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 November Food Security Monitor are summarised below.

**Food Security Outlook.** In November 2021, Niger joined South Sudan, Burkina Faso and Mali as the food insecurity hotspots - countries where more than 50% of the total population has insufficient food for consumption.

East Africa continued to experience a predominantly IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) food security situation, sustained by multiple shocks, including conflict, drought, floods, macroeconomic contraction, COVID-19 and mass displacement.

As the lean season progresses, most rural and low-income urban households in Southern Africa continued to experience IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) and IPC Phase 3 (crisis) outcomes.

In West Africa, despite the gradual increase in food supplies due to the ongoing harvests, the high demand for food as a result of declining trade flows has kept food prices above average.

**Food Trade.** Trade activities in most parts of East Africa increased over the past month on the back of increased demand for food, particularly in areas like Kenya, where production was significantly lower due to poor weather conditions.

In Southern Africa, the prices for inputs and consumables have been increasing across the member states due to constrained supply chains as a result of countries failing to fully implement the COVID-19 pandemic trade facilitation guideline provided by COMESA last year.

Meanwhile, in West Africa, ECOWAS and UNCTAD were introduced to the national e-commerce focal points in a meeting that saw the two bodies present the steps envisaged for the preparation of the regional e-commerce strategy.

**Commodity Prices.** Persistent droughts and flooding in parts of East Africa have affected crop outputs and led to price surges in most markets.

In Southern Africa, stocks from previous harvests are depleting, but bumper harvests from the previous season are still sustaining low prices.

And in West Africa, new harvests have increased market supplies, but the region’s demand for most staples remains high, putting upward pressure on prices.

**Climatic conditions.** The rainfall forecasts for East Africa indicate persistent drier than usual conditions for December and December to February.

The above-normal rainfall forecasts persist in parts of Southern Africa, particularly in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. This is as the forecasts for West Africa indicate below-average rainfall in most parts of the region.

**Desert Locust Outbreak.** In early November, small swarms of locusts were detected in southern and northern Ethiopia, northeast Kenya, and northeast Somalia, but persistent drought conditions limit the risk of spread.
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 Outlook

Food Insecurity Hotspots

The number of Food Insecurity Hotspots, defined as countries where more than 50% of the total population has insufficient food for consumption, increased from three to four in November 2021. These hotspot countries include South Sudan (61%), Burkina Faso (55%), Mali (57%) and Niger (51%)\(^1\).

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

Source: Own analysis based on data from WFP (2021)\(^2\)

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\(^1\) [https://hungermap.wfp.org/](https://hungermap.wfp.org/), Accessed 29 November 2021

\(^2\) [https://hungermap.wfp.org/](https://hungermap.wfp.org/), Accessed 29 November 2021
East Africa Outlook

During November, the East Africa region continued to experience a predominantly IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) food security situation, sustained by multiple shocks, including protracted conflict, prolonged drought, floods, macroeconomic contraction, COVID-19 restrictions, and mass displacement. According to the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group, the severity of food insecurity is expected to persist until 2022. This is mainly due to sequential droughts, conflict-driven livelihood disruptions, high crop losses and livestock mortalities, economic contractions due to macroeconomic shocks, market access disruptions, high food prices and prolonged adverse impacts of COVID-19.3

**Ethiopia:** High staple food prices, macroeconomic shocks, and general economic contraction have worsened the country’s food security situation, which is already affected by the ongoing conflicts and droughts. The northern parts of the country and the Tigray Region experienced an IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) situation due to the protracted conflict that continues to disrupt humanitarian supplies and agricultural activities. The ongoing Meher harvest in areas of SNNPR, central Oromia, and the highlands of East and West Hararghe is helping improve food access leading to IPC phase 2 situations4.

**Kenya:** The country continued to experience a predominantly IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) food security situation in November as staple food prices remained high and household food stocks continued to decline5. The FSNWG reports that an estimated 3.53 million people in Kenya are currently facing an IPC Phase 3 situation and urgently need humanitarian assistance6.

**South Sudan:** Protracted conflicts and displacements, compounded by floods and macroeconomic shocks, continue to drive the country’s very high food insecurity situation. Between 7 and 8 million people are currently in need of humanitarian assistance, and about 1.71 million have been displaced internally, with another 760,000 affected by floods8.

**Rwanda:** The country continued to experience an IPC Phase 1 (minimal) food security situation as rural households enjoy food access from the Irish potato harvests. The easing of restrictions at the borders has seen

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3 Regional Food Security Outlook (FSNWG, November 2021)  
4 [https://fews.net/east-africa/ethiopia](https://fews.net/east-africa/ethiopia) Accessed 27 November 2021  
5 [https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya](https://fews.net/east-africa/kenya) Accessed 27 November 2021  
6 Regional Food Security Outlook (FSNWG, November 2021)  
8 Regional Food Security Outlook (FSNWG, November 2021)
the resumption of cross-border trade activities, which has increased incomes among most small scale traders. Due to ongoing crop management activities, increased demand for agricultural labour has also increased incomes for low-income rural households.

**Uganda**: Below average harvests due to the very high crop losses, which are estimated at between 50-70 per cent, together with very low food stock levels and loss of livestock, mainly to theft, has contributed to IPC Phase 3 (Crisis) outcomes recorded in some parts of the country with outcomes projected to persist until May 2022.

**Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in East Africa**

As of 29 November 2021, a total of 51.9 million people across six selected East Africa countries did not have sufficient food for consumption. This is a 2.0% increase from the previous month, indicating that the food security situation deteriorated across these focus countries. Ethiopia (27%) recorded a high increase in the prevalence of insufficient food consumption during the month. On the other hand, Kenya (-8%), Tanzania (-14%) and Uganda (-6%) recorded a moderate decrease, while South Sudan (-3%) recorded a low decrease in the prevalence of insufficient food for consumption. In Rwanda, the situation did not change from the previous month.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total Population (millions)</th>
<th>People with insufficient food consumption (millions)</th>
<th>Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)</th>
<th>Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)</th>
<th>Acute malnutrition (children under 5%)</th>
<th>Chronic malnutrition (children under 5%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>189.2</td>
<td>13.30</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>27.6%</td>
<td>2.40</td>
<td>37.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>51.40</td>
<td>5.69</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>6.84</td>
<td>3.90</td>
<td>37.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>56.40</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>7.60</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>14.50</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>42.70</td>
<td>14.80</td>
<td>34.50</td>
<td>4.71</td>
<td>4.71</td>
<td>35.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Previous month and ** Current month

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

**Southern Africa Outlook**

Most rural households and low-income urban households continue to experience IPC Phase 2 (Stressed) and IPC Phase 3 (crisis) outcomes across most parts of the region as the lean season progresses. Declining and depleted food stocks from this year’s harvest resulted in the majority of affected households depending on market purchases for their food supplies. This makes access to income-generating activities important during this lean season critical.

**Malawi**: IPC Phase 1 outcomes remained in place across most parts of the country as food access from this year’s above-average harvests remains adequate. Low retail maize prices, which have been in place since September, have also contributed to improved food security outcomes across the country.

**Mozambique**: Stabilisation of the conflict situation in Mozambique, which saw previously displaced people

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9 https://fews.net/east-africa/rwanda Accessed 27 November 2021
10 https://fews.net/east-africa/uganda Accessed 27 November 2021
11 https://hungermap.wfp.org/ Accessed on 29 November 2021
12 https://fews.net/southern-africa/malawi Accessed 27 November 2021
returning to their areas of origin, has allowed the food security situation in these regions to stabilise. However, the resumption of agricultural activities in these areas is not expected, which may result in below-average harvests and a potential food crisis in these areas. Increased humanitarian assistance may be required to avert a potential food crisis as access to these areas improves.

**Zimbabwe**: IPC Phase 2 and Phase 3 outcomes continue to prevail among various low-income households as stocks from this year’s harvest have depleted, leaving affected households to rely on market purchases for food supply. However, some markets in the deficit country are reported to have low stock levels following the government directive to sell all surplus grain to the Grain Marketing Board. The continued depreciation of the local currency against the US dollar has increased food prices, worsening food security among low-income households.

**Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in Southern Africa**

As of 29 November 2021, the number of people with insufficient food for consumption across the selected focus countries in Southern Africa stood at 19.3 million. This was a 7.2% decrease from October, indicating that the region’s food security situation improved over the past month. Malawi (-5%), Mozambique (-12%) and Zambia (-13%) recorded a moderate decrease, while Zimbabwe recorded a marginal increase in the number of people with insufficient food consumption during the month.

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

*Previous month and ** Current month

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

**West Africa Outlook**

Despite the gradual increase in food supplies due to the ongoing harvests, the high demand for food as a result of declining trade flows has kept food prices above average across the region. This contributed to keeping the food security outcome levels stressed mainly in the region’s conflict-affected areas.

**Burkina Faso**: The country’s northern parts continue to experience IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) outcomes as the ongoing conflicts continue to yield food loss and income sources.

**Mali**: Current harvests have helped contribute to sufficient food availability, albeit lower than the five-year average. This contributed to stabilising commodity prices and improved access to food, which has seen the country experience a predominately IPC Phase 1 (minimal) food security.

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13 https://fews.net/southern-africa/zimbabwe  Accessed 27 November 2021
15 https://fews.net/west-africa  Accessed 27 November 2021

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**Figure 3: Southern Africa countries Food Security Outlook, October 2021- January 2022**
outcome. The ongoing conflicts in other parts of the country are driving IPC Phase 3 outcomes, as access to humanitarian assistance is constricted.

**Nigeria:** Most parts of the country experienced stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes, driven by high food prices due to below-average harvests and poor economic performance. Conflicts in the northern parts of the country, which have disrupted income-generating activities and access to fields, are driving IPC Phase 3 and Phase 4 outcomes17.

**Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in West Africa**

The number of people with insufficient food for consumption across seven selected countries in West Africa was 106.7 million as of 29 November 2021. This was a 3.9 percent decrease from October, suggesting that the region’s food security situation improved over the past month. Burkina Faso (-3.6%), Ghana (-3.4%) and Mali (-0.9%) recorded low decreases, while Nigeria (-7.7%) recorded a marginal decrease in the number of people with insufficient food for consumption. On the other hand, Cote d’Ivoire (5.7%) and Niger (10.6%) recorded moderate increases in people with insufficient food for consumption. In Togo, the situation did not change from the previous month.

**Table 3: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected West African countries, November 2021**18

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Total Population (millions)</th>
<th>People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*</th>
<th>People with insufficient food consumption (%)</th>
<th>Percentage of total population with insufficient food consumption (%)</th>
<th>Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)</th>
<th>Number of children under 5 (%)</th>
<th>Number of children with chronic malnutrition (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>25.10</td>
<td>10.80</td>
<td>41.58</td>
<td>57.06</td>
<td>-3.57</td>
<td>8.40</td>
<td>24.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cote d’Ivoire</td>
<td>26.00</td>
<td>15.50</td>
<td>59.60</td>
<td>59.60</td>
<td>5.57</td>
<td>10.90</td>
<td>40.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>37.50</td>
<td>37.50</td>
<td>5.57</td>
<td>8.40</td>
<td>24.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>19.10</td>
<td>10.60</td>
<td>55.50</td>
<td>55.50</td>
<td>5.57</td>
<td>8.40</td>
<td>24.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>22.40</td>
<td>15.50</td>
<td>69.00</td>
<td>69.00</td>
<td>5.57</td>
<td>10.90</td>
<td>40.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>202.00</td>
<td>65.20</td>
<td>32.30</td>
<td>32.30</td>
<td>5.57</td>
<td>8.40</td>
<td>24.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>7.90</td>
<td>15.90</td>
<td>20.10</td>
<td>20.10</td>
<td>5.57</td>
<td>8.40</td>
<td>24.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Previous month and ** Current month

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

**Food Trade Updates**

**Updates from the Intra-Africa Trade Fair (IATF2021)**

The African Union, African Export-Import Bank and the Government of the Republic of South Africa held the second Intra-Africa Trade Fair (IATF2021) in Durban, South Africa, from the 15th to the 21st of November 2021. The event provided a platform for sharing trade, investment and market information and enabling buyers and sellers, investors and government representatives to meet, discuss and conclude business deals. Key highlights and outcomes from the event that will have an impact on Regional Trade going forward include the following:

- The President of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari, called for governments on the continent to increase the availability of funds to support local entrepreneurs to increase their productive capacity. He stressed that the focus should be on incentives that will enable businesses to formalise and comply with regulations19.
- The International Trade Centre (ITC) has partnered with the African Import-Export Bank (Afreximbank) to launch a new training programme to build the capacity of small businesses to export under the

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17 https://fews.net/west-africa/nigeria Accessed 27 November 2021
18 https://hungermap.wfp.org/ Accessed on 29 October 2021
AfCFTA. The training programme will focus on various concepts, including export readiness, market research, market development, market access conditions, trade finance and international logistics.

- Multilateral financial institutions made various financial commitments towards promoting trade under the AfCFTA. The African Development Bank announced that it would invest about $2 billion in projects related to the free trade zone and mobilize a further $2 billion from partners between 2020 and 2021. The West African Development Bank announced that it made €500 million available to governments and the private sector to fend off the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.21

- The African Export Import Bank (Afreximbank) committed USD250 million as seed capital towards the establishment of an African Sub Sovereign Governments Network. This initiative is aimed at establishing an intra-continental trade investment development frontier.22

- In a transaction with Fidelity Bank, Afreximbank agreed to a USD10 million facility to Fidelity Bank to enable it to finance trade and trade-related transactions across the continent. The facility will be a one-year revolving facility for short-term trade transactions applied to projects, such as eligible exports, value-adding exports and eligible imports, in critical sectors, such as manufacturing, agriculture, power and energy.23

- Overall, by the time it came to an end, USD36 billion worth of deals were signed at the IATF.24

East Africa

Trade activities in most parts of the region increased over the past month on the back of increased demand for food, particularly in areas where production was significantly lower due to poor weather conditions, such as Kenya. Recent data from the Ministry of Agriculture shows that Kenya accounted for 58% of grain traded by East African countries between July and September. Kenya imported 155,610 metric tonnes of grain during this period, followed by South Sudan at 114,660 metric tonnes. During this period, Tanzania contributed the most in exports, accounting for 57% of total exports to Kenya, while Uganda exported 117,390 metric tonnes of maize (43 percent) to Kenya and South Sudan. Trade relations between Kenya and Uganda remain constrained as demonstrated by the impounding of 300 tonnes of fish from Kenyan traders by Uganda's Fisheries Protection Unit (FPU) at the Mpondwe Border, which was destined for the DRC.25 Further, Kenya has postponed its trade mission to Uganda until December, which was meant to resolve the sugar and milk trade standoff, which has resulted in an import ban on these commodities from Uganda.27 In other parts of the region, namely Ethiopia, trading activities were low as the ongoing conflict disrupted domestic and cross border trading activities. Restrictions at border posts are still in place, leading to disruptions in informal cross border trade activities among the vast SMEs in the region. In response to the ongoing conflict in Ethiopia, the US President announced that the USA will be suspending the country’s duty-free access to American markets from the 1st of January 2022 as it is no longer in compliance with the rules of engagement.

with the eligibility requirements for the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). The same announcement was made for Mali and Guinea.

Figure 5 below provides an update of the various events and activities recorded across different countries in East Africa over the past month, which have impacted on food trade in the region during November 2021.

**Figure 5: East Africa Cross border trade updates November 2021**

**TANZANIA**
- Business stakeholders have called to address trade barriers, including low productivity, lack of regional and international competitive culture, inefficiency of some regulatory bodies and delays in clearance at ports in order for the country to benefit from the AICFTA.
- South Africa has lifted a 10-year ban on avocados from Tanzania.
- Long clearance processes on the Kenya-Tanzania border in Lungalunga, Kwale County, have prompted traders to use alternative informal routes.
- The Cross Border Traders Association has attributed this use of informal routes to lack of information on how much it costs to cross the border and also lack other necessary certifications.

**UGANDA**
- The ongoing trade disputes between Kenya and Uganda saw the country’s imports drop by 34% in the eight months leading to August.
- Traders and transporters from Uganda have expressed their satisfaction with how the Dar es Salaam Port handles and expedites handling and clearing of their cargoes, and its transportation to the country.
- There has been an increase in online trading among women traders following the imposition of COVID-19 containment measures, which have resulted in the drop of commodity prices.
- The UK trade envoy to Uganda, Lord Dolar Popat, has committed to raise investment in Uganda’s industrial parks from £500m to £2.5bn in the next five years.

**KENYA**
- The depreciation of the Kenyan Shilling against the dollar, which saw the Shilling trading at Sh110.16 for each US dollar, is expected to increase the costs of imports in the country. With Kenya being a net food importer, this is expected to lead to an increase in food prices.
- The horticulture regulator has banned the export of avocados to curb the exporting of immature crops. The ban came into effect on the 15th of November.
- Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in partnership with Equity Group, are organising a 15-day trade mission to the DRC to promote regional trade and spur business growth.
- The Ministry of Agriculture has called for a duty waiver on the importation of yellow maize to help lower the costs of feed.
- Chinese and Kenyan traders have launched a chamber of commerce in Nairobi, seeking to connect their scattered operations in the two countries into a lobbying machinery.
- After a decade long ban on mango imports from Kenya, due to the high level of fruit flies, Kenya dispatched a delegation to Brussels to lobby for resumption of mango exports to the European Union market.
- India has announced that it will be curbing shipments of “low-priced” tea from Kenya to protect its farmers from loss of market in what is considered to be a trade spat between the two countries.
- Low produce quality, which resulted in lower prices and competition from Latin American countries on the global market, have seen Kenyan horticulture earnings dropping by Sh12 billion in 10 months to October.

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https://www.kenyanews.co.ke/kenya-drc-launch-trade-mission-to-boost-bilateral-trade
https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/kenya-delays-uganda-trp-resolve-sugar-milk-standoff-3620456
Southern Africa

The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) has reported that trade supply chains in the region remain constrained as countries are reportedly yet to fully implement the COVID-19 pandemic trade facilitation guideline provided by the regional body last year. As a result of these constrained supply chains, prices for inputs and consumables have been increasing across the member states29. In a recent move that could help boost trade across the region, IFC and Absa Bank, one of Africa's largest financial institutions, announced that they will be making a combined investment of USD 250 million towards trade finance, targeting low-income countries in Sub-Saharan Africa that were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through its Global Trade Liquidity Program (GTLP), the IFC will provide a guarantee of up to 50% for all eligible transactions issued by Absa30.

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

Figure 6: Southern Africa Food Trade Updates in November 202131

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**ZIMBABWE**

- The African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) has signed financing agreements with four Zimbabwean entities for a total of USD 188.6 million. The deals were concluded during the second Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF2021).
- The third transaction, which is a USD 28.2 million dual-tranche facility, was agreed with CBZ Bank to provide to help finance the import of raw materials for key industries, thereby creating jobs and, in some cases, facilitating export diversification.

**MOZAMBIQUE**

- Zimbabwe and Mozambique are pushing for the setting up of a pair of one-stop border posts at Forbes-Machipanda and Nyamapanda-Cuchamano and the construction of a second pipeline from Beira to Mutare and Harare.

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31 https://www.herald.co.zw/zim-mozambique-push-for-one-stop-border-posts/ Accessed 27 November 2021
West Africa

The ECOWAS Commission and the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) convened a meeting on 18 November 2021 with E-commerce focal points across the region to present the regional E-commerce strategy development project. The meeting sought to introduce the ECOWAS and UNCTAD counterparts to national e-commerce focal points and present the steps envisaged for the preparation of the regional e-commerce strategy. Both the ECOWAS Commission and UNCTAD stressed the critical role of national focal points for the successful development of the regional strategy by facilitating the engagement of national stakeholders.

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

Figure 7: West Africa Cross border Trade Updates November 2021

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**GHANA**

- The Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) has officially opened its office in Ghana, which will focus on three pillars, namely trade and investment promotion, exhibitions and business delegation in Ghana and Japan, and research and policy proposals.
- The Ghana National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GNCCI), has called for improved infrastructure to ensure a smooth implementation of digital currency and free trade in Africa.
- The African Development Bank has provided USD 40 million towards the establishment of the Development Bank Ghana (DBG) aimed at growing Ghana’s small businesses.

**NIGERIA**

- The Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) has introduced fresh standards to combat the high level of rejection faced by Nigeria’s agricultural commodities on global markets.
- The Nigerian government has announced that it is set to update Nigeria’s trade policy in order to enhance the country’s access to regional markets in preparation for effective implementation of the AICFTÁ.
- Nigerian importers and exporters have decried the N9 million duty per truck imposed by the Benin Republic Customs on transit goods passing through the country’s corridor.
- The Director of Agriculture and Agro-industry of the African Development Bank has called for increased investments in the cassava value chain to help lower the food importation.
- The Nigerian Export Promotion Council (NEPC) has announced it will implement factoring and forfaiting as instruments of financing export and trade in Nigeria.
- The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Sourcing and Produce, Mr. Lanre Awojoodu, has called on the federal government to create access to loans for exporters in their quest to be part of the regulated global commodity platform.

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Agricultural Commodities Price Monitoring

East Africa

Key drivers of commodity prices in EA

**Weather shocks**

Persistent droughts and flooding in parts of the East African region have affected crop outputs and led to price surges in most markets. Generally, these shocks are predicted to sustain higher prices through to mid-2022.

**Economic shocks**

The depletion of foreign currency reserves and the depreciation of the local currencies have resulted in inflationary pressures in some East African countries like Ethiopia and South Sudan.

**Conflicts and Insecurity**

Conflicts and insecurity in parts of Ethiopia and South Sudan have disrupted agricultural production and trading activities, causing the shortfall of commodities.

**Ethiopia:** Apart from Addis Ababa, where the maize prices dropped against their previous one-month level, prices remained higher compared to their levels during the last 3, 6, and 12 months. The ongoing armed conflict and drought conditions in parts of the region remain significant drivers of prices in Ethiopia. These conditions have contributed to the current below-average harvests and are expected to sustain price increases to mid-2022.

**Kenya:** Maize prices have moderately (5-15%) declined in Eldoret compared to 1, 3, and 6 months ago but are about 3% above its last 12-month level. In Nairobi, November prices are higher by almost 2% compared to October but 2% lower than the last 3 months levels recorded in August. Similarly, the Nairobi price levels are slightly higher than the last 6 months but lower than the last 12 months. However, in Nakuru, the most recent price available (September) shows low (0-5%) to moderate (5-15%) increases. It is anticipated that due to the below-average rainfall conditions in the current short season, Kenya would experience shortfalls in harvests and a likely price surge.

**Rwanda:** Current (October) prices were mostly higher in selected markets than their previous levels in the last 1, 3, and 6 months. However, Kigeme and Nyabiheke (Camp) prices were lower than in the last 12 months. Price forecast data from WFP shows a downward trend of maize prices in the next 3-6 months. However, this is in sharp contrast to predictions of lower outputs due to an unusual dry spell, which has hit the East African region, including Rwanda.

**South Sudan:** Maize prices are lower in most selected markets than their previous levels. For instance, in Torit and Wau, the current prices of maize were lower than the last 1, 3, 6, and 12 months. Aweil has mostly seen price surges over the last 1-6 months, but prices remain lower than 12 months ago. Despite ongoing conflicts and droughts disrupting livelihoods, trade, and humanitarian access, it is unclear what drives the observed low maize prices in South Sudan.

**Tanzania:** There were low-to-moderate maize price increases in selected markets in Tanzania compared to their levels in the last 1, 3, and 6 months, except for a few markets. Overall, the current (October) prices are relatively lower than the last 12 months. Prices in Tanzania are expected to be lower than current prices in the next 3-6 months due to some harvests in January and February 2022.

**Uganda:** Except for Kabale, maize prices have seen a low (0-5%) increase over the last month, but significantly higher (ranging from 12-61%) in all selected markets over the last 3-12 months. In Kabale, maize prices have

dropped significantly by a minimum of 81.98%. It is unclear what might have accounted for the unusual case of Kabale; however, new harvests have been reported in parts of the country.

Table 1: Changes in maize prices in selected East African Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Last Price</th>
<th>1 Month</th>
<th>3 Months</th>
<th>6 Months</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>Next 3 Months*</th>
<th>Next 6 Months*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Bir KG</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-2.19</td>
<td>24.32</td>
<td>99.46</td>
<td>91.11</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Dire Dawa, Ethiopian Bir KG</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>15.71</td>
<td>74.82</td>
<td>61.75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Nairobi, Wholesale, KES/kg</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1.99</td>
<td>-2.63</td>
<td>0.34</td>
<td>-0.67</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Nakuru, Wholesale, KES/kg</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0.26</td>
<td>7.64</td>
<td>8.18</td>
<td>4.40</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Kabange, Retail, RWF/KG</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>27.13</td>
<td>53.77</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>-6.62</td>
<td>-35.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>31.33</td>
<td>29.61</td>
<td>28.13</td>
<td>-15.57</td>
<td>-10.69</td>
<td>-15.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Muguga, Retail, RWF/KG*</td>
<td>327</td>
<td>27.27</td>
<td>46.27</td>
<td>64.02</td>
<td>7.69</td>
<td>-29.00</td>
<td>-49.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Nyabiheke (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG</td>
<td>383</td>
<td>36.25</td>
<td>49.93</td>
<td>57.64</td>
<td>-9.59</td>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>-48.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Juba, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>326</td>
<td>233.60</td>
<td>37.84</td>
<td>32.67</td>
<td>9.16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Juba, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>6.94</td>
<td>-14.28</td>
<td>-4.31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Rumbek, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>-30.51</td>
<td>26.95</td>
<td>25.23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Tori, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>-28.57</td>
<td>-25.97</td>
<td>-37.50</td>
<td>-23.08</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Yei, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>-4.59</td>
<td>-17.07</td>
<td>-15.00</td>
<td>-15.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Arusha (urban), Wholesale, TSH/KG</td>
<td>45,583</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>3.09</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>-3.72</td>
<td>-21.51</td>
<td>-24.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Kigoma, Wholesale, TSH/100KG</td>
<td>44,148</td>
<td>4.87</td>
<td>5.25</td>
<td>7.74</td>
<td>-25.98</td>
<td>-14.92</td>
<td>-9.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Morogoro, Wholesale, TSH/100KG</td>
<td>45,360</td>
<td>12.72</td>
<td>7.97</td>
<td>-4.16</td>
<td>19.39</td>
<td>-14.44</td>
<td>-8.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Moshi, Wholesale, TSH/100KG</td>
<td>59,000</td>
<td>1.76</td>
<td>-5.14</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>-9.24</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>-7.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Kabale, Wholesale, US$/KG</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>-89.51</td>
<td>-84.86</td>
<td>-41.96</td>
<td>-64.03</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Kampala, Wholesale, US$/KG</td>
<td>1088</td>
<td>3.48</td>
<td>23.26</td>
<td>50.43</td>
<td>51.99</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Lira, Wholesale, US$/KG</td>
<td>976</td>
<td>4.96</td>
<td>12.96</td>
<td>61.06</td>
<td>47.09</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Mbarara, Wholesale, US$/KG*</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>4.72</td>
<td>24.91</td>
<td>59.10</td>
<td>45.79</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Last price is for October 2021, *November, **September, ***August, ****July, and *****June

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

Except for Arusha and Kigoma in Tanzania, bean prices have dropped in all selected markets compared to their levels in the last 1-12 months. In Arusha, bean prices increased slightly (by less than 1%) over the last 1-3 months and increased moderately (about 7%) compared to the last six months. In Kigoma, bean prices have increased 5.26% and 15.85% over one and three months, respectively. Prices are expected to decrease in Rwanda and Arusha (Tanzania) in the next three months due to the new harvests but rise in Mugera and Nyabiheke in the next six months. Tanzania is expected to experience a surge in bean prices in the next 3-6 months.

37 Author’s construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)
Table 2: Changes in bean prices in selected East African Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Last Price</th>
<th>1 Month</th>
<th>3 Months</th>
<th>6 Months</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>Next 3 Months*</th>
<th>Next 6 Months*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>-29.75</td>
<td>-19.92</td>
<td>-27.83</td>
<td>-55.75</td>
<td>-22.11</td>
<td>-14.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Kigeme (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>-5.90</td>
<td>-4.09</td>
<td>-12.08</td>
<td>-41.97</td>
<td>-7.38</td>
<td>-4.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG*</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>-23.33</td>
<td>-33.21</td>
<td>-6.36</td>
<td>-58.59</td>
<td>-10.92</td>
<td>1.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Nyabihake (Camp), Retail, RWF/KG</td>
<td>966</td>
<td>-31.43</td>
<td>-20.96</td>
<td>-19.14</td>
<td>-54.20</td>
<td>-8.56</td>
<td>4.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Ausha (urban), Wholesale, TSH/100KG</td>
<td>156.075</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.62</td>
<td>7.04</td>
<td>-4.00</td>
<td>-12.26</td>
<td>-11.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Edoama (Muyengo), Wholesale, TSH/100KG</td>
<td>104.125</td>
<td>-0.20</td>
<td>-8.56</td>
<td>-10.47</td>
<td>-15.31</td>
<td>16.67</td>
<td>9.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Kigoma, Wholesale, TSH/100KG</td>
<td>142.500</td>
<td>5.26</td>
<td>15.05</td>
<td>-7.00</td>
<td>-29.49</td>
<td>-0.34</td>
<td>15.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Mongongo, Wholesale, TSH/100KG</td>
<td>108.000</td>
<td>-0.25</td>
<td>-6.46</td>
<td>-6.49</td>
<td>-0.89</td>
<td>2.99</td>
<td>5.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Moshi, Wholesale, TSE/100KG</td>
<td>156.000</td>
<td>-2.17</td>
<td>-24.37</td>
<td>-24.05</td>
<td>-30.34</td>
<td>23.89</td>
<td>13.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Kampala, Wholesale, USD/KG</td>
<td>1.571</td>
<td>-7.21</td>
<td>-14.66</td>
<td>-25.20</td>
<td>-35.81</td>
<td>-29.20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>Bean (dry)</td>
<td>Lira, Wholesale, USD/KG*</td>
<td>1.409</td>
<td>-7.33</td>
<td>-8.61</td>
<td>-31.33</td>
<td>-29.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Last price is for October 2021, *November, **September, ***August, ****July, and *****June

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

Sorghum prices have been rising in Ethiopia and Rwanda over the last 1-12 months except in Addis Ababa, where the current price is lower than its previous month level. However, sorghum prices have generally declined in South Sudan except for Aweil and Juba, where the current price is higher than its levels a month and three months ago, respectively. Again, as for other commodities, it is unclear what is driving lower prices in South Sudan despite the conflicts and unfavourable weather conditions.

Table 3: Changes in sorghum prices in selected East African Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Last Price</th>
<th>1 Month</th>
<th>3 Months</th>
<th>6 Months</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>Next 3 Months*</th>
<th>Next 6 Months*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Sorghum (red)</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Bsk/KG**</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15.90</td>
<td>65.59</td>
<td>69.86</td>
<td>97.96</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Sorghum (white)</td>
<td>Addis Ababa, Ethiopian Bsk/KG</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>-1.46</td>
<td>10.74</td>
<td>57.45</td>
<td>53.64</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Kabuga, Retail, RWF/KG</td>
<td>494</td>
<td>19.11</td>
<td>14.22</td>
<td>4.96</td>
<td>3.70</td>
<td>-3.57</td>
<td>-13.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Mugera, Retail, RWF/KG*</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>6.53</td>
<td>20.06</td>
<td>50.80</td>
<td>26.37</td>
<td>-0.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Aweil, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>-5.83</td>
<td>-44.10</td>
<td>-60.07</td>
<td>-51.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Juba, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>-3.71</td>
<td>10.32</td>
<td>-11.73</td>
<td>-2.83</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Rumbek, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>-8.67</td>
<td>-48.15</td>
<td>-37.78</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Yei, Retail, South Sudanese Pound/KG</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>-6.83</td>
<td>-16.37</td>
<td>-30.58</td>
<td>-34.67</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Last price is for October 2021, *November, **September, ***August, ****July, and *****June

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

38 Author’s construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).
39 Author’s construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).
Key drivers of maize prices in the Southern Africa region

At the start of the lean season in the Southern region, stocks from previous harvests are depleting. However, bumper harvests from the previous season are still sustaining low prices.

Conflicts and insecurity in parts of Mozambique remain a threat to agriculture activities and affected maize prices.

Maize prices in the southern Africa region are relatively lower than in the previous months. In Malawi, current maize prices are 7-38% lower than their last 6-12 months levels and stable/lower in Lilongwe/Mzimba but higher in Nsanje and Mzuzu than in the last 1-3 months. The national retail average price also shows a rise of 1.67% and 14.24% over the last 1 and 3 months, respectively. More than average rainfall in Malawi in the past season resulted in favourable harvests that contributed to sustained price declines over the period. Weather forecasts predict above-average rainfall providing favourable cropping conditions that are expected to contribute to above-average harvests in 2022. These would significantly improve food supplies and lower prices in the next 3-6 months. Maize prices are also lower than their past levels in all selected markets in Mozambique, except Massinga, where prices have risen. Generally, maize prices are expected to rise in the next 3-6 months in selected markets in Mozambique due to the setting in of the lean season and persistent conflicts in the northern part of Mozambique. Zambia’s national average price shows a low (0-5%) to moderate (5-15%) decrease compared to the last 1-6 months, but it is higher than their levels in 12 months.

South Africa plays an increasingly important role in the food supply in Southern Africa and other parts of the continent, thus contributing significantly to commodity prices. South Africa is expected to record yet another positive grain harvest of around 16 million tonnes of maize during the 2021/2022 season on the back of increased acreage and a favourable agricultural season. In addition, the country is estimated to have over 3 million tonnes of carryover stocks from the previous marketing season, which will bolster national stocks and lead to increased exports in 2022. Maize exports are currently forecast at 2.9 million tonnes. As a result of these increased exports, food prices in South Africa’s major export destination countries on the continent (Zimbabwe, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Eswatini, Lesotho, Ethiopia, Ghana, and Angola) are expected to decrease during the first quarter of next year (USDA, 2021).

Table 4: Changes in maize prices in selected Southern African Countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Last Price</th>
<th>1 Month</th>
<th>3 Months</th>
<th>6 Months</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>Next 3 Months*</th>
<th>Next 6 Months*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Lilongwe, Retail, MWKKG*</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>-35.33</td>
<td>-22.58</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Mzimba, Retail, MWKKG</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>-16.36</td>
<td>-8.80</td>
<td>-38.46</td>
<td>-30.00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Mazese, Retail, MWKKG</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>6.92</td>
<td>-4.93</td>
<td>-16.24</td>
<td>-7.33</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>National Average, MWKKG</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>1.67</td>
<td>14.24</td>
<td>-14.95</td>
<td>-23.01</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Hoenvliet, MWKKG</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>6.64</td>
<td>-7.17</td>
<td>-24.32</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Angwende, Retail, MWKKG****</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-7.56</td>
<td>-14.46</td>
<td>-24.45</td>
<td>-5.75</td>
<td>13.34</td>
<td>45.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Maputo, Retail, MWKKG**</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>-7.48</td>
<td>-7.00</td>
<td>-16.67</td>
<td>-3.99</td>
<td>17.68</td>
<td>28.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Massinga, Retail, MWKKG***</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>18.19</td>
<td>13.99</td>
<td>34.95</td>
<td>34.72</td>
<td>-11.62</td>
<td>6.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Pembra, Retail, MWKKG****</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-30.15</td>
<td>-51.62</td>
<td>-44.46</td>
<td>-4.02</td>
<td>22.02</td>
<td>64.23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>National Average, Retail, KwachaKG</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-5.57</td>
<td>-1.37</td>
<td>-12.73</td>
<td>1.41</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Last price is for October 2021, *November, **September, ***August, ****July, and *****June

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

41 https://reliefweb.int/report/malawi/gIEWS-country-brief-malawi-25-october-2021
42 Author’s construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).
West Africa

Key drivers of the price movements in West Africa include:

- **High demand**: New harvests have increased market supplies; however, the region's demand for most staples remains high above supplies and has put upward pressure on prices.\(^{43}\)

- **Armed conflicts and insecurity**: Conflicts and insecurity in parts of the region continue to hamper agricultural activities and the trading of staples across the region.

- **Macroeconomic conditions**: Improvement in macroeconomic conditions coupled with higher international oil prices in Nigeria has had a dampening effect on prices.\(^{44}\)

Compared to the last six and 12 months, current maize prices are higher in most selected markets in West Africa. **Cote d’Ivoire**: Maize prices have declined in Korhogo compared to the last 1-12 months, while in Man, current prices are lower than their levels in 1-3 months but higher than their levels in 6-12 months. Ongoing harvests in the region account for these declines.

**Ghana**: Maize prices have declined in Techiman but increased in Kumasi over the last 1-3 months. In Accra, maize prices have increased over the last month but remained stable compared to the last three months. Also, in Bolga, the price has declined over the last month but increased compared to the last three months. Depleted stocks due to high demand and below-average harvest in 2020 accounts for sustained price increases in parts of Ghana.

**Mali**: Prices have remained unchanged in Ansongo, Badabougou, and Gao but increased in Faladie, Kayes Centre, and Niarela for the last one month. Compared to the last three months, prices have increased in all selected markets in Mali except in Gao, where the price remained unchanged. On-going harvests contribute to sustaining low prices.

**Nigeria**: Maize prices have declined in all selected markets over the last month, and also in Kano and Kara Namoda for the last three months but increased in Ibadan, Lagos, and Maiduguri. Although persistent conflicts and insecurity have driven up prices in the past, new harvests lowered prices compared to last month. However, these prices have been well above their levels in the past 6-12 months.

**Togo**: Compared to the last 1-3 months, selected maize market prices have declined or remained constant due to the main maize harvests in August and September. Nonetheless, these prices remained well above their six and 12 months levels, except in Cinkasse and Kara, where prices are lower than their six-month level.

Regarding the outlook of maize prices in the region, Mali is expected to see a moderate (5-15%) decline in all selected markets. At the same time, Cote d’Ivoire and Ghana are expected to experience declines in some markets and a rise in prices in other markets. The reason is the mix of new harvests and high demand in some parts of these countries.

---


Table 5: Changes in maize prices in selected West African countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Last Price</th>
<th>1 Month</th>
<th>3 Months</th>
<th>6 Months</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>Next 3 Months</th>
<th>Next 6 Months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Côte d'Ivoire</td>
<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Krotop, Retail, XOF/Kg</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>8.56</td>
<td>-9.12</td>
<td>-10.93</td>
<td>-12.62</td>
<td>-3.41</td>
<td>17.59</td>
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<td>Maize (white)</td>
<td>Man, Retail, XOF/Kg</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
<td>Accra, Wholesale, GHS/100Kg</td>
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<td>80.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Maize</td>
<td>Bodija, Wholesale, GHS/100Kg</td>
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<td>60.06</td>
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<td>15.76</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
<td>Ansongo, Retail, XOF/Kg**</td>
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<td>25.00</td>
<td>-6.19</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
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<td>Faladie, Retail, XOF/Kg**</td>
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<td>21.95</td>
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<td>-12.21</td>
<td>-10.56</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
<td>Gao, Retail, XOF/Kg**</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
<td>Nacera, Retail, XOF/Kg**</td>
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<td>25.00</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
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<td>3.56</td>
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<td>27.16</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
<td>Maiduguri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**</td>
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<td>Armagunan, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG</td>
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<td>Togo</td>
<td>Maize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Togo</td>
<td>Maize</td>
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<td>Maize</td>
<td>Kato, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG</td>
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<td>-10.00</td>
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<td>Konborgou, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG</td>
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<td>-5.36</td>
<td>25.09</td>
<td>32.84</td>
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</table>

Note: Last price is for October 2021, *November, **September, ***August, ****July, and *****June

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

**Burkina Faso**: Millet prices have mostly increased in Faramana, Gourcy, Ouargaye, and Titao over the last 1-12 months. Prices have declined in Batie and Bousse but remained constant in Dori and Ouagadougou over the last month. Despite the ongoing harvests and increasing supplies, conflicts and insecurity in the northern part of the country continue to affect prices significantly.

**Mali**: Millet prices have increased in Ansongo, Badalabougou, and Faladie while remaining unchanged in Gao and Niarela over 1-12 months. Kayes Centre has experienced price declines compared to the last one and 12 months but increased compared to the last three and six months. A mix of factors such as conflicts and new harvests, depending on locality, drove the observed changes in prices.

**Niger and Nigeria**: Millet prices declined over the last 1-3 months due mainly to ongoing crop harvests, while there was a price surge compared to the last 6-12 months. The next 3-6 months forecast shows a general price decline in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger. Armed conflicts continue to disrupt economic activities in certain areas, which is reflected in higher prices despite new harvests that have generally increased stock and trading of millet.

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45 Author’s construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021).
Sorghum prices have generally declined across selected markets in the region compared to the last month due to the new harvests. Except for Nigeria, sorghum prices in most selected markets have either remained the same or have declined compared to the last three months. Also, sorghum prices in Badalabougou, Faldie, Gao, and Niarela remained the same as in the previous 1, 3, 6, and 12 months. However, markets such as Ansongo, Kayes Centre, Abalak, and Maiduguri have generally seen a price surge over the same comparable period. Current prices in Nigeria and Togo were relatively higher than in the last six and 12 months, except Lome, where the price has declined. A mix of conflicts, macroeconomic factors, and new harvest explain the rise/drop in prices in specific locations in these markets. In terms of the outlook for the next 3-6 months, sorghum prices are generally expected to decline between 0.15-10.92% in selected markets in Mali and Niger. This is due mainly to new harvests that are expected to be sufficient for the period.

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Author’s construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)
Table 7: Changes in sorghum prices in selected West African countries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Market</th>
<th>Last Price</th>
<th>1 Month</th>
<th>3 Months</th>
<th>8 Months</th>
<th>1 Year</th>
<th>Next 3 Months*</th>
<th>Next 6 Months*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Ansongo, Retail, XOF/KG**</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>-5.50</td>
<td>10.59</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>2.19</td>
<td>-5.14</td>
<td>-2.26</td>
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<td>Mali</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Badiabougou, Retail, XOF/KG**</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>-2.44</td>
<td>-8.04</td>
<td>-7.22</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Faladié, Retail, XOF/KG**</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>-10.92</td>
<td>-6.42</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Gao, Retail, XOF/KG**</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Kayes Centre, Retail, XOF/KG**</td>
<td>263</td>
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<td>Mali</td>
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<td>-12.57</td>
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<td>Niger</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Bontoune, Retail, XOF/KG</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>-6.46</td>
<td>-4.51</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>5.77</td>
<td>9.68</td>
<td>-2.26</td>
</tr>
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<td>Niger</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Gouye, Retail, XOF/KG</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>-7.98</td>
<td>-14.95</td>
<td>-4.73</td>
<td>3.41</td>
<td>-12.47</td>
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<td>Bada, Wholesale, Naira/KG**</td>
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<td>13.09</td>
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<td>9.30</td>
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<td>Nigeria</td>
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<td>Kano, Wholesale, Naira/KG**</td>
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<td>Lagos, Wholesale, Naira/KG**</td>
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<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
<td>Madiugiri, Wholesale, Naira/KG**</td>
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<td>Togo</td>
<td>Sorghum</td>
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<td>Korhogo, Retail, CFA Franc BCEAO/KG</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Note: Last price is for October 2021, *November, **September, ***August, ****July, and *****June

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

47 Author’s construction based on data from WFP (2021) and FAO (2021)
Climatic Conditions and Potential Implications for Food and Nutrition Security

The rainfall forecasts for East Africa indicate persistent drier than usual conditions for December and December to February (Figure 8). The FSNWG climate forecasts for the region also project drier than usual conditions over the equatorial and southern regions. Also, the FSNWG indicates that in October and November, parts of Kenya, Somalia, southern and south-eastern Ethiopia experienced rainfall deficits of between 40 and 70 percent. Rainfall anomalies are also expected to persist across the region. These conditions would significantly impact crop outputs in marginal and vulnerable areas of the region. The persistent drought conditions and interactions with other shocks, such as the prolonged impacts of the COVID-19 containment measures, macroeconomic shocks, armed conflicts and insecurity in some parts of the region, is likely to contribute to severe food insecurity in 2022. Similar to last month, the interaction of these shocks is impacting food supplies and putting pressure on prices, rising cereal prices in the affected areas. As reported last month, the above-normal rainfall forecasts persist in parts of Southern Africa, particularly in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. The good rains continue to provide favourable cropping conditions and point to projected good harvests across the region. Similar to last month, the forecasts for West Africa indicate below-average rainfall in most parts of the region.

Figure 8: North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) rainfall forecast for December 2021 and the season (December 2021 – February 2022), based on November 2021 initial conditions

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

48 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

In early November, small swarms of locusts were detected in southern and northern Ethiopia, northeast Kenya, and northeast Somalia (FAO, 2020; FSNWG, November 2020). Like last month, persistent drought conditions across the region limit the risk of desert locust spread. Control operations and close monitoring continue in the affected areas.

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

Figure 10: Horn of Africa desert locust breeding timeline

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