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

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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 summarized below.

Food Security Outlook. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) issued an early warning for urgent humanitarian action across a number of countries, where parts of the populations are likely to face a fast deterioration of high acute food insecurity that will put their lives and livelihoods at risk. This early warning identified 20 countries across the world, 13 of which are in Africa.

East Africa remained in a crisis food security situation throughout March. The region will face similar conditions until May, sustained by conflict and displacement, long-term macroeconomic challenges, COVID-19, weather shocks, and the desert locust upsurge. Elsewhere, Southern Africa reported either crisis or stressed food security conditions, although the situation is expected to improve as the harvest season begins from April/May. Meanwhile, West Africa and the Sahel Region are projected to experience a minimal food security situation until September, sustained by the ongoing above-average off-season harvests across the Sahelian countries.

Food Trade. The Government of Kenya's ban on maize imports from Uganda and Tanzania due to aflatoxin concerns on the 5th of March presented challenges for intra-regional trade in [East Africa](#). However, the decision was reversed on the 11th of March.

In [Southern Africa](#), the bumper harvest projected across most parts will see a surplus of maize that will likely result in increased trading activities across the region.

In [West Africa](#), the closing of land borders in Nigeria, which was meant to reduce the smuggling of goods, particularly rice, has been reported by various analysts to have been ineffective. There are reports of new smuggling channels.

Commodity Prices. Compared to the previous month, maize prices indicate low to moderate declines in most selected [East African](#) markets. At the same time, there are low increases in some markets, such as in Rwanda, South Sudan and Tanzania.

In [Southern Africa](#), a few markets in Mozambique and Zambia showed a moderate increase (5-15%) in maize prices, indicating the lean seasons in these countries before new harvests from the current season.

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

Climatic conditions. The rainfall projections for April indicate declining rainfall for the [Southern Africa](#) region compared to the previous month. The southern and equatorial parts of the [East Africa](#) region are projected to receive above-normal rainfall. At the same time, [West Africa](#) has no pronounced projections of above-normal rainfall except in limited coastal areas.

Desert Locust Outbreak. The latest FAO desert locust situation update indicates that the swarms in Ethiopia and Kenya remain immature and continue to decline due to poor rains and ongoing control operations. Overall, the situation has calmed down in the areas reported last month to be experiencing immature swarms.

Introduction

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



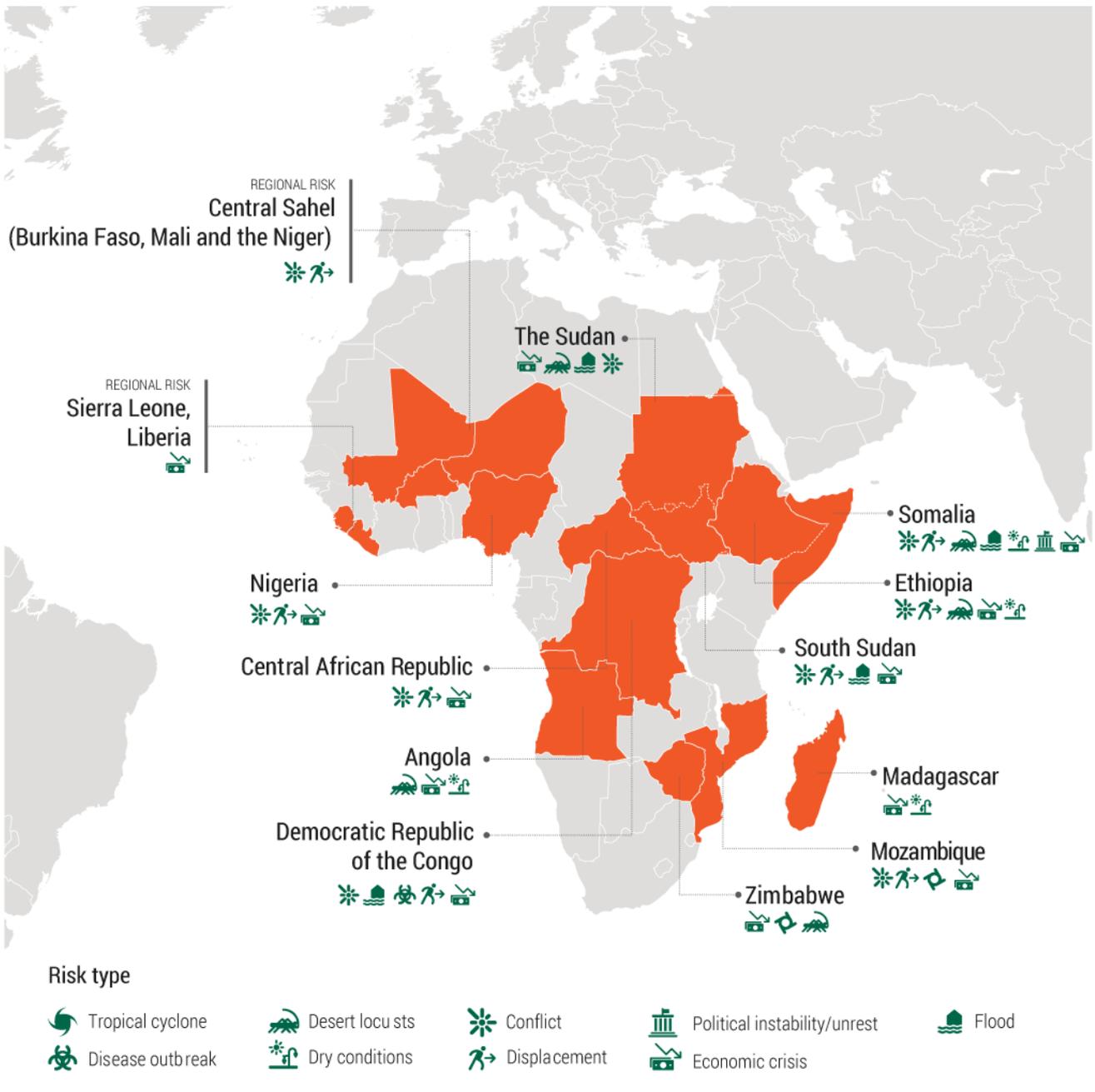
Food Security Outlook

Food Insecurity Hotspots

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) issued an early warning for urgent humanitarian action across a number of countries and situations they define as “hotspots”, where parts of the populations are likely to face a fast deterioration of high acute food insecurity that will put their lives and livelihoods at risk. This early warning identified 20 countries across the world, 13 of which are in Africa. The analysis is based on many key drivers of food insecurity that are likely to impact food security outcomes over the next couple of months. The significant drivers of food insecurity include conflict and displacement risks, economic risks including impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, disease outbreaks and locust upsurges, political instability, floods, dry spells, and tropical cyclones.

As Figure 1 shows, conflict and violence, COVID-19-related economic impacts and climatic shocks are the main drivers of food insecurity in the Central Sahel Region (Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger). In Nigeria, the deteriorating conflict situation, mainly in Borno State, coupled with the economic decline and secondary impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, are the main drivers of food insecurity. In South Sudan, macroeconomic challenges, conflicts, and extreme weather events. In Mozambique, the impacts of tropical depression Chalane and cyclones Eloise and Guambe, which hit the country in December 2020, are still contributing to stressed food security outcomes in affected parts of the country and increasing conflict situations in the northern parts of the country. In Zimbabwe, macroeconomic challenges, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are the significant drivers of food insecurity.

Figure 1: Acute Food Insecurity Hotspots March to July 2021 Outlook



Source: FAO and WFP, March 2021

East Africa Outlook

The East Africa region continued to experience an IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) food security situation during March, with the situation expected to persist until May sustained by conflict and displacement, long-term macroeconomic challenges, the economic impacts of COVID-19, multiple weather shocks, and the ongoing desert locust upsurge¹.

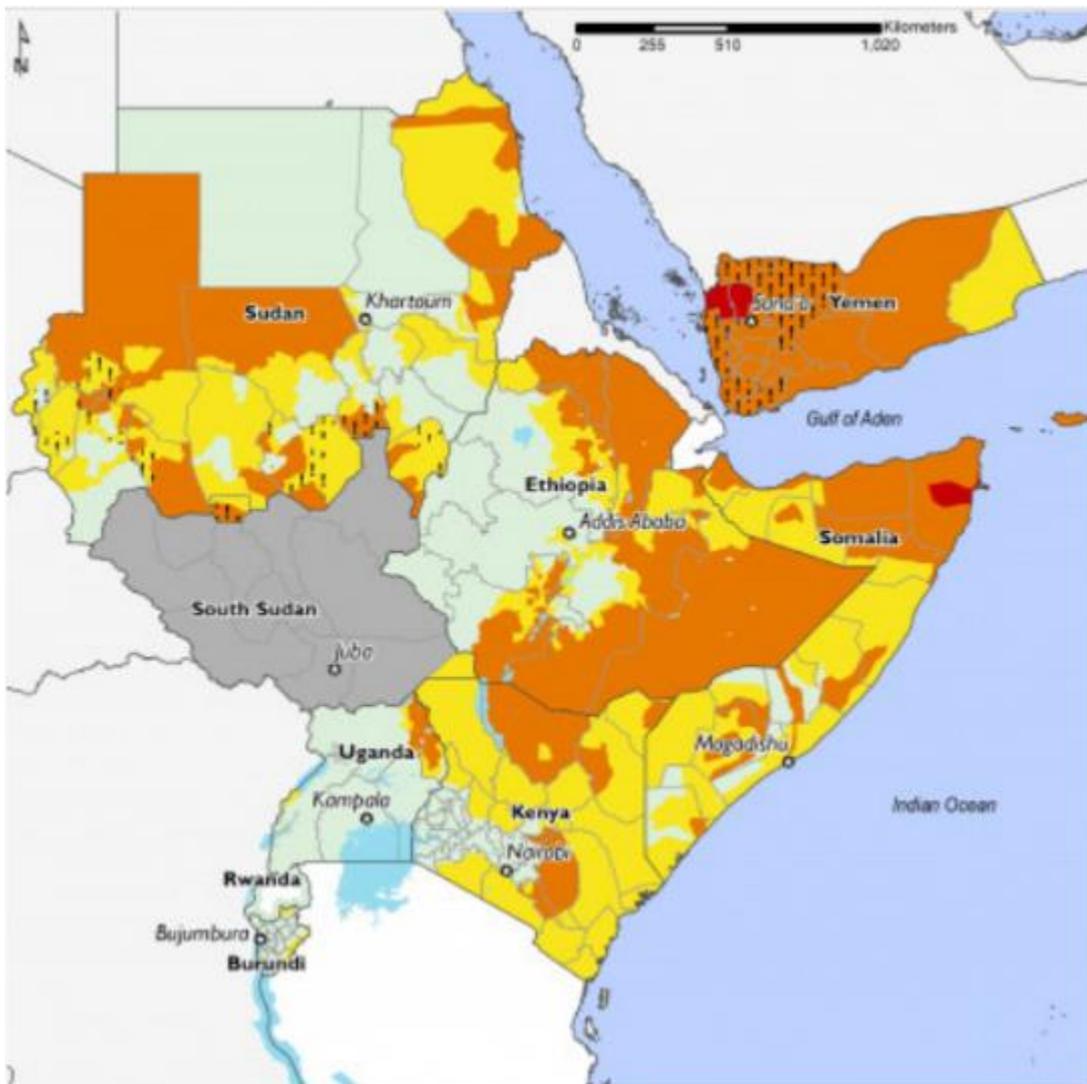


Figure 2: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected East African countries, February-May 2021²

IPC v3.0 Acute Food Insecurity Phase

Presence countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3: Crisis (orange), 4: Emergency (red), 5: Famine (dark red), National Parks/Reserves (green stippled)

Remote monitoring countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3+: Crisis or higher (orange)

¹ <https://fews.net/east-africa> Accessed 01 April 2021

² <https://fews.net/east-africa> Accessed 01 April 2021

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in East Africa

The number of people with insufficient food for consumption across selected focus countries in East Africa stood at 55.7 million in March 2021. This is a 7.1 percent increase from February 2021, suggesting that the food security situation has deteriorated over the past month across the region (*Table 1*). However, the situation varies across the different countries despite the overall picture showing a deteriorating food security situation across the region. Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda recorded an increase in the number of people with insufficient food consumption, while Tanzania recorded a decrease over the past month. In Rwanda and South Sudan, the number remained stable.

Table 1: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption across selected East African countries (March 2021)³

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Acute malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)	Chronic malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)
Ethiopia	109.20	14.90	16.80	15.38%	12.75%	↑	7.20%
Kenya	51.40	8.30	10.40	20.23%	25.30%	↑	4.20%
Rwanda	12.30	3.50	3.50	28.46%	0.00%	●	2.30%
South Sudan	11.00	6.10	6.10	55.45%	0.00%	●	22.70%
Tanzania	56.30	5.70	5.30	9.41%	-7.02%	↓	3.50%
Uganda	42.70	13.50	13.60	31.85%	0.74%	↑	3.50%

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

Southern Africa Outlook

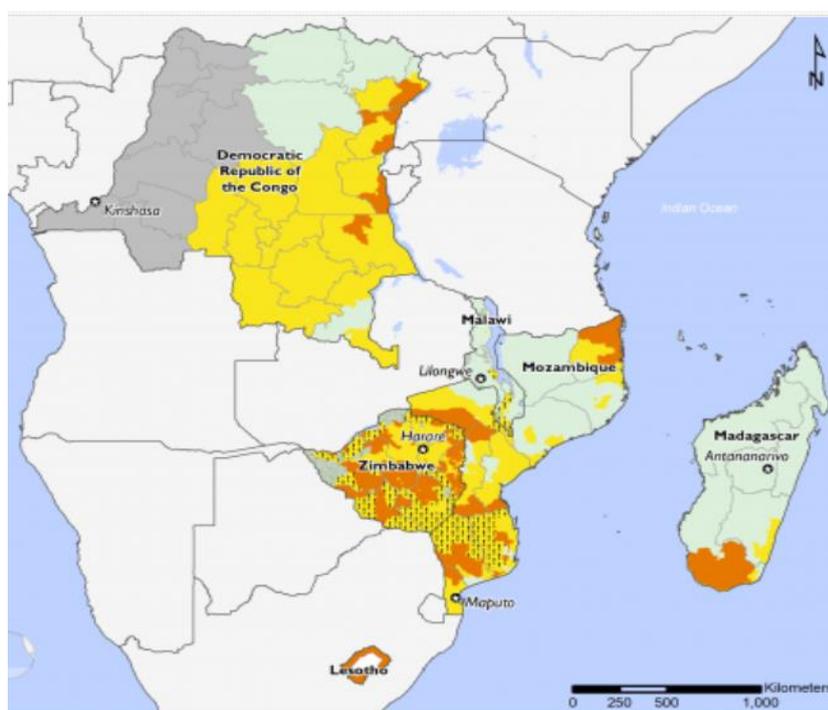


Figure 3: Southern Africa countries Food Security Outlook, February-May 2021¹

IPC v3.0 Acute Food Insecurity Phase

Presence countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3: Crisis (orange), 4: Emergency (red), 5: Famine (dark red), National Parks/Reserves (grey stippled)

Remote monitoring countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3+: Crisis or higher (orange)

Southern Africa continued to experience varied food security outcomes during March. Most parts of Zimbabwe, Mozambique and the Southern parts of Malawi experienced a Crisis (IPC Phase 3) food security situation. In contrast, the rest of the region experienced a Stressed (IPC Phase 2) food security outcome. The food security situation is still expected to improve as the harvest season begins from April/May, with most countries in the region projected to record above-average harvests following favourable agricultural seasons.

³ <https://hungersmap.wfp.org/> Accessed 01 April 2021.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in Southern Africa

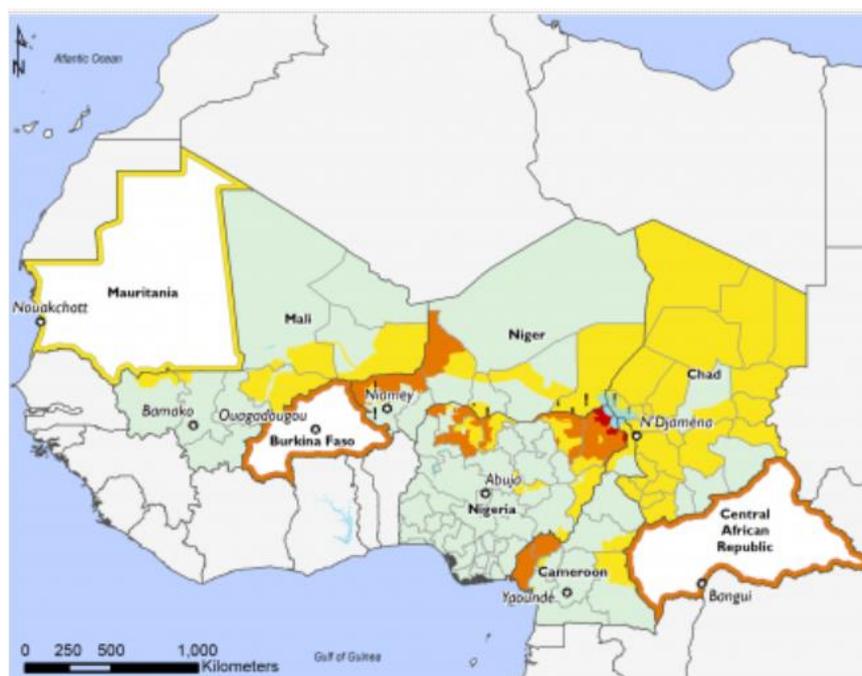
The number of people with insufficient food for consumption across selected focus countries in Southern Africa stood at 23.4 million in March 2021. This is a 4.9 percent increase from the month than February, suggesting that the food security situation continues to deteriorate across the region. According to the data presented in Table 2, all countries except Malawi recorded an increase in the number of people with insufficient food consumption during March.

Table 2: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (March 2021)⁴

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Acute malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)	Chronic malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)
Malawi	18.10	4.70	4.00	22.10%	-14.89%	↓ 1.30%	39.00%
Mozambique	29.50	9.00	9.50	32.20%	5.56%	↑ 4.40%	42.30%
Zambia	17.40	3.10	3.90	22.41%	25.81%	↑ 4.20%	34.60%
Zimbabwe	14.40	5.50	6.00	41.67%	9.09%	↑ 2.90%	23.50%

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

West Africa Outlook



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

Figure 4: West Africa countries Food Security Outlook, February-May 2021¹

IPC v3.0 Acute Food Insecurity Phase

Presence countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3: Crisis (orange), 4: Emergency (red), 5: Famine (dark red), National Parks/Reserves (green stippled)

Remote monitoring countries: 1: Minimal (light green), 2: Stressed (yellow), 3+: Crisis or higher (orange)

⁴ <https://hungersmap.wfp.org/> Accessed 03 April 2021.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in West Africa

The number of people with insufficient food consumption across the focus countries in West Africa⁵ stood at 96.5 million for February 2021. This is a 3.8 percent decrease from the previous month, suggesting that the region's food security situation improved slightly over the past month. The situation varied across the different focus countries, with increases in the number of people with insufficient foods consumption recorded in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, and Niger. Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria recorded a decrease, while in Togo, the number remained stable during the month (*Table 3*)

Table 3: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected West African countries, March 2021⁶

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)		Acute malnutrition (of children under 5) (%)	Chronic malnutrition of children under 5 (%)
Burkina Faso	19.80	12.10	12.50	63.13%	3.31%	↑	8.40%	24.90%
Cote d'Ivoire	25.10	5.00	4.90	19.52%	-2.00%	↓	6.10%	21.60%
Ghana	29.80	5.50	5.60	18.79%	1.82%	↑	6.80%	17.50%
Mali	19.10	9.60	10.50	54.97%	9.38%	↑	9.00%	26.90%
Niger	22.40	12.70	13.20	58.93%	3.94%	↑	14.10%	48.50%
Nigeria	202.80	52.60	47.00	23.18%	-10.65%	↓	6.80%	36.80%
Togo	7.90	2.80	2.80	35.44%	0.00%	●	5.70%	23.80%

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

⁵ Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo

⁶ <https://hungermmap.wfp.org/> Accessed 29 January 2021



COVID-19 Updates and Implications for Food Trade

Figure 5 and Table 4 present trends in confirmed COVID-19 cases and different measures implemented in selected African countries since the pandemic outbreak in the continent in February last year. Some countries, such as Kenya and Ethiopia, recently experienced a spike in COVID-19 cases. The situation led to new lockdown measures being implemented in selected counties in Kenya. As in the first lockdown period, the measures have wide-ranging impacts on food trade businesses' operations directly linked to institutions whose operations have been negatively affected, such as in the hospitality and education sub-sectors. Most of the countries are rolling out COVID-19 vaccination programmes, which are expected to contribute to easing the risk of the pandemic and reduce further disruptions to economic activities, mainly through the national or partial lockdowns that governments implemented last year.

Following a spike in cases after the festive season, some countries, for example, in Southern Africa, reintroduced restrictive COVID-19 measures at the beginning of the year. Overall, economic activities remain open, albeit in line with different government public health and social distancing measures.

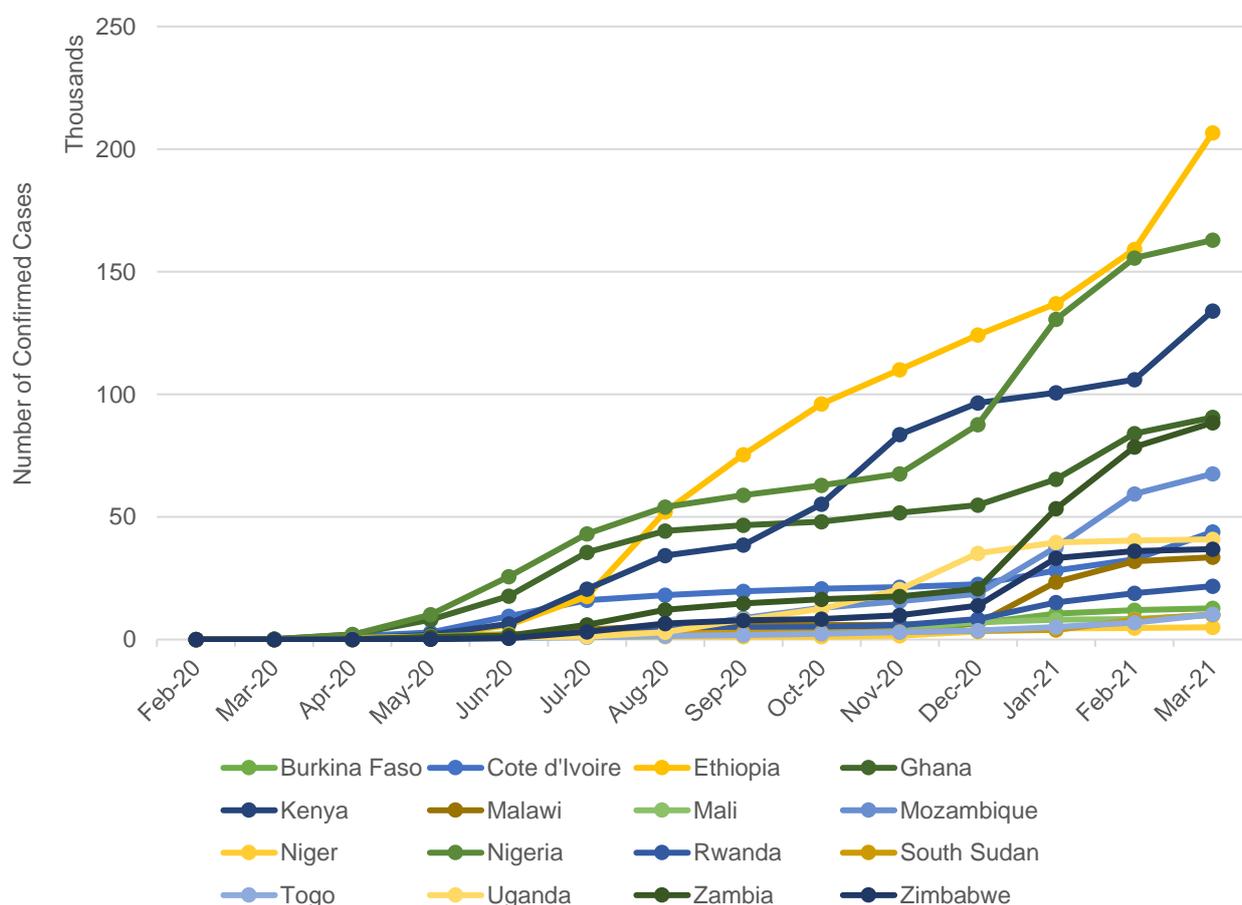


Figure 5: Number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in selected AGRA focus countries as of 31 March 2021⁷

⁷ Authors' construction based on data from: https://github.com/CSSEGISandData/COVID-19/tree/master/csse_covid_19_data/csse_covid_19_time_series. Accessed 31 March 2021

Table 4: Measures implemented by selected countries to control the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020

Country	Lockdown	Governance and socio-economic measures	Movement restrictions	Public health measures	Social distancing
Burkina Faso		●	●	●	●
Cote d'Ivoire	●	●	●	●	●
Ethiopia		●	●	●	●
Ghana	●	●	●	●	●
Kenya	●	●	●	●	●
Malawi	●	●	●	●	●
Mali		●	●	●	●
Mozambique		●	●	●	●
Niger		●	●	●	●
Nigeria	●	●	●	●	●
Rwanda	●		●	●	●
South Sudan			●	●	●
Tanzania		●	●	●	●
Togo	●	●	●	●	●
Uganda	●	●	●	●	●
Zambia		●	●	●	●
Zimbabwe	●	●	●	●	●

Food Trade Updates

East Africa

Through the Agriculture Food Authority (AFA), the Government of Kenya's announcement of a ban on maize imports from Uganda and Tanzania due to aflatoxin concerns on the 5th of March presented challenges for intra-regional trade in East Africa had this position been maintained. However, the decision was reversed on the 11th of March after an outcry from key stakeholders including the East African Grain Council (EAGC) with support from AGRA and its partners⁸. The Kenyan Government now requires importers and traders to provide a certificate of conformity on aflatoxin levels and specify warehousing details⁹. To comply with these import requirements from Kenya, the Ugandan Government announced that it would address post-harvest handling of agricultural products and enhance the storage of maize in silos. The Government also issued a notice to all farmers that they should not dry their maize on the ground¹⁰. Testing maize for aflatoxin levels by the Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) has since started across the country following these new measures. In Tanzania, the Government reported that testing of maize for aflatoxin levels also commenced following the announcement of the ban, with the Government finding the aflatoxin levels to be within the agreed levels. This presumably could have contributed towards the relaxation of the ban by the Kenyan Government. Despite the lifting of the maize import ban in Kenya, the Ugandan Independent reported that "Ugandan traders claim ban on maize exports to Kenya is still on"¹¹ on the 25th of March 2021.

⁸ FCDO and USAID funded Regional Food Trade project on Aflatoxin control along Uganda and Kenya trade corridor: <http://eagc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Communique-EAGC-Meeting-on-KE-Maize-import-ban-Final.pdf>

⁹ <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/tough-kenya-lifts-tanzania-uganda-maize-imports-ban-3319096>

¹⁰ COVID-19 Policy Monitor (AGRA, 2021)

¹¹ <https://www.independent.co.ug/ugandan-traders-claim-ban-on-maize-exports-to-kenya-is-still-on/>. Accessed 9 April 2021

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

Figure 6: East Africa Cross border trade updates March 2021¹²



KENYA

- The Kenya State Department for Trade, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), organised a four-day meeting from 23 to 26 March to review the country's African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) implementation strategy.
- Kenyan Treasury has capped the amount of sugar that can be imported duty-free to Kenya from the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) at 210,163 tonnes as the government moves to tame influx of the cheap sweetener following an outcry from farmers.

ETHIOPIA

- The Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR) accentuated that Ethiopia has to employ agricultural technology and mechanized farming to save 300 million USD spent each year for rice importation.

UGANDA

- Uganda and the African Development Bank signed a \$229.5 million financing agreement for phase one of the Kampala-Jinja Expressway, a project expected to cut travel time between the two cities and boost trade along the northern corridor which links the country with its neighbours.
- Ugandan traders claim ban on maize exports to Kenya is still on despite the Kenyan Government announcing that the ban had been lifted.
- Sources at the Uganda Revenue Authority at Busia and Malaba Borders report that they are yet to record maize exports destined to the Kenyan market citing possible strict conditions imposed on exporters.
- Traders and civil society organisations in Uganda are urging the government of Kenya to allow entry of all goods made in Uganda into their market for as long as they meet all the required standards.

¹² Author's compilation based on information from various secondary literature sources.

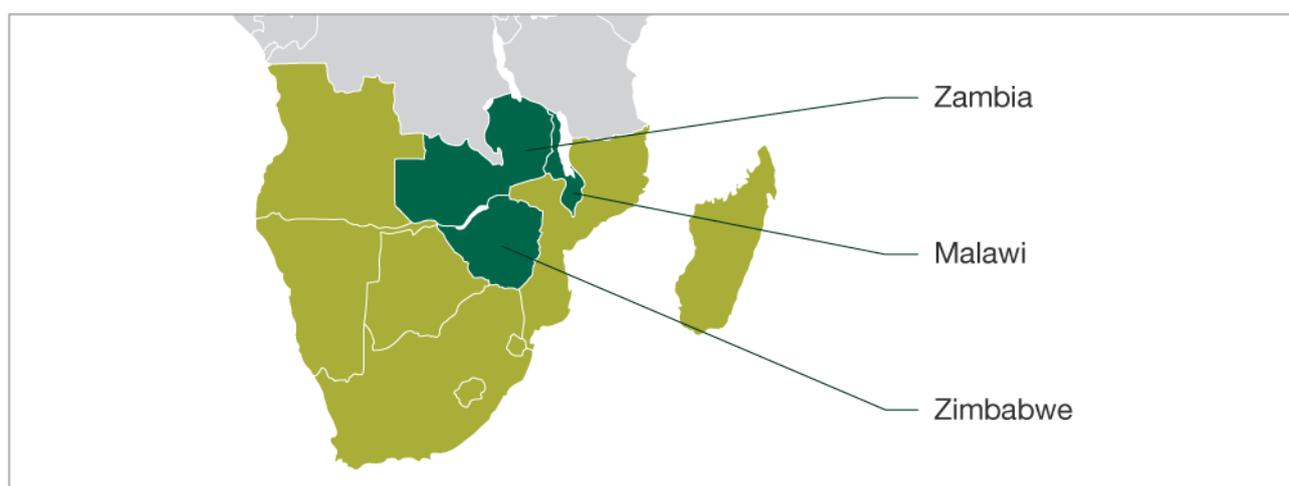
<https://www.independent.co.ug/ugandan-traders-claim-ban-on-maize-exports-to-kenya-is-still-on/>

Southern Africa

The bumper harvest projected across most parts of Southern Africa on the back of a favourable agricultural season and increased input subsidy programmes across some countries will yield surplus maize that will likely increase trading activities across the region. Zambia and Malawi are projected to have a maize surplus of 2 million MT and 500 000 MT, respectively which will possibly see governments in the respective countries ease the maize export restrictions currently in place. Zimbabwe is expected to continue importing maize from South Africa until the main harvest season starts in May. However, these imports are expected to reduce as the harvest kicks in, with the country projected to record a harvest of 2.8 million MT against domestic demand levels of 1.5-1.7 million MT. Mozambique is also expected to continue importing maize from South Africa despite a projected surplus of 500 000 MT due to the high costs of transporting maize from the northern to the southern parts of the country.

Figure 7 summarises some of the key activities and events recorded across Southern Africa that impact food trade activities.

Figure 7: Southern Africa Food Trade Updates in March 2021



ZIMBABWE

- Land borders in Zimbabwe remain closed and this continues to affect informal cross border trade activities which is a major source for food remittances from South Africa into Zimbabwe.

MALAWI

- The newly constructed one-stop border-post at Mchinji/Mwami border is expected to boost trade between Malawi and Zambia.

ZAMBIA

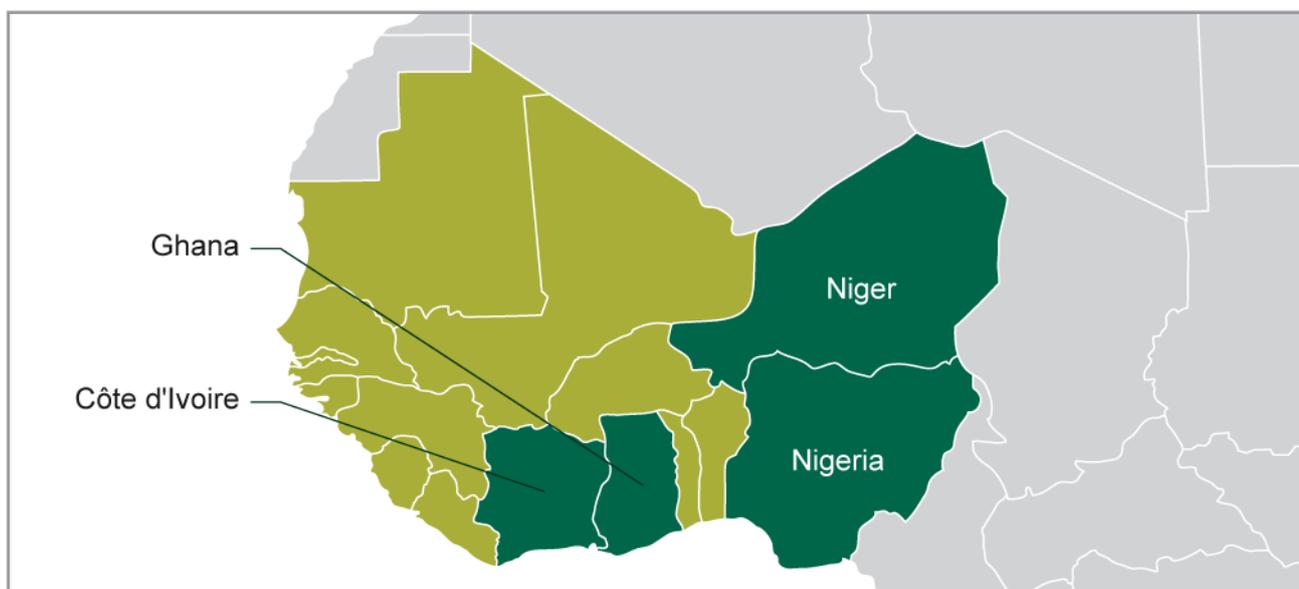
- The Government is considering granting millers permission to export 20% of current maize stocks before the end of March. Reports from AGRA's discussion with traders indicate that traders are lobbying to export 70% of their existing stock to Zimbabwe but the permission from Government has not yet been granted.
- The current wheat shortage in Zambia of approximately 120 000 MT is expected to result in the Government of Zambia waiving levies on wheat imports to increase supplies. Import permits for the 100 000 MT wheat quota will be issued to milling companies.

West Africa

The closing of land borders in Nigeria, which was meant to reduce the smuggling of goods, particularly rice, has been reported by various analysts as ineffective in meeting this objective¹³. Due to weaknesses in the structuring and organisation of the Nigerian maize and rice industries, the country is susceptible to smuggling from other countries in the region. The closing of land borders in Nigeria was reported to have resulted in new smuggling channels, particularly along the Nigeria-Benin border. Nigeria has the largest market in West Africa, and the closing of its land borders significantly impacts trade activities across the region.

Figure 8 provides an update of issues and events reported in selected West African countries that impact food trade and food security in the region.

Figure 8: West Africa Cross border Trade Updates February 2021



GHANA

- Ghana's land and sea borders remain closed until further notice due to COVID-19 restrictions
- The Ministry of Trade and Industry will collaborate with financial institutions to establish Special Financing Windows for products of strategic sectors to harness the benefits of Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- The Government has also constituted an Inter-ministerial facilitation committee to provide strategic direction and coordinate support implementation of AfCFTA in Ghana.

NIGER

- Avian influenza continues to propagate, threatening import bans from neighbouring countries, as Ministry of Agriculture struggles to contain outbreak.

COTE D'IVOIRE

- As part COVID-19 restrictions, Côte d'Ivoire institutes temporary ban on trucks entering from Burkina Faso.

NIGERIA

- Informal roadblocks and blockades manned by youths across northern Nigerian states disrupted food trade in late February by stopping foodstuffs and cattle from reaching Nigeria's midbelt and southern states.

¹³ <https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2021-03-22-nigerias-border-closures-fail-to-stop-the-tide-of-smuggling/> Accessed 02 April 2021



Agricultural Commodities' Price Monitoring

East Africa

Compared to the previous month, maize prices indicate low to moderate declines in most selected East African markets (Table 5). At the same time, there are low increases in some markets, such as in Rwanda, South Sudan and Tanzania. The results of changes compared to the past 3 and 6 months show moderate and high decreases in selected markets in South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. On the contrary, moderate and high increases were recorded in Kenya, Rwanda and a few in Tanzania. Compared to the past 12 months marking the first year since countries started implemented lockdown measures to curtail the spread of COVID-19, only South Sudan and Addis Ababa in Ethiopia indicate high increases in maize prices (more than 15%). Selected markets in the rest of the countries indicate mainly moderate and high decreases in maize prices compared to the last year. Like last month's projections, seasonal harvests in the next 3 and 6 months are expected to improve supplies and contribute to declining price trends in Rwanda and Tanzania.

Table 5: Changes in maize prices in selected East African Countries¹⁴

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Ethiopia	Maize (white)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Birr/KG**	11	-6.08 ↓	-16.67 ↓	-5.41 ↓	20.97 ×		
Ethiopia	Maize (white)	Diredawa, Ethiopian Birr/KG**	13	-5.88 ↓	-4.26 ↘	21.90 ×	-1.54 ↘		
Kenya	Maize (white)	Eldoret, Wholesale, KES/KG*	24	-4.08 ↘	-4.57 ↘	-16.93 ↓	-23.67 ↓		
Kenya	Maize (white)	Nairobi, Wholesale, KES/KG*	35	-2.59 ↘	5.65 ↑	5.49 ↑	11.47 ↑		
Kenya	Maize (white)	Nakuru, Wholesale, KES/KG	27	1.15 ▲	7.47 ↑	-15.26 ↓	-11.93 ↓		
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG**	392	3.30 ▲	30.56 ×	56.67 ×	-12.96 ↓	-28.37 ↓	-11.25 ↓
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	367	0.13 ▲	7.85 ↑	41.85 ×	-18.94 ↓	-13.07 ↓	-19.67 ↓
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG**	330	-3.42 ↘	10.00 ↑	25.32 ×	10.00 ↑	-25.43 ↓	-11.18 ↓
Rwanda	Maize (white)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	193	-1.89 ↘	4.65 ▲	17.37 ×	-7.66 ↓	-41.43 ↓	-24.79 ↓
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Aweil, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG*	198	29.87 ×	-4.46 ↘	2.86 ▲	54.11 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Juba, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	414	-1.36 ↘	0.69 ▲	100.14 ×	215.00 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Rumbek, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	286	-18.37 ↓	-33.33 ↓	-1.67 ↘	53.85 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Torit, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG*	143	2.60 ▲	-26.71 ↓	-14.50 ↓	23.62 ×		
South Sudan	Maize (white)	Wau, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG*	286	0.00 ●	-14.31 ↓	-35.23 ↓	66.67 ×		
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Arusha (urban), Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	53,750	2.49 ▲	4.37 ▲	-8.41 ↓	-41.89 ↓	21.53 ×	-6.19 ↓
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Dodoma (Majengo), Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	58,075	1.99 ▲	-6.41 ↓	-3.26 ↘	-38.28 ↓	-13.61 ↓	-39.48 ↓
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	54,778	-0.29 ↘	-8.13 ↓	-9.81 ↓	-42.98 ↓	-17.54 ↓	-23.45 ↓
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Morogoro, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	61,500	7.74 ↑	9.35 ↑	6.55 ↑	-33.64 ↓	-10.04 ↓	-29.25 ↓
Tanzania	Maize (white)	Moshi, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	65,500	0.77 ▲	7.38 ↑	-6.43 ↓	-24.60 ↓	-2.12 ↘	-2.64 ↘
Uganda	Maize (white)	Kabale, Wholesale, USh/KG*	750	-1.55 ↘	-3.72 ↘	7.25 ↑	-28.64 ↓		
Uganda	Maize (white)	Kampala, Wholesale, USh/KG*	2,301	1.55 ▲	6.17 ↑	-16.68 ↓	-32.61 ↓		
Uganda	Maize (white)	Lira, Wholesale, USh/KG*	560	-16.57 ↓	-15.32 ↓	-13.94 ↓	-36.34 ↓		
Uganda	Maize (white)	Masindi, Wholesale, USh/KG*	550	-14.70 ↓	-13.40 ↓	-12.44 ↓	-38.66 ↓		

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

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

¹⁴ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)

Bean prices in Rwanda and Tanzania's selected markets generally show moderate declines compared to the previous month (Table 6). On the contrary, in Uganda, bean prices recorded low increases for the same period. The prices in Rwanda and Uganda for the past 3 and 6 months indicate high decreases. Prices in Tanzania indicate mixed trends across the selected markets. Compared to the previous 12 months, price declines by at least 15% in Uganda and mixed trends were observed in Rwanda and Tanzania. The forecasts for the next 3 and 6 months indicate declines in Tanzania prices, while the selected markets in Rwanda show increases (in some cases of more than 15%).

Table 6: Changes in bean prices in selected East African Countries¹⁵

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG**	467	-16.91 ↓	-26.31 ↓	-17.04 ↓	13.13 ↑	28.12 ×	39.07 ×
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	500	-9.18 ↓	-31.96 ↓	-15.77 ↓	-8.38 ↓	3.09 ▲	0.29 ▲
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG**	490	10.32 ↑	-44.18 ↓	-19.53 ↓	18.55 ×	18.05 ×	23.62 ×
Rwanda	Bean (dry)	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG*	567	-32.30 ↓	-41.87 ↓	-20.76 ↓	-0.43 ▾	23.50 ×	14.12 ↑
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Arusha (urban), Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	176,000	-4.58 ▾	7.65 ↑	10.00 ↑	3.67 ▲	2.95 ▲	-4.31 ▾
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Dodoma (Majengo), Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	209,250	-6.32 ↓	-3.75 ▾	22.41 ×	3.36 ▲	-16.28 ↓	-8.29 ↓
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Kigoma, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	156,111	-8.84 ↓	-23.85 ↓	-12.97 ↓	-26.93 ↓	-9.00 ↓	-14.85 ↓
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Morogoro, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	213,333	1.29 ▲	17.70 ×	14.54 ↑	8.52 ↑	-6.06 ↓	-13.83 ↓
Tanzania	Bean (dry)	Moshi, Wholesale, TZS/100KG**	205,000	1.23 ▲	-4.80 ▾	-16.89 ↓	-11.35 ↓	-1.81 ▾	-9.72 ↓
Uganda	Bean (dry)	Kampala, Wholesale, USh/KG*	2,401	3.67 ▲	19.16 ×	-18.02 ↓	-26.43 ↓		
Uganda	Bean (dry)	Lira, Wholesale, USh/KG*	2,301	4.55 ▲	39.51 ×	-16.16 ↓	-17.74 ↓		

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

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

Like last month, sorghum prices show a declining trend across selected markets in Ethiopia, Rwanda and South Sudan except for the Aweil market in South Sudan that recorded a high increase (Table 7). In most of the selected markets, sorghum prices indicate a high increase compared to the past 6 and 12 months, a similar trend reported last month. In the next 3 and 6 months, projections indicate declining prices as seasonal harvest improves the markets' supplies.

Table 7: Changes in sorghum prices in selected East African Countries¹⁶

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Ethiopia	Sorghum (red)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Birr/KG**	14	-0.73 ▾	-3.00 ▾	5.02 ↑	12.21 ↑		
Ethiopia	Sorghum (white)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Birr/KG**	22	-2.53 ▾	-8.85 ↓	-11.63 ↓	24.22 ×		
Rwanda	Sorghum	Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG**	450	-5.26 ↓	-5.60 ↓	15.38 ×	-11.27 ↓	-1.76 ▾	-14.81 ↓
Rwanda	Sorghum	Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG**	477	-1.12 ▾	-6.54 ↓	5.93 ↑	-13.33 ↓	-1.82 ▾	-13.47 ↓
Rwanda	Sorghum	Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG**	450	-6.25 ↓	12.50 ↑	45.16 ×	23.29 ×	6.24 ↑	-10.76 ↓
Rwanda	Sorghum	Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG**	480	0.00 ●		60.00 ×	24.68 ×	0.36 ▲	-4.32 ▾
South Sudan	Sorghum	Aweil, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG*	246	16.28 ×	26.90 ×	-4.49 ▾	138.10 ×		
South Sudan	Sorghum	Juba, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	410	-2.05 ▾	-2.32 ▾	99.72 ×	188.53 ×		
South Sudan	Sorghum	Rumbek, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG	289	-0.30 ▾	-3.81 ▾	18.82 ×	68.33 ×		
South Sudan	Sorghum	Torit, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG		0.00 ●	7.69 ↑	30.11 ×	59.81 ×		
South Sudan	Sorghum	Wau, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG*	343	2.75 ▲	20.29 ×	-21.31 ↓	125.82 ×		

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

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

¹⁵ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

¹⁶ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

Southern Africa

Generally, maize prices in selected markets have shown favourable trends compared to the previous month levels. The results in Table 8 show price declines of up to 15% in some markets while others remained unchanged. Few markets in Mozambique and Zambia (Maputo, Massinga, Livingston, and Lusaka) showed a moderate increase (5-15%) in maize prices. These trends are indicative of the cropping seasons in these countries. Malawi and Zambia are in their mid-season, while Mozambique began its harvest season in mid-March. Except for the Nsanje market in Malawi and Pemba market in Mozambique, all maize markets across the selected countries showed significant increases in prices over the last 3-6 months period, with the majority being more than 15%.

In contrast, the one-year comparison showed that prices had decreased from their one-year levels. Forecasts for selected markets in Mozambique and Zambia show that prices are generally expected to decline in the next 3-6 months. However, some few markets may experience price increases.

Table 8: Changes in maize prices in selected Southern African Countries¹⁷

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Malawi	Maize (white)	Lilongwe, Retail, MWK/KG**	195	-2.50 ↘	9.86 ↑	30.00 ⊗	-44.29 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	Mzimba, Retail, MWK/KG	164	-12.21 ↓	10.44 ↑	16.48 ⊗	-38.44 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	Mzuzu, Retail, MWK/KG	180	0.00 ●	18.03 ⊗	20.32 ⊗	-39.68 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, MWK/KG*	187	-8.96 ↓	-5.20 ↓	6.86 ↑	-44.87 ↓		
Malawi	Maize (white)	Nsanje, Retail, MWK/KG	203	-12.76 ↓	-3.57 ↘	1.68 ▲	-43.68 ↓		
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Angónia, Retail, MZN/KG**	17	0.00 ●	7.13 ↑	21.56 ⊗	-26.85 ↓	-17.74 ↓	-21.65 ↓
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/KG**	32	13.34 ↑	25.94 ⊗	20.37 ⊗	13.34 ↑	-2.16 ↘	-16.83 ↓
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Massinga, Retail, MZN/KG**	30	10.35 ↑	33.33 ⊗	39.18 ⊗	-23.80 ↓	-6.46 ↓	-14.99 ↓
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Pemba, Retail, MZN/KG**	27	-11.57 ↓	-8.15 ↓	43.25 ⊗	-4.48 ↘	13.37 ↑	5.83 ↑
Zambia	Maize (white)	Chibombo, Retail, ZMW/KG**	4	0.00 ●	26.73 ⊗	90.09 ⊗	-4.95 ↘	10.90 ↑	-14.93 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Chipata, Retail, ZMW/KG**	4	0.00 ●	27.12 ⊗	36.49 ⊗	-2.75 ↘	-3.86 ↘	-19.79 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Livingstone, Retail, ZMW/KG**	4	13.74 ↑	31.86 ⊗	31.86 ⊗	-12.39 ↓	-10.54 ↓	-32.65 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Lusaka, Retail, ZMW/KG**	5	12.10 ↑	26.11 ⊗	36.34 ⊗	16.71 ⊗	-4.19 ↘	-8.37 ↓
Zambia	Maize (white)	Mpika, Retail, ZMW/KG**	3	0.00 ●	24.72 ⊗	24.72 ⊗	-45.50 ↓	19.22 ⊗	-21.32 ↓

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

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

West Africa

Maize market prices performances over the last month show mixed results (Table 9). Eleven out of the 23 selected markets experienced price increases, while the remaining have either remained the same as in the previous month or declined. Price increments may be explained by the fact that the season is lean as March-April is the planting season in these countries. Price changes in the last 3-12 months show, generally, an increase in prices, particularly over the last 12 months. Forecasts for the next 3-6 months predict increases in maize prices in the Ivorian, Ghanaian, and Malian markets, with five out of 12 markets indicating high increases (exceeding 15%). Only two Ghanaian markets (Bolga and Kumasi) would experience marginal declines in prices in the next three months.

¹⁷ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

Table 9: Changes in maize prices in selected West African countries¹⁸

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Cote d'Ivoire	Maize (white)	Korhogo, Retail, XOF/KG**	250	25.00 ⬇	3.45 ▲	5.26 ⬆	150.00 ⬇	23.18 ⬇	8.84 ⬆
Cote d'Ivoire	Maize (white)	Man, Retail, XOF/KG**	200	0.00 ●	-5.88 ⬇	-25.58 ⬇	-11.11 ⬇	25.22 ⬇	24.01 ⬇
Ghana	Maize (white)	Accra, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	182	-21.90 ⬇	13.89 ⬆	7.89 ⬆	6.36 ⬆	15.90 ⬇	11.99 ⬆
Ghana	Maize (white)	Bolga, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	167	-2.50 ⬇	21.68 ⬇	30.78 ⬇	47.45 ⬇	-2.36 ⬇	5.07 ⬆
Ghana	Maize (white)	Kumasi, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	310	7.01 ⬆	65.24 ⬇	60.00 ⬇	49.73 ⬇	-1.69 ⬇	34.94 ⬇
Ghana	Maize (white)	Techiman, Wholesale, GHS/100KG	154	-0.10 ⬇	17.65 ⬇	33.34 ⬇	53.85 ⬇	35.32 ⬇	50.04 ⬇
Mali	Maize (white)	Ansongo, Retail, XOF/KG**	200	-9.09 ⬇	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	3.42 ▲	6.94 ⬆
Mali	Maize (white)	Badalabougou, Retail, XOF/KG**	175	6.06 ⬆	-3.31 ⬇	3.55 ▲	0.00 ●	1.42 ▲	5.71 ⬆
Mali	Maize (white)	Faladié, Retail, XOF/KG**	175	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	16.67 ⬇	0.75 ▲	7.31 ⬆
Mali	Maize (white)	Gao, Retail, XOF/KG**	225	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	15.34 ⬇	21.07 ⬇
Mali	Maize (white)	Kayes Centre, Retail, XOF/KG**	203	1.50 ▲	-18.80 ⬇	-0.98 ⬇	0.50 ▲	6.67 ⬆	14.51 ⬆
Mali	Maize (white)	Niarela, Retail, XOF/KG**	175	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	16.67 ⬇	4.07 ▲	6.70 ⬆
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Ibadan, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	196	18.22 ⬇	25.80 ⬇	4.17 ▲	96.25 ⬇		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Kano, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	182	19.40 ⬇	35.31 ⬇	18.10 ⬇	102.96 ⬇		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Kaura Namoda, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	174	7.78 ⬆	19.63 ⬇	-0.20 ⬇	92.20 ⬇		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Lagos, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	183	13.96 ⬆	9.73 ⬆	-0.52 ⬇	71.66 ⬇		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Maiduguri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	178	18.33 ⬇	12.70 ⬆	6.29 ⬆	97.77 ⬇		
Togo	Maize (white)	Amegnran, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	150	7.14 ⬆	15.38 ⬇	-6.83 ⬇	15.38 ⬇		
Togo	Maize (white)	Anie, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	154	-3.75 ⬇	14.07 ⬆	10.00 ⬆	18.46 ⬇		
Togo	Maize (white)	Cinkassé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	133	0.00 ●	-1.48 ⬇	-13.07 ⬇	0.76 ▲		
Togo	Maize (white)	Kara, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	187	-2.60 ⬇	24.67 ⬇	-2.60 ⬇	29.86 ⬇		
Togo	Maize (white)	Kor bongou, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	156	11.43 ⬆	11.43 ⬆	4.00 ▲	5.41 ⬆		
Togo	Maize (white)	Lomé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	192	0.00 ●	1.05 ▲	-2.54 ⬇	23.87 ⬇		

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

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

Millet prices in the selected Burkinabe and Malian markets, in the last 1-6 months, have either remained stable, declined, or moderately increased (Table 10). Prices in the selected Niger and Nigerian markets, in the last 1-3 and 12 months, increased, while prices over the last six months generally declined except for few markets in Nigeria that had moderately increased. Instead, in the last 12 months, millet prices in almost all selected West African markets show high price increases (exceeding 15%). Consequently, forecasts for the next 3-6 months show that prices would increase, mainly between 0-15%.

¹⁸ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).

Table 10: Changes in millet prices in selected West African countries¹⁹

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Burkina Faso	Millet	Batié, Retail, XOF/KG	226	2.26 ▲	-14.07 ▼	13.00 ↑	37.80 ×	-7.58 ▼	-7.00 ▼
Burkina Faso	Millet	Bousse, Retail, XOF/KG	179	0.00 ●	-5.29 ▼	0.00 ●	9.82 ↑	-1.62 ▾	-3.27 ▾
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dori, Retail, XOF/KG	250	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-14.38 ▼	5.93 ↑	5.41 ↑	16.54 ×
Burkina Faso	Millet	Faramana, Retail, XOF/KG	145	9.85 ↑	-13.69 ▼	-12.65 ▼	22.88 ×	4.72 ▲	8.06 ↑
Burkina Faso	Millet	Gourcy, Retail, XOF/KG	230	4.07 ▲	6.48 ↑	11.65 ↑	33.72 ×	6.58 ↑	8.02 ↑
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouagadougou (Sankaryare), Retail, XOF/KG	249	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-4.60 ▾	16.36 ×	-4.93 ▾	-7.16 ▼
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouargaye, Retail, XOF/KG	203	3.05 ▲	-0.98 ▾	10.33 ↑	65.04 ×	2.90 ▲	-3.04 ▾
Burkina Faso	Millet	Titao, Retail, XOF/KG	165	1.85 ▲	12.24 ↑	5.77 ↑	17.02 ×	11.02 ↑	11.85 ↑
Mali	Millet	Ansongo, Retail, XOF/KG**	235	-14.55 ▼	3.52 ▲	0.00 ●	17.50 ×	14.97 ↑	14.55 ↑
Mali	Millet	Badalabougou, Retail, XOF/KG**	206	-8.44 ▼	-17.60 ▼	3.00 ▲	-8.44 ▼	6.00 ↑	8.29 ↑
Mali	Millet	Faladié, Retail, XOF/KG**	200	0.00 ●	-11.11 ▼	0.00 ●	10.50 ↑	5.30 ↑	8.90 ↑
Mali	Millet	Gao, Retail, XOF/KG**	265	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	6.00 ↑	6.00 ↑	4.29 ▲	6.89 ↑
Mali	Millet	Kayes Centre, Retail, XOF/KG**	258	-11.03 ▼	-14.00 ▼	3.20 ▲	3.20 ▲	1.02 ▲	1.55 ▲
Mali	Millet	Niarela, Retail, XOF/KG**	200	-6.98 ▼	-11.11 ▼	0.00 ●	14.29 ↑	12.19 ↑	8.65 ↑
Niger	Millet	Abalak, Retail, XOF/KG**	292	18.22 ×	9.36 ↑	-9.60 ▼	21.67 ×	6.24 ↑	13.70 ↑
Niger	Millet	Bonkaney, Retail, XOF/KG**	242	5.22 ↑	-5.84 ▼	-8.33 ▼	8.04 ↑	6.56 ↑	15.60 ×
Niger	Millet	Goure, Retail, XOF/KG**	284	45.64 ×	6.77 ↑	-14.84 ▼	13.60 ↑	18.35 ×	26.13 ×
Niger	Millet	Katako, Retail, XOF/KG**	234	15.84 ×	-4.49 ▾	-15.45 ▼	7.34 ↑	9.56 ↑	13.09 ↑
Nigeria	Millet	Ibadan, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	202	18.53 ×	18.53 ×	-4.05 ▾	79.91 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Kano, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	183	19.60 ×	28.39 ×	1.79 ▲	101.07 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Kaura Namoda, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	189	14.67 ↑	22.64 ×	8.11 ↑	100.42 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Lagos, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	206	1.83 ▲	1.23 ▲	-0.24 ▾	60.55 ×		
Nigeria	Millet	Maiduguri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	178	13.06 ↑	19.33 ×	1.43 ▲	101.70 ×		

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

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

Over the last 1-12 months, sorghum prices in the Malian and Nigerien markets have not, in general, increased but remained constant or declined (Table 11). However, in Goure and Katako, prices have increased beyond 15% in the last month. In the Nigerian and Togolese selected markets, except over the last three months for the Nigerian markets where prices either remained stable or declined, prices generally increased over the last one, six, and 12 months with all prices exceeding 15% for the last 12 months in these markets. In the Malian and Nigerien markets, prices are generally predicted to increase over the next 3-6 months.

¹⁹ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)

Table 11: Changes in sorghum prices in selected West African countries²⁰

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month	3 Months	6 Months	1 Year	Next 3 Months*	Next 6 Months*
Mali	Sorghum	Ansongo, Retail, XOF/KG**	225	-10.00 ↓	0.00 ●	-4.26 ↘	12.50 ↑	13.52 ↑	12.97 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Badalabougou, Retail, XOF/KG**	200	2.56 ▲	-2.91 ↘	3.09 ▲	0.00 ●	11.41 ↑	13.23 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Faladié, Retail, XOF/KG**	200	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	5.53 ↑	7.64 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Gao, Retail, XOF/KG**	250	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	45.20 ⊗	86.33 ⊗
Mali	Sorghum	Kayes Centre, Retail, XOF/KG**	225	-11.07 ↓	-10.00 ↓	-11.07 ↓	-8.91 ↓	3.43 ▲	11.11 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Niarela, Retail, XOF/KG**	175	0.00 ●	-12.50 ↓	0.00 ●	12.18 ↑	8.19 ↑	5.83 ↑
Niger	Sorghum	Abalak, Retail, XOF/KG**	278	-2.80 ↘	-0.36 ↘	-5.92 ↓	32.38 ⊗	18.68 ⊗	18.18 ⊗
Niger	Sorghum	Bonkaney, Retail, XOF/KG**	233	-7.17 ↓	-10.38 ↓	-4.12 ↘	2.64 ▲	0.80 ▲	3.86 ▲
Niger	Sorghum	Goure, Retail, XOF/KG**	234	25.13 ⊗	-11.36 ↓	-22.52 ↓	20.00 ⊗	12.92 ↑	21.74 ⊗
Niger	Sorghum	Katako, Retail, XOF/KG**	229	25.82 ⊗	-18.79 ↓	-8.40 ↓	0.00 ●	-8.57 ↓	-2.80 ↘
Nigeria	Sorghum	Ibadan, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	203	-0.74 ↘	-22.12 ↓	1.25 ▲	85.44 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Kano, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	169	21.29 ⊗	-0.62 ↘	10.41 ↑	120.12 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Kaura Namoda, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	180	9.91 ↑	-8.60 ↓	-0.39 ↘	100.45 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Lagos, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	207	-0.63 ↘	-12.50 ↓	6.01 ↑	78.02 ⊗		
Nigeria	Sorghum	Maiduguri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**	178	12.34 ↑	0.00 ●	29.00 ⊗	125.40 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Anie, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	210	0.00 ●	-4.55 ↘	-13.22 ↓	16.67 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Cinkassé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	178	12.66 ↑	12.66 ↑	23.61 ⊗	33.83 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Kara, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	262	9.17 ↑	31.00 ⊗	0.77 ▲	31.00 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Kor bongou, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	200	8.11 ↑	8.11 ↑	48.15 ⊗	29.87 ⊗		
Togo	Sorghum	Lomé, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG	297	10.82 ↑	-1.00 ↘	-1.00 ↘	30.84 ⊗		

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

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

²⁰ Author's construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)



Climatic Conditions and Potential Implications for Food and Nutrition Security

The rainfall projections for April indicate declining rainfall for the Southern Africa region compared to the previous month (Figure 9). The main seasonal crops (maize, sorghum, millet, soybean, groundnuts, sunflower, rice and cotton) are maturing and might not require too much rainfall. However, parts of the Western Cape are projected to receive above-normal rainfall, which might benefit the ongoing wheat planting. Similarly, central parts of Mozambique, Southern Malawi and north-eastern Zambia are projected to receive above-normal rainfall. If the above-normal rainfall conditions prolong, they might negatively affect the quality and quantity of seasonal harvests for the current main cropping season.

The southern and equatorial parts of the region are projected to receive above-normal rainfall. This will provide conducive cropping conditions for the ongoing planting, such as maize in Kenya and sorghum/ millet in South Sudan and Uganda. The rest of the region is expected to be drier, especially in northern parts of Kenya and Ethiopia. The dry conditions in Ethiopia may impact the belg season sorghum flowering, which is ongoing. The projections of drier conditions for most parts of the region are likely to impact expected seasonal productivity, which would impact the direction of regional food trade from surplus to deficit areas.

In West Africa, planting is ongoing for rice, maize and sorghum in the coastal region. However, compared to last month, there are no pronounced projections of above-normal rainfall except in limited coastal areas. Prolonged less rainfall than required for optimal planting may negatively impact the germination of crops and seasonal harvests. Similar to last month, the rest of the region is expected to receive below-normal rainfall.

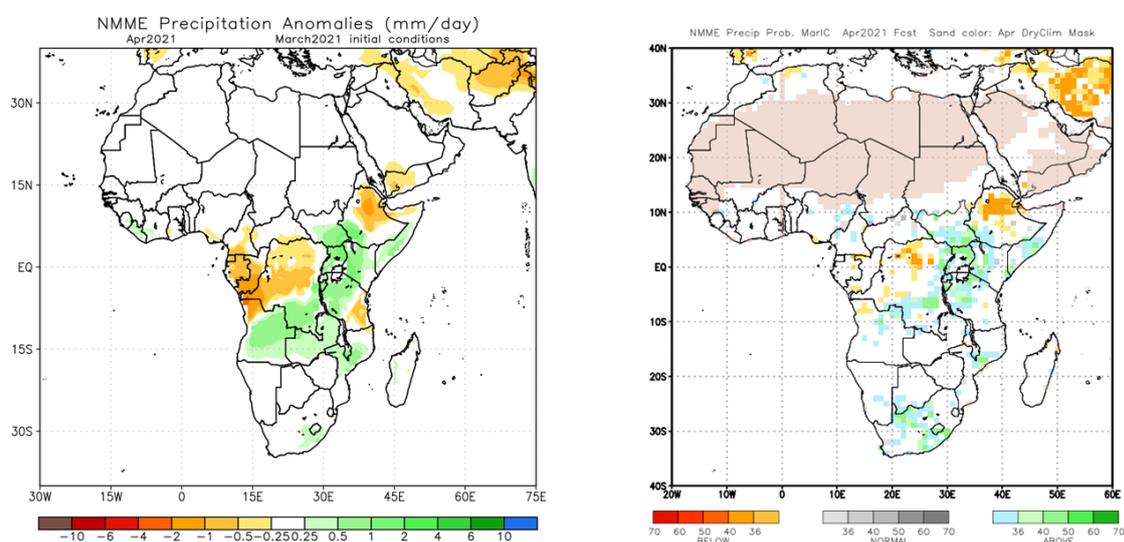


Figure 9: North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) rainfall forecast for March 2021, based on February 2021 initial conditions²¹

²¹ The image on the left shows the probabilistic forecast and the right image shows the standardized forecast anomaly (the average across the models). The orange/red and green colours indicate the dominant category (below-normal or above-normal) forecast by the NMME models – colour intensity shows the corresponding probability of the forecast. White indicates where there is disagreement amongst models as the most likely tercile category. Original images are available at www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov



Desert Locust Outbreak and Impacts on Food Security and Trade

The latest FAO desert locust situation update indicates that the swarms in Ethiopia and Kenya remain immature and continue to decline due to poor rains and ongoing control operations (Figure 10). The recent poor rainfall in the two countries and projected for April 2021 will affect the swarms' breeding and maturing, limiting further breeding. Overall, the situation has calmed down in the areas reported last month to be experiencing immature swarms. The declining risk of the desert locust is essential for efforts to rebuild food systems that have recently experienced multiple threats such as extreme weather events and the COVID-19 pandemic that left devastating food and nutrition impacts to already vulnerable populations. Regional food trade and humanitarian efforts remain critical to ensuring areas of deficit are supplied with affordable and nutritious food.

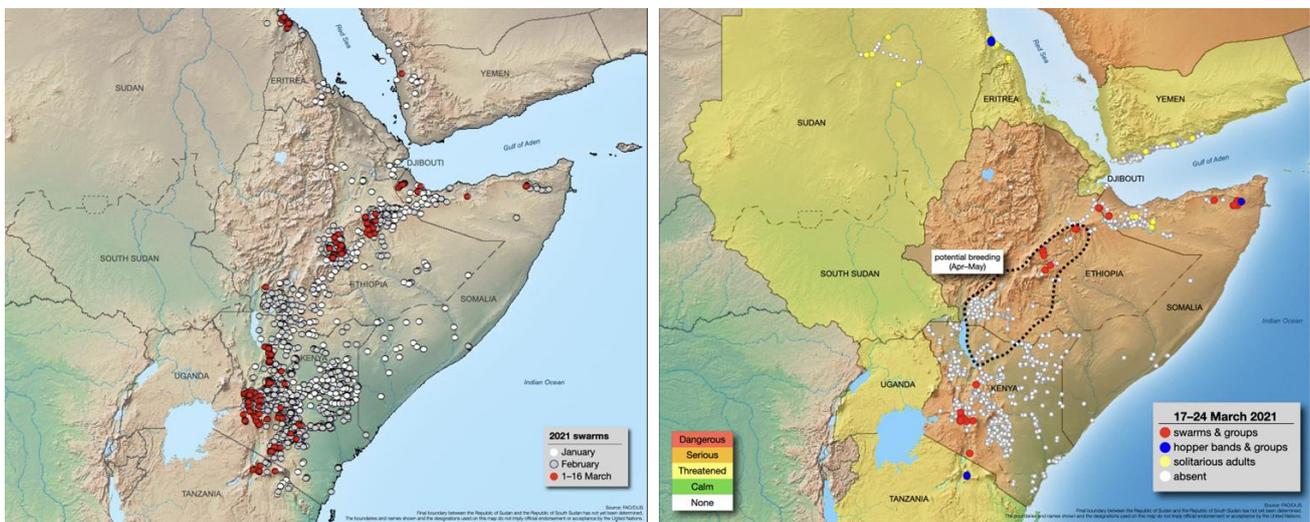


Figure 10: Situation, threat and forecast of desert locust in East Africa²²

²² <http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts/common/ecq/75/en/210126DLupdate.jpg>. Accessed 28 January 2021 and <http://www.fao.org/ag/locusts/common/ecq/75/en/210223DLupdate.jpg>. Accessed 2 March 2021



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