
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 ⊗
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	1.47 ▲	7.39 ↑	33.34 ⊗	92.64 ⊗
Maize (white)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG****	120,147.50	1.85 ▲	20.15 ⊗	23.48 ⊗	98.59 ⊗
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 ⊗
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	-8.24 ↓	-4.70 ↘	19.35 ⊗	45.50 ⊗
Rice (Wholesale)	Kigoma, TZS/100KG****	261,389.00	-4.95 ↘	21.58 ⊗	24.47 ⊗	63.37 ⊗
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 March 2023, *April, **February, ***January, and ****December*

● = 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

The prices of food commodities in Uganda show mixed result (*table 11*). Overall, the current prices remain well above their one-year level, as the prices of beans in Mbale remain 12.57% - 38.46% higher than 1 - 12 months ago. The prices of maize, on the other hand, look generally lower or stable compared to the past 1 - 6 months,

[26] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023).

except in Mbale and Gulu compared to March. Overall, both beans and maize prices are expected to significantly drop in the next 3 - 6 months, when new harvests are expected in bimodal regions.[27]

Table 10: Changes in prices in Uganda[28]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Beans	Mbale, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	4,500.00	12.50	28.57	24.14	38.46	-45.06	-55.13
Beans	Gulu, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	5,687.50	-5.21	0.49	14.90	77.73	-46.64	-43.67
Beans	Mbarara, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	4,500.00	-3.57	12.50	0.00	50.00	-51.00	-31.86
Maize	Mbale, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	2,100.00	10.53	-6.67	0.00	68.00	-55.86	-54.46
Maize	Mbarara, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	81.82	-55.48	-38.22
Maize	Gulu, Wholesale, Uganda Shilling/KG	1,637.50	15.59	-18.13	-18.13	9.17	-17.53	-17.62

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

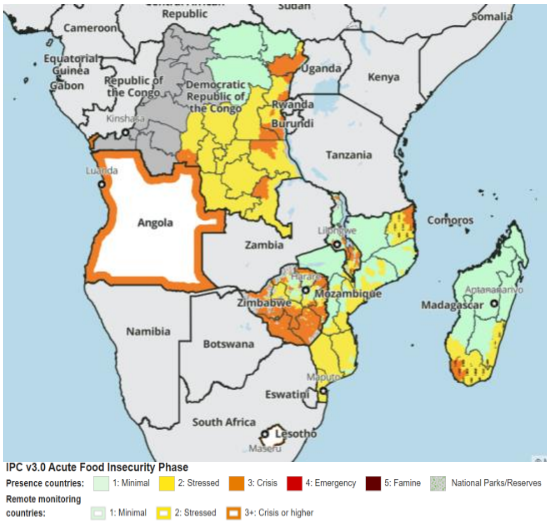
= no change; = low increase (0-5%), = moderate increase (5-15%), = high increase (>15%),

= low decrease (0-5%), = moderate decrease (5-15%), = high decrease (>15%)

Seasonal Monitor and Crop Yield Forecasts

In **Kenya**, cropping activities are ongoing, supported by above-average rainfall in most parts of the country.[29] Crops are in early growth stages, and are generally in good condition. In **Rwanda**, the season B harvest, which typically accounts for around 35 percent of the annual production, is expected in June.[30] The harvest is projected to be average, but will replenish the country's food stocks. In **South Sudan**, the March to May rainy season has started earlier than normal in parts of the country, with first season maize crops seen already in emergent stages.[31] In **Uganda**, average to above-average rainfalls have been recorded in the bimodal and unimodal areas, with planting activities ongoing and harvests expected in June in the greater northern region.

Southern Africa Food Security Update



Malawi: IPC Phase 3 outcomes are expected to persist in most of Malawi due to the impacts of cyclone Freddy in the southern region, below average production in the northern region, and generally poor macroeconomic conditions in the country all of which are driving food insecurity.

Mozambique: Food insecurity in Mozambique is increasing with an estimated 3.15 million people experiencing severe acute food insecurity[32] largely driven by the aftermath of cyclone Freddy, high staple food prices and limited income-earning opportunities. Consequently, crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes persist in the conflict and weather-shocked areas.[33]

Zimbabwe: The inception of the 2023 harvesting season is driving IPC Phase 2 outcomes in the deficit-producing areas, and minimal IPC Phase 1 outcomes in the surplus-producing areas.[34]

[27] https://fews.net/east-africa/uganda
[28] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023).
[29] https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya
[30] https://reliefweb.int/report/rwanda/rwanda-key-message-update-minimal-ipc-phase-1-outcomes-expected-due-season-harvest-march-2023
[31] https://reliefweb.int/report/south-sudan/south-sudan-key-message-update-food-assistance-will-remain-critical-preventing-emergency-ipc-phase-4-several-areas-march-2023
[32] https://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/mozambique-tropical-cyclone-freddy-floods-and-cholera-situation-report-no3
[33] https://fews.net/southern-africa/mozambique
[34] https://fews.net/southern-africa/zimbabwe

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

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

As of 28th April 2023, 20.6 million people had insufficient food for consumption across four selected countries in Southern Africa. This represents a 9.6 % decrease from March 2023, an improvement in the region's food security situation that emanated from Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe (table 11). On the other hand, compared to the same period last year and two years ago, the number of food insecure people in the region increased by 4%.

Table 11: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (April 2023)[35]

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 April 2022	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from April 2021
Malawi	18.10	5.60	6.40	30.94	-12.50 ↓	115.38 ↑	47.37 ↑
Mozambique	29.50	8.20	9.40	27.80	-12.77 ↓	-16.33 ↓	0.00 ●
Zambia	17.40	3.70	3.10	21.26	19.35 ↑	42.31 ↑	48.00 ↑
Zimbabwe	14.40	3.10	3.90	21.53	-20.51 ↓	-35.42 ↓	-41.51 ↓

**Current month and **Previous 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 prices in the Southern Africa region[36]

	Seasonality Patterns	The Southern African region is in its lean season, which combined with strong regional demand and poor past harvests, has generally kept prices under upward pressure in Malawi and Zambia.
	Weather Shocks	The effects of cyclone Freddy and dry spells in parts of the region are driving higher prices.

Malawi

Overall, food commodity prices have substantially increased in almost all monitored markets in Malawi due to disruptions in road networks, supply flows, and market-functioning caused by Cyclone Freddy.[37] The average price of maize increased between 14.46% and 276% nationally, but was as high as 328% in Mzuzu compared to the same period last year. Rice prices have had some stability in Lilongwe and Mzuzu.

[35] https://hungermap.wfp.org/
[36] FEWSNET, 2023. https://fews.net/southern-africa. Accessed 27th January 2023
[37] https://fews.net/southern-africa/malawi

Table 12: Changes in prices in Malawi[38]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Cassava	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg**	1,407.50	14.90	40.43	47.85	139.57
Maize	Lilongwe, MWK/Kg**	550.00	83.33	28.81	120.00	175.00
Maize	Liwonde, MWK/Kg	762.00	15.28	53.94	119.60	281.00
Maize	Mzimba, MWK/Kg	594.75	20.82	25.67	123.59	293.87
Maize	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg	686.25	36.03	51.41	116.48	328.91
Maize	National Average, MWK/Kg	696.50	14.46	48.75	113.65	276.49
Maize	Nsanje, MWK/Kg	802.00	26.65	61.61	131.79	293.14
Rice	Lilongwe, MWK/Kg**	1,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40.00
Rice	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg**	1,800.00	0.00	19.65	62.16	130.77

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

= 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

Commodity prices generally showed declining trends or stability in Mozambique over the past 1-12 months (*table 13*). For instance, maize prices were only up in Angonia against their 3 - 6 months levels, increasing by 28.45% and 74.98%, respectively, and in Maputo and Massinga compared to their 6-month level. Apart from these, the price of maize declined or remained stable compared to most periods. Similarly, the price of rice declined in Angonia and Maputo but experienced a low increase in Massinga compared to the past 1 - 12 months. Increased humanitarian assistance to the cyclone-affected regions have contributed to lower prices in most of these markets.[39] Fertilizer prices in Mozambique remain lower than previously as demand wanes due to seasonality.

Table 13: Changes in prices in Mozambique[40]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Maize (white)	Angónia, Retail, MZN/KG****	20.00	0.00	28.45	74.98		-26.61	-4.02
Maize (white)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/KG**	22.64	-0.96	-0.96	0.09	-14.34	31.19	19.93
Maize (white)	Massinga, Retail, MZN/KG**	26.35	-3.48	-4.60	13.70	-18.03	6.32	11.01
NPK 12-24-12 Com	National, US$/Ton	935.00	-3.21	-6.78				
NPK 23-10-5 +3S + 1Zn Com	National, US$/Ton	935.00	-1.06	-9.92				
Rice (imported)	Angónia, Retail, MZN/KG****	60.00	0.00	-14.29	-8.48		-8.79	-9.59
Rice (imported)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/KG**	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-3.35	0.01
Rice (imported)	Massinga, Retail, MZN/KG**	61.67	1.83	2.78	2.31	4.23	-3.22	2.15
Urea Com	National, US$/Ton	1,059.00	2.72	-1.76				

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

= 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 national average price of maize in Zambia continued to rise as the lean season peaks in the country (table 14). The price of maize in April was 11% higher than March, and 23.76%, 50.88%, and 41.3% higher compared

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

to its levels 3, 6, and 12 months ago, respectively. The prices of all types of fertilizer in the country showed declines against their one-month levels.

Table 14: Changes in prices in Zambia[41]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
D Compound Fertilizer	National, US$/Ton	912.00	-6.08			
Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, Kwacha/KG	5.43	11.07	23.76	50.88	41.30
Urea (50 kg)	National, US$/Ton	888.00	-6.13			

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

= 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

The impact of Tropical Cyclone Freddy poses a threat to harvesting prospects in the region. In **Malawi**, cumulative rainfall in most of the central and southern regions were 25% higher than normal on average, with some areas registering 3 - 5 times higher amounts.[42] This caused crop damage, waterlogging, and crop nutrient leaching, with the excess moisture threatening crops at their maturity levels which requires drying conditions. However, the northern region of the country received below-average rainfalls. In sum, the 2023 national harvest is expected to be below-average, with the southern region registering 20% or more lower stocks.[43] In **Zimbabwe**, the 2023 harvesting season has begun although with below-average harvests anticipated due to poorly distributed rainfalls.[44] In **Mozambique**, crops are in the maturation and harvesting stages, but the national harvests are expected to be lower than last year due to reduced crop yields and crop losses following multiple climatic shocks.[45]

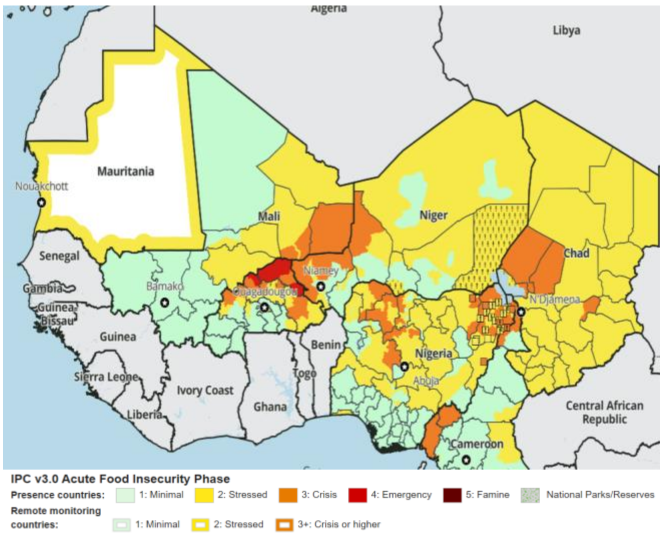


Figure 6: West African countries Food Security Outlook, March-Mav 2023

West Africa Food Security Update

Burkina Faso: IPC Phase 4 outcomes remain in place across the Sahel and northern regions of the country, where armed conflicts are limiting access to food and humanitarian assistance.[46]

Niger: IPC Phase 2 outcomes persist in the country due to limited and high cost of food stocks. However, Tillabéry and northern Tahoua are expected to experience IPC Phase 3 outcomes as the current food rationing is only able to reach 20% of the population's food needs.[47]

Nigeria: IPC Phase 3 and IPC Phase 4 outcomes are expected in the northwest and north-central states, due to low food stock during the lean season, high staple food prices, and conflicts and insecurity, which are limiting food access.[48]

[41] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023).
[42] https://fews.net/southern-africa/malawi
[43] Ibid
[44] https://fews.net/southern-africa/zimbabwe
[45] https://fews.net/southern-africa/mozambique
[46] https://fews.net/west-africa/burkina-faso
[47] https://fews.net/west-africa/niger
[48] https://fews.net/west-africa/nigeria

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

The number of people with insufficient food for consumption across the seven selected West African countries stood at 119.2 million as of 28th April 2023, representing a 2.65% decline from March (table 15). This is an improvement of the food security situation in most of the monitored countries, except Nigeria and Togo. Compared to the same period last year (106.1 million people) and two years ago (97.9 million people), the number of food insecure people across the monitored countries in the region increased over both periods by 12.3% and 21.8%, respectively.

Table 15: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected West African countries (April 2023)[49]

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 April 2022	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from April 2021
Burkina Faso	19.80	10.90	12.50	55.05	-12.80 ↓	3.81 ↗	-6.03 ↘
Cote d'Ivoire	25.10	3.70	4.00	14.74	-7.50 ↘	-30.19 ↓	-13.95 ↓
Ghana	29.80	7.60	9.00	25.50	-15.56 ↓	33.33 ↑	26.67 ↑
Mali	19.10	13.20	14.00	69.11	-5.71 ↘	20.00 ↑	22.22 ↑
Niger	22.40	15.20	16.90	67.86	-10.06 ↓	0.00 ●	32.17 ↑
Nigeria	202.80	65.90	63.30	32.50	4.11 ↗	17.05 ↑	28.21 ↑
Togo	7.90	2.70	2.70	34.18	0.00 ●	28.57 ↑	17.39 ↑

**Current month and **Previous 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[50]:

	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 sustained high prices.
	Economic Shocks	Poor macroeconomic conditions, driven by high fuel and transport costs, and weak local currencies are pushing up food prices.
	Seasonal Dynamics	The West African countries are mostly in their lean season resulting in depleted stocks coupled with high demand accompanying the Ramadan season.

Burkina Faso

The changes in food commodity prices in Burkina Faso show mixed results, although they predominantly indicate declining trends or stability compared to the past 1 - 12 months (*table 16*). March prices recorded low increases (<5%) over February in some markets, with only Gourcy reporting a 13.24% increase for millet. Compared to three months ago, however, maize recorded increases in most monitored markets except in Batie and Tita, where a 5.61% and 7.4%, respective decline was seen. Millet registered greater declines except in Dori, Faramana, and Gourcy, over the same period. The March prices were generally lower than 6 months ago, but had mixed trends compared to the same period a year ago. Seasonal dynamics, a ban on the export of grains, as well as humanitarian assistance influenced the price levels.[51] The prospects for the next 3-6 months

[49] https://hungermap.wfp.org/
[50] FEWSNET, 2023. Accessed at https://fews.net/west-africa on 27th January 2023.
[51] https://fews.net/west-africa/burkina-faso

generally look good, as prices are expected to significantly reduce in most monitored markets as the new season harvests kicks in.

Table 16: Changes in prices in Burkina Faso[52]

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	0.00	-5.61	-9.43	12.08	-30.65	-19.01
Maize	Bousse, Retail, XOF/KG	260.00	1.17	4.84	-8.45	-4.06	-12.76	-13.35
Maize	Dori, Retail, XOF/KG	329.00	-2.66	17.08	1.86	4.78	-17.20	-17.97
Maize	Faramana, Retail, XOF/KG	163.00	-6.32	0.62	-15.54	-15.98	-9.49	-18.20
Maize	Gourcy, Retail, XOF/KG	260.00	-0.38	0.00	-16.93	-4.76	-12.21	-12.22
Maize	Ouagadougo (Sankaryare), Retail, XOF/KG	251.00	1.21	4.15	-10.99	-16.05	-7.42	1.19
Maize	Ouargaye, Retail, XOF/KG	212.00	0.95	12.77	0.00	0.00	-25.41	-35.11
Maize	Titao, Retail, XOF/KG	388.00	-3.72	-7.40	-11.62	27.63	-47.23	-39.23
Millet	Batié, Retail, XOF/KG	382.00	-9.26	-4.98	-6.83	28.62	-15.29	-25.15
Millet	Bousse, Retail, XOF/KG	335.00	1.82	-6.69	-19.08	11.30	-36.29	-20.58
Millet	Dori, Retail, XOF/KG	411.00	0.24	0.98	-5.52	3.79	-17.36	-15.77
Millet	Faramana, Retail, XOF/KG	247.00	2.92	15.42	-21.84	-3.89	-33.48	-25.84
Millet	Gourcy, Retail, XOF/KG	308.00	13.24	11.19	-24.69	-0.96	-32.35	-14.96
Millet	Ouagadougo (Sankaryare), Retail, XOF/KG	327.00	-2.10	-18.45	-26.52	-20.24	-10.32	-8.40
Millet	Ouargaye, Retail, XOF/KG	241.00	-0.82	-8.02	-37.89	-21.75	-2.35	1.49
Millet	Titao, Retail, XOF/KG	447.00	-6.68	-11.83	-11.49	34.23	-60.30	-47.86

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

= 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

Overall, the prices of food commodities in Cote d'Ivoire show downward trends except in Korhogo, where maize prices increased by 12.31%, 40.31%, and 15% over the past 1, 3, and 6 months, respectively. Compared to the same period last year, the retail price of maize was lower by 1.2% and 16.67% in Korhogo and Man, respectively, while rice prices were generally higher over the same period. It is forecasted that the prices of maize and rice will fall in the next 3 - 6 months as new harvests fully kick in. Meanwhile, fertilizer prices have recorded significant drops against the past 1 - 3 months.

Table 17: Changes in prices in Cote d'Ivoire[53]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Urea Com	National, US$/Ton	843.00	-23.50	-22.38				
Maize (white)	Korhogo, Retail, XOF/KG*	275.00	12.31	40.31	15.03	-1.20	-27.26	-22.85
Maize (white)	Man, Retail, XOF/KG*	250.00	-4.76	-16.81	-20.00	-16.67	-9.81	24.75
NPK 15-15-15 Com	National, US$/Ton	822.00	-25.61	-24.59				
PK 0-23-19 + 6.5S + 5MgO + 10CaO Com	National, US$/Ton	822.00	-16.38	-15.17				
Rice (denikassia imported)	Korhogo, Retail, XOF/KG*	475.00	-1.52	0.00	-0.65	21.28	-27.54	-26.70
Rice (denikassia imported)	Man, Retail, XOF/KG*	450.00	0.00	0.75	0.00	0.00	-4.66	-6.19
Rice (Local)	Korhogo, Retail, XOF/KG*	450.00	-1.13	-4.00	-0.69	5.37	-18.01	-15.47
Rice (Local)	Man, Retail, XOF/KG*	500.00	0.00	-6.25	0.00	5.26	-3.39	-6.81

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

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

= low decrease (0-5%), = moderate decrease (5-15%), = high decrease (>15%)

[52] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023).
[53] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023).

Ghana

With the exception of cassava dough and imported non-perfumed rice, the national average retail prices of all food commodities in Ghana remain higher than 1 - 12 months ago (table 18). The price of cassava dough declined by 2.4%, 14.63%, and 11.57% compared to the past 1, 3, and 6 months, respectively. Similarly, the price of imported non-perfumed rice fell by 1.3% and 5.41% against its levels 1 and 3 months ago, respectively. Most commodities show high increments over their levels one year ago, ranging from 33% to almost 90%. The high prices are mainly a reflection the lean season, low carryover stocks, strong demands, high prices on the international market, high production costs, and falling exchange rates.[54]

Table 18: Changes in prices in Ghana[55]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Cassava	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	3.41	11.07	11.49	39.72	
Cassava Dough	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	5.65	-2.40	-14.63	-11.57	
Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	6.36	2.73	4.16	47.46	39.66
Maize (Yellow)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	6.59	3.65	5.23	42.29	33.84
Millet	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	10.16	1.00	1.19	18.65	39.91
NPK 20-10-10 Com	National, US$/Ton	746.00	13.03	2.47		
NPK 23-10-5 Com	National, US$/Ton	744.00	-0.27	-4.37		
Plantain (Apem)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	6.91	13.73	22.70	23.45	
Plantain (Apentu)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	7.08	17.13	26.37	32.21	
Rice - Imported (non-perfumed)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	11.71	-1.30	-5.41	24.71	65.16
Rice - Imported (perfumed)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	17.85	1.32	4.85	47.10	90.05
Rice Local (perfumed)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	13.71	0.33	0.10	34.92	87.58
Rice Local (non-perfumed)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	11.37	1.81	2.55	43.76	94.79
Sorghum	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	9.00	3.25	10.01	27.20	49.90
Soya Bean	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	9.45	2.17	4.40	19.11	46.45
Urea Com	National, US$/Ton	897.00	0.22	-8.28		
Yam (Puna)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	7.64	7.54	16.32	59.58	
Yam (White)	National Average, Retail, GHS/KG*	5.34	2.05	14.44	26.57	

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

= 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

Generally, the prices of food commodities showed mixed trends in Mali (table 19). Compared to March, the April prices generally indicate stability with declines in some few markets. The prices of millet, however, rose in Bamako, Gao, and Tombouctou, while the price of rice rose in Gao, Mopti, Segou, and Tombouctou. Meanwhile, sorghum prices rose in Gao, Mopti, and Tombouctou. Millet and sorghum prices were generally lower than in the past 6 months and one year, while the prices of rice remained generally higher over similar periods. Early depletion of stocks and insecurity in most parts of the country continue to sustain high prices in some markets.

[54] https://fews.net/west-africa
[55] Author's construction based on data from the Ghana Ministry of Food and Agriculture (2023).

Table 19: Changes in prices in Mali[56]

Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year
Millet	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	27,500.00	5.77	10.00	-33.73	-23.61
Millet	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	32,500.00	8.33	-7.14	-26.14	-13.33
Millet	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	30,000.00	0.00	-7.69	-25.47	-9.09
Millet	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	29,000.00	0.00	9.43	-27.50	-14.71
Millet	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	25,000.00	-3.85	4.17	-35.06	-10.71
Millet	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	24,000.00	-7.69	-4.00	-43.53	-31.43
Millet	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	36,000.00	20.00	2.86	-20.00	0.00
Rice	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	46,000.00	0.00	0.00	2.22	12.20
Rice	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	47,500.00	5.56	5.56	-5.00	11.76
Rice	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	6.38	19.05
Rice	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	46,000.00	2.22	2.22	-3.16	17.95
Rice	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	47,500.00	1.06	3.26	13.10	18.75
Rice	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	50,000.00	0.00	11.11	19.05	25.00
Rice	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	48,000.00	9.09	6.67	-4.00	20.00
Rice (imported)	Bamako,Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	43,000.00	0.00	0.00	16.22	17.81
Rice (imported)	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	45,000.00	0.00	7.14	4.65	11.11
Rice (imported)	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	47,500.00	0.00	17.28	37.68	39.71
Rice (imported)	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	42,000.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	7.69
Rice (imported)	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	44,000.00	-12.00	4.76	3.53	10.00
Sorghum	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	23,000.00	-4.17	2.22	-34.29	-23.33
Sorghum	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	40,000.00	33.33	33.33		33.33
Sorghum	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	23,000.00	-11.54	-17.86	-38.67	-25.81
Sorghum	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	26,500.00	6.00	20.45	-29.33	-7.02
Sorghum	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	25,000.00	0.00	11.11	-30.56	-10.71
Sorghum	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	22,500.00	-13.46	2.27	-37.50	-10.00
Sorghum	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG*	36,000.00	18.03	2.86	-20.00	33.33

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

= 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

Whereas the current prices of all the monitored commodities and markets in Niger are generally lower than in the past 6 and 12 months, they remain mostly higher than in the past 1 and 3 months. Compared to the past one month, maize prices declined in Abalak and Bonkaney, but increased in Goure and Katako. Similarly, millet prices decreased in Bonkaney and Goure but rose in Abalak and Katako, while sorghum prices remained stable in Abalak, and declined in Goure and Katako, but rose in marginally in Bonkaney. While similar trends are expected in the next 3 months, the prices are expected to increase significantly over the next six months. Limited stocks emanating from the lean season, export restrictions from neighbouring countries, and insecurity are key drivers of high food prices in the country despite increased humanitarian assistance.[57]

Table 20: Changes in prices in Niger[58]

[56] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)
[57] https://fews.net/west-africa/niger
[58] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)

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	Bonkaney, Retail, XOF/KG**	228.00	-1.30	0.44	-21.65	-21.65	3.29	26.20
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 March 2023, *April, **February, ***January, and ****December*

= 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

Overall cereal prices remain high in Nigeria, although there are notable lower prices for certain commodities in some markets (table 21). For instance, compared to the past one month, maize prices declined in Maiduguri by 1.43%, while millet and sorghum prices dropped in Lagos and Maiduguri, as the prices of imported rice fell in all monitored markets. High food prices in the Nigeria are driven largely by high demand from the Ramadan season, depletion of stocks, and poor macroeconomic issues including high costs of transportation, the ongoing cash crisis, high global food prices, and persistent conflicts in primary surplus-producing areas.[59] Fertilizer prices remain lower than their levels in the past 1-3 months.

[59] https://fews.net/west-africa/nigeria

Table 21: Changes in prices in Nigeria[60]

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 March 2023, *April, **February, ***January, and ****December*

= 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

Generally stable, low (<5%) to moderate (5-15%) price increases were recorded in the selected Togolese markets (*table 22*). Notably, maize and sorghum prices increased more, while the prices of imported rice remained mostly stable over the past 1-12 months. The prices of cassava (gari) were stable or experienced declines in markets such as Cinkasse, Korbongou, and Lome, but showed mixed changes in the remaining markets. The ongoing lean season is impacting food availability and driving higher food prices in some markets. Meanwhile, Urea and NPK fertilizer prices declined in March against their levels in February, although the prices remained higher than three months ago.

Table 22: Changes in sorghum prices in Togo[61]

[60] Author's construction based on data from WFP (2023) and FAO (2023)
[61] 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	300.00	1.69	0.00	0.00	6.38
Cassava (gari)	Anie, XOF/Kg	304.00	1.33	1.33	1.33	-15.56
Cassava (gari)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	425.00	-1.16	-2.07	-4.28	-3.41
Cassava (gari)	Kara, XOF/Kg	420.00	-2.33	2.44	5.00	5.00
Cassava (gari)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	430.00	0.00	-0.92	0.00	-1.15
Cassava (gari)	Lomé, XOF/Kg	400.00	-4.76	-8.05	0.00	0.00
Maize (white)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg	260.00	1.17	13.04	0.00	-13.33
Maize (white)	Anie, XOF/Kg	245.00	11.36	16.11	6.52	-5.04
Maize (white)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	260.00	4.00	1.56	4.00	1.96
Maize (white)	Kara, XOF/Kg	269.00	7.60	13.03	3.46	-0.37
Maize (white)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	260.00	5.26	1.96	4.00	1.96
Maize (white)	Lomé, XOF/Kg	269.00	1.51	11.16	3.46	-23.14
NPK 15 15 15	National, USD/Ton	586.00	-0.68	23.11		
Rice (imported)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg	560.00	0.00	3.70	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	290.00	9.43	9.43	-1.69	-1.69
Sorghum	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	290.00	13.73	7.41	0.00	16.00
Sorghum	Kara, XOF/Kg	320.00	25.49	7.38	6.67	16.36
Sorghum	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	290.00	13.73	3.57	-3.33	16.00
Sorghum	Lomé, XOF/Kg	335.00	0.00	-1.47	11.67	4.69
UREA	National, USD/Ton	586.00	-0.68	0.86		

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

= 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

A favourable agriculture season is expected in the West African region as average to above-average rainfalls have been recorded in most parts of the region. Land preparations and sowing are underway in the Sahelian and Sudanian areas of the Gulf of Guinea countries. In **Mali**, IPC Phase 3 and IPC 4 outcomes are expected due to difficulties in accessing food as a result of early depletion of stocks, high food prices, and continued insecurity in the country. In **Nigeria**, the 2023 rainy season is underway, with average to above-average seasonal rainfall. Land preparations and planting have started in most parts of the country except in the northwest, north-central, and northeast regions due to ongoing conflict and movement restrictions.[62] However, the April/May dry season harvests, primarily for vegetables, sorghum, cowpeas, and rice, are expected to increase food availability for some households.[63]

[62] https://fews.net/west-africa/nigeria
[63] Ibid

Food Trade Updates

Continental

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

- The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) has created the African Trade Facilitation Programme through which it is forging strong partnerships with African commercial banks to help them finance intra-African trade. As a result, the share of intra-African trade in the bank's portfolio has jumped on the back of a US$20bn disbursements meant to drive trade within the continent.[64]
- Standard Bank pledges to support the implementation of AfCFTA to drive cross-border trade growth in Africa through building the finance and trade solutions needed to help address the tariff and non-tariff barriers required to realise the continent's ambitions to create an effective single market.[65]
- The African Development Fund and Smart Africa Alliance have jointly launched a $1.5 million project to streamline digital trade and e-commerce policies across Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Ghana, Liberia, Uganda, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, the Republic of Congo, São Tomé and Príncipe, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The support for Digital Payments and e-Commerce Policies for Cross-Border Trade Project (IDECT) will evaluate policy gaps in the digital trade and e-commerce ecosystems.[66]
- Prudential Bank Limited (PBL), has successfully completed its first live Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS) transaction to Nigeria. The PAPSS platform serves as an enabler of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) by providing African businesses and individuals with the opportunity to initiate payments in their respective local currencies, with recipients also receiving funds in their local currencies. PAPSS eliminates the over-reliance on foreign currencies with its attendant economic woes.[67]

East Africa

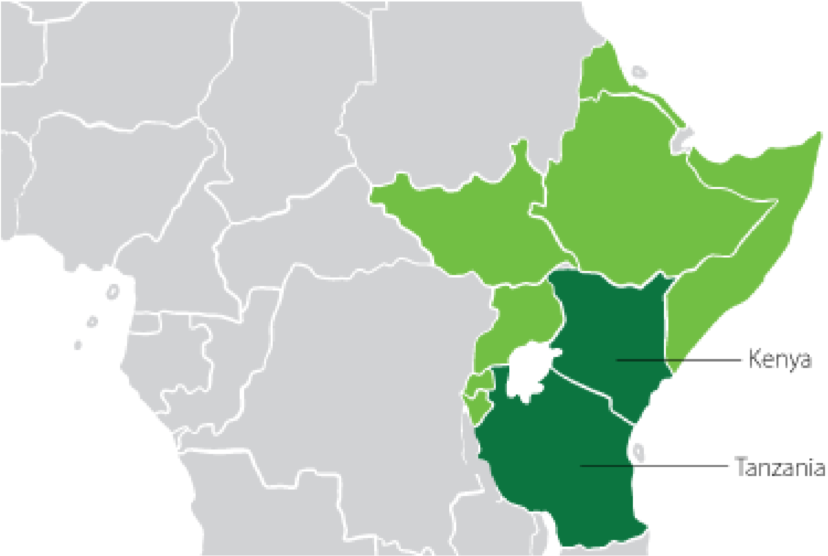
The following are some of the major events and activities that occurred during the month that have implications on regional food trade within the East African region:

- The East African Community (EAC) secretariat has commenced the process of digitising its Common External Tariff (CET). The programme, implemented with the support of the World Customs Organisation (WCO), is geared to enhance the private sector's participation in international trade.[68]

Figure 7 below provides an update of the various events and activities recorded across different countries in East Africa over the past month, which are impacting food trade in the region.

[64] https://businesstimes.co.zw/afreximbank-gives-fresh-impetus-to-intra-african-trade/
[65] https://www.africa.com/standard-bank-gets-behind-afcfta-to-drive-cross-border-growth-in-africa/
[66] https://www.afdb.org/en/news-and-events/press-releases/african-development-fund-smart-africa-alliance-launch-15-million-project-enhance-digital-trade-and-e-commerce-ecosystems-across-africa-60650
[67] https://www.ghanaiantimes.com.gh/boost-for-intra-african-trade-as-prudential-bank-completes-first-live-papss-transaction-to-nigeria/
[68] https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/tanzania/news/east-africa-news/eac-to-digitise-tariffs-for-imported-goods-4204802

Figure 7: East Africa Cross border trade updates April 2023



KENYA

- The Government of Kenya has lifted its ban on the exportation of raw macadamia nuts for a period of one year in a bid to open up the global markets.
- The Kenya Export Promotion and Branding Agency (KEPROBA) has embarked on developing a common strategy for sustainable exploitation and maximization of the Blue Economy sector that is poised to be the new frontier for Kenya's economic growth for the export market.
- The US — Kenya Bilateral Strategic Dialogue seeks to strengthen Economic Prosperity, Trade, and Investment in the bilateral relationship.
- Kenya and Botswana are exploring agreements to increase trade volumes under the frameworks of the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AFCFTA), and the Tripartite Free Trade Area Agreement, among others.

TANZANIA

- The Tanzanian and Burundian Government have entered into a bilateral agreement to design and construct an electrified railway that will initially connect the two countries and pass through the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), as the countries look to tap AfCFTA.

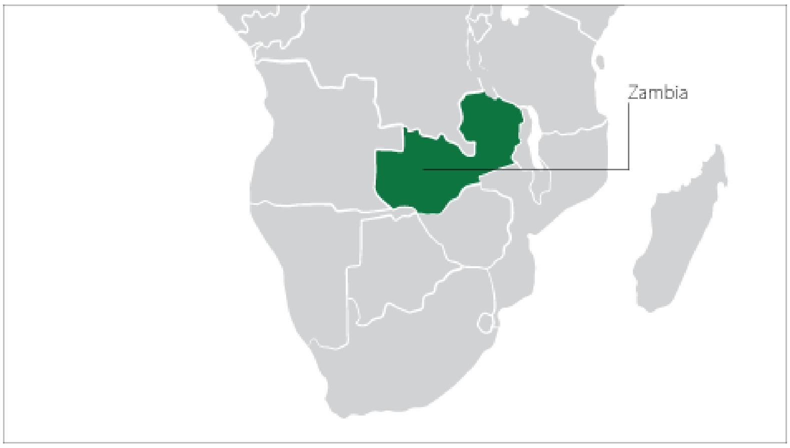
Southern Africa

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:

- Experts from the COMESA Member States and cooperating partners held a Technical Working Group meeting on the Implementation of a regional Single Window. The Electronic Single Window (ESW) is expected to have a harmonized and standard data connectivity platform among other government agencies and private stakeholders who are active players across the trade supply chain.[69]

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[70]



ZAMBIA

- The Zambian government has imposed export restrictions on maize in early April due to shortages of the commodity in the local market.

[69] https://www.comesa.int/steps-towards-a-regional-customs-single-window/
[70] 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

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 ECOWAS Regional Trade Facilitation Committee (RTFC) held a meeting on 27 – 29 March in Accra – Ghana, to review the implementation of regional trade facilitation reforms and consider innovative approaches to improve free movement of goods in the region. The meeting also considered the ECOWAS Non-Tariff Barrier (NTB) Elimination Policy and the Regional Trade and Transport Facilitation Strategy, which are all expected to significantly reduce the challenges faced traders in the region and increase intra-ECOWAS trade.[71]

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

Figure 9: West Africa Cross Border Trade Updates March 2023[72]

NIGERIA

- The Federal Government has revised the Import Adjustment Tax (IAT) for Implementation of ECOWAS CET (2022-2026), raising tariffs on importation of rice as well as wheat. The 2023 revised document raised the tariff on rice packaging of more than 5kg or in bulk; and in packaging of 5kg or less to 60 percent up from 50 percent.

GHANA

- Ghana and the Netherlands have started renegotiating their 34-year-old Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) in order for the agreement to conform to current global economic dynamics.
- Both public and private sector stakeholders committed to strengthen their collaboration in promoting intra-Africa trade at the maiden Africa Sustainable Supply Chain Summit hosted by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Ghana, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the Africa Investment Group in Accra on March 29-30, 2023.
- Ghana, Burkina Faso, and Mali continue to maintain export restrictions on cereals which is a contributing factor to the food insecurity situation in the region.

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[71] https://ecowas.int/the-ecowas-regional-trade-facilitation-committee-rtfc-meet-to-discuss-the-elimination-of-non-tariff-barriers-in-the-region/
[72] 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.

For more information,
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