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AFRICA FOOD TRADE AND RESILIENCE INITIATIVE

The monthly Food Security Monitor is a critical tool for stakeholders across the African agricultural landscape. This report equips policymakers, practitioners, and the wider community with vital insights to navigate challenges, prioritize interventions, and ultimately build a more food-secure future for all. This 44th edition provides an overview of the food security situation and market prices across East, South, and West Africa.

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Summary

Our monthly Food Security Monitor is one way, AGRA makes data available to key stakeholders to underpin evidence-based decision-making. Highlights from the February 2024 Food Security Monitor are summarised below:

Food Security Updates

Emergency food security situation arise in Southern Africa, particularly in Zambia. Prolonged El Niño driven dry spell and heat wave had hit most of Southern Africa, with Zambia particularly being affected by 35-60% of crop losses, leading the Zambian government to declare a state of national disaster. Although neighboring countries of Malawi, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe have not taken a similar step, the situation is almost similar and competition for food among them (e.g. from East Africa) will just worsen the situation. According to Oxfam, over 6 million people in Zambia are likely facing acute food insecurity and malnutrition over the ensuing months. In Malawi, about 4.4 million people across the country are projected to be food insecure, requiring humanitarian assistance, according to an IFPRI report. Also, nearly 3.5 million people in Zimbabwe are projected to be acutely food insecure through to end of March 2024, driven by high food prices, macroeconomic challenges, and reduced agricultural outputs from the previous cropping season.

In **Eastern Africa**, high food insecurity concerns remain with close to 4 million people in Ethiopia impacted by the failed Meher harvests, and 5.7 million people in South Sudan are at risk of crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3+ or equivalent) conditions according to the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) report.

In **West Africa**, nearly 3 million people in Burkina Faso are projected to face acute food insecurity (Crisis IPC Phase 3 and above) during the 2024 June to August lean season due to the persisting conflict, mainly in northern and eastern areas.

Globally, both the FAO Food Price Index and the International Grain Council's (IGC) Grain and Oil Index (GOI) presented declines in all major grain prices driven by expectations of large harvests in Argentina and Brazil, along with counter-competitive prices offered by Ukraine and Russia.

Food Trade Updates

In **East Africa**, the Government of Tanzania, through a US$91.76 million facility from AfDB, plans to construct a modern railway that connects Burundi and DRC to improve the movement of goods and services.

In **Southern Africa**, the Government of Zambia has restricted the export of maize and mealie meal (maize flour) as well as soya beans meal and cake due to a prolonged dry spell that will likely affect the harvest.

In **West Africa**, ECOWAS lifted sanctions against Guinea and Mali, resuming dialogue with the three military regimes, Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, which withdrew from the economic bloc.

Food Commodity Prices Updates

In **East Africa**, cereal, except wheat, prices are generally lower than they were in the past 1-12 months in most countries, except in Ethiopia and South Sudan, where there are increases due to largely conflicts and below-average seasonal harvests. Despite just concluded harvests in Ethiopia, maize prices are between 23% and 58% higher than in the past year in the monitored markets.

In **Southern Africa**, maize prices remain above the levels recorded in the past 3-12 months as the lean season in the region peaks. In Malawi, maize prices were 61% and 146% higher in Lilongwe than in the past 6 and 12 months, respectively.

Cereal prices in **West Africa** remained generally stable or declined due to increased seasonal supplies from the past season.

Introduction

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

Food Security Dashboard

The Food Security Dashboard (Table 1 and Figure 1) offers a concise overview of fluctuations in the number of people experiencing Insufficient Food Consumption (IFC)[1], snapshots of hunger hotspots, and average changes in food prices[2] over the past two years. **Figure 1** displays the prevalence of IFC in February across 17 countries selected from East, Southern, and West Africa. During this month, three food insecurity hotspots, defined as countries where over 50% of the total population has IFC, were identified, i.e., Burkina Faso (56.6%), Mali (69.1%), and Niger (82.6%) with Nigeria (49.5) inching towards this mark. Over the past month, the number of people with IFC remained unchanged in most countries except Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, and Rwanda, where it declined, and in Tanzania and Zimbabwe, where it increased. However, compared to the previous year, the number of people with IFC increased in Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Zimbabwe, while it declined in the remaining countries.

On the other hand, the national average maize prices, compared to the past six months, declined in most countries, except in Cote d'Ivoire, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, and Zambia. Both Burkina Faso and Mali experienced a decline in their national average price of millet compared to the past 6 and 12 months.

Table 1: Insufficient Food Consumption and Commodities Price Changes

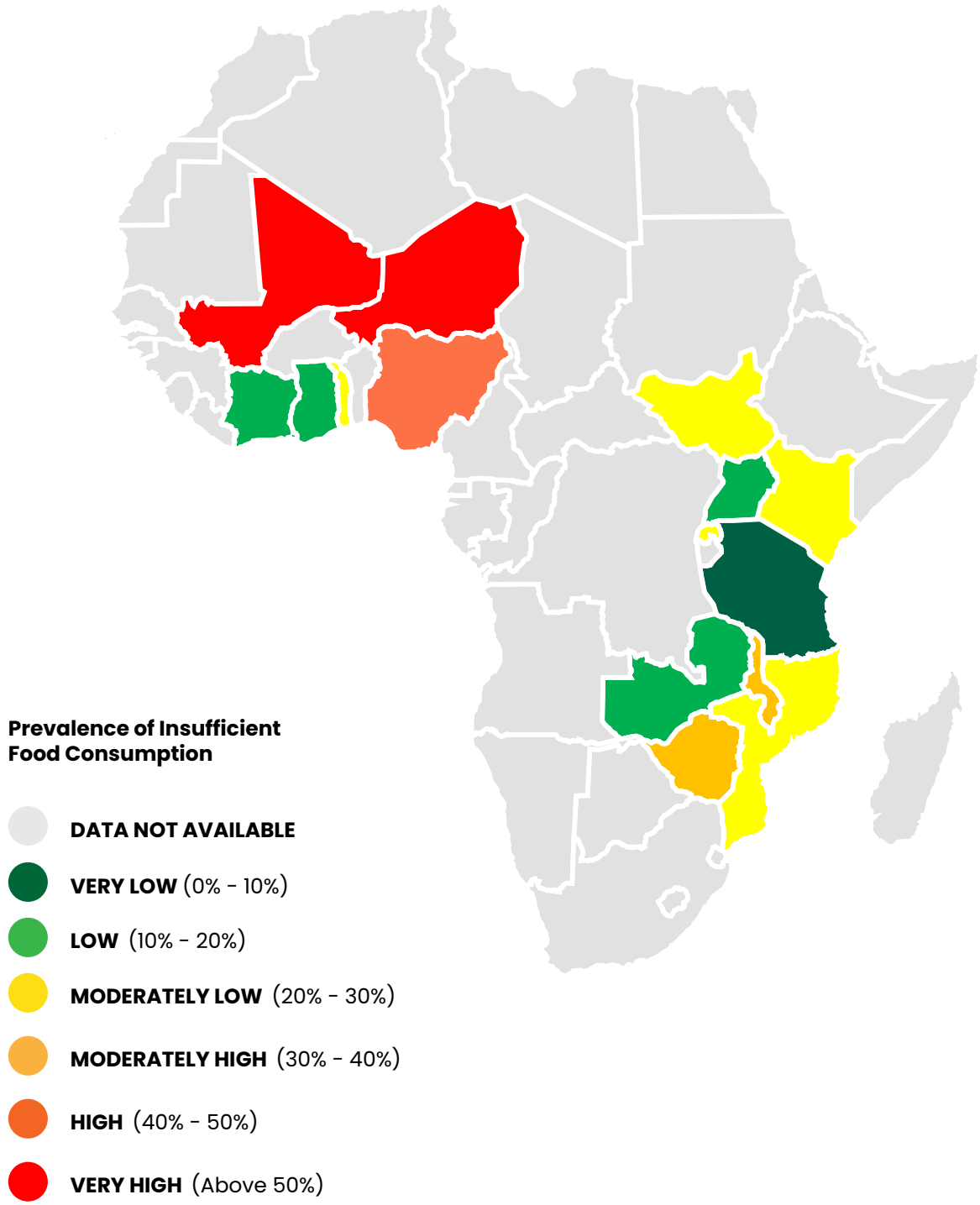
Country	Change (%) in people with insufficient food consumption from last 1 Month		Change (%) in people with insufficient food consumption from last 1 year		Commodity Price Changes (%) in the last 6 months		Commodity Price Changes (%) in the last 1 year	
Burkina Faso	0.00	○	-4.27	↓	-4.35	↓	-6.48	↓
Cote d'Ivoire	-2.08	↓	6.82	↑	6.70	↑	5.94	↑
Ethiopia					-7.38	↓	33.28	↑
Ghana	0.00	○	-19.40	↓	-58.96	↓	-55.26	↓
Kenya	0.00	○	52.81	↑	-40.62	↓	-39.03	↓
Malawi	0.00	○	74.36	↑	46.03	↑	56.01	↑
Mali*	0.00	○	-5.04	↓	-8.33	↓	-17.79	↓
Mozambique	0.00	○	20.63	↑	29.86	↑	22.03	↑
Niger	0.00	○	18.89	↑	1.73	↑	5.90	↑
Nigeria	-0.30	↓	68.74	↑	-27.43	↓	-44.62	↓
Rwanda	-7.14	↓	-13.33	↓	-19.35	↓	-27.44	↓
South Sudan	0.00	○	-48.39	↓	-14.99	↓	65.49	↑
Tanzania	4.00	↑	-5.45	↓	-24.48	↓	-36.12	↓
Togo	0.00	○	-29.63	↓	-5.33	↓	1.11	↑
Uganda	0.00	○	-51.52	↓	-36.56	↓	-33.76	↓
Zambia	0.00	○	135.71	↑	52.01	↑	71.06	↑
Zimbabwe	30.77	↑	41.67	↑				

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

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

[2] *Maize is the main commodity being tracked on this dashboard, except in Mali and Burkina Faso, where we use millet. The price changes presented here are average price changes over a number of selected markets, which implies that in specific markets, the prices may be higher or lower.*

Figure 1: Hunger Hotspots Snapshot, February 2024



Global Market Update

The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) (Figure 2) saw a 0.7% drop in February, driven by declines in the price indices for cereals and vegetable oils counterbalanced by increases in the indices for sugar, meat, and dairy products. This decline also represents a 10.5% drop from its corresponding value one year ago. The International Grain Council's (IGC) Grain and Oil Index (GOI) (Table 2) showed a decline in all major grain indices except that of rice which rose 31.34% compared to the past one year respectively. Declines in cereal prices are driven by expectations of large harvests in Argentina and Brazil, along with counter-competitive prices offered by Ukraine and Russia. The rise in dairy and meat product prices are driven by strong demand from particularly Asia, while sugar price surges is underpinned by seasonal outlook concerns from large exporting countries such as Brazil, Thailand, and India.

Figure 2: FAO Food Price Index (FFPI)[3]

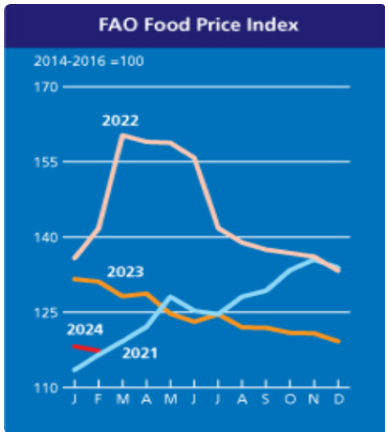
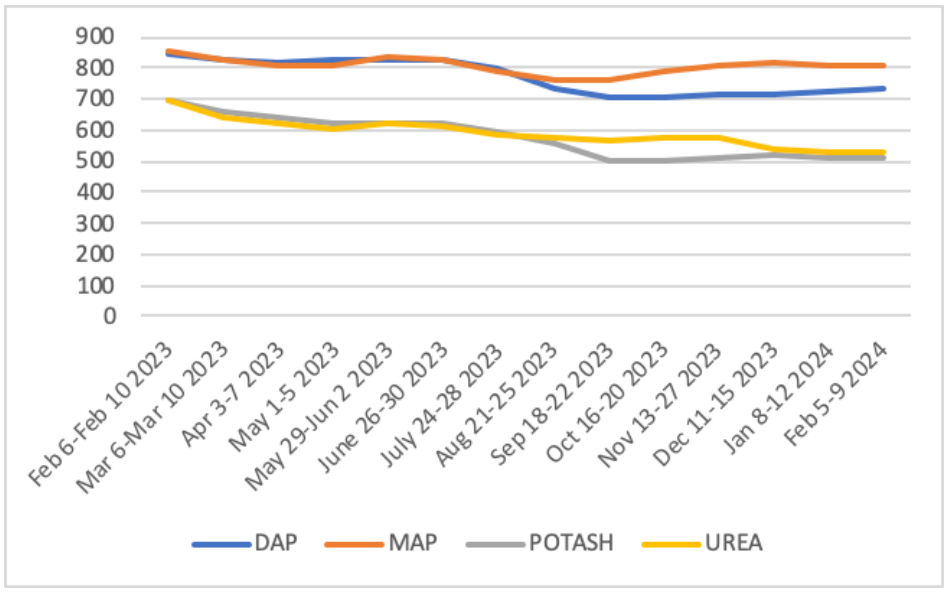


Table 2: IGC GOI Commodity Price Indices

Jan 2000 = 100	28-Feb	% Change 1M	% Change 1Y
GOI	221.90	-6.83	-24.11
Wheat	204.58	-6.84	-23.10
Maize	189.99	-10.67	-35.66
Rice	256.61	-3.60	31.34
Soya Beans	209.83	-6.68	-28.56
Barley	205.73	-6.08	-27.72

Global Fertiliser Prices

Figure 3: Global Fertiliser Prices ($/ton)



All monitored fertilisers have experienced an uptick in prices in February except Potash, which had a minor 0.4% decline. Nonetheless, all monitored fertilisers' prices remain significantly below their levels seen a year ago, ranging from 5.6% for MAP to 26.8% for Potash.

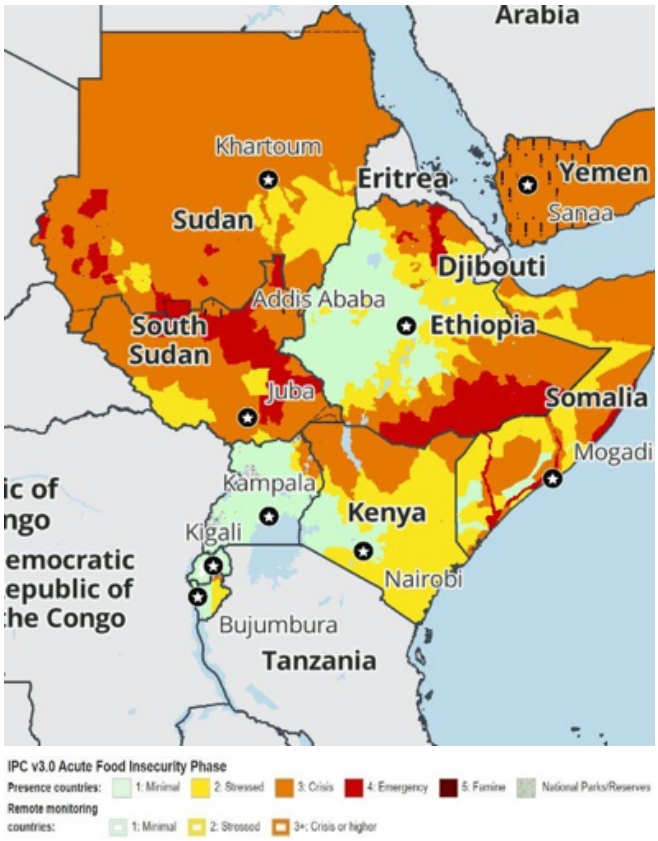
Source: Author's construction based on DTN[4]

[3] https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/
[4] https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2024/02/14/retail-fertilizer-prices-see-slight

East Africa Food Insecurity Updates

Food Security Outlook

Figure 4: East African Countries Food Security Outlook, November 2023 - January 2024



Ethiopia: high food insecurity concerns remain across the country as close to 4 million people in the country are estimated to be impacted by the drought driven by El Niño conditions that led to failed Meher harvests.[5] Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes mostly persist across the country.

Kenya: 1.5 million people are at risk of crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3+ or equivalent), according to the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) report.

South Sudan: according to the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) report, crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3+ or equivalent) conditions may affect over 5.7 million people in South Sudan. This is due to the negative impacts of conflict, poor macroeconomic conditions, the effect of high returnees, and faster-than-normal depletion of household food stocks.

Uganda: close to 1.2 million people are at risk of crisis or worse (IPC Phase 3+ or equivalent) conditions, according to the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) report. Nonetheless, the majority of the population is experiencing IPC Phase 1 conditions due to above-average harvests.

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

As of 27th February 2024, the number of people across five selected East African countries (excluding Ethiopia, where data was unavailable) (see Table 4) who did not have sufficient food for consumption remained the same, at 32.6 million, as in the previous month, which means that the number of people with insufficient food for consumption had improved over 2023 (40.1 million) and 2022 (35.7 million). Table 4 below provides updates on variations in the prevalence of insufficient food consumption across the selected East African countries in February 2024.

[5] *Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) report*

Table 3: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption across selected East African countries (February 2024)

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 1yr ago (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 2yrs ago (%)
Kenya	51.40	13.60	13.60	26.46	0.00	52.81	74.36
Rwanda	12.30	2.60	2.80	21.14	-7.14	-13.33	4.00
South Sudan	11.00	3.20	3.20	29.09	0.00	-48.39	-51.52
Tanzania	56.30	5.20	5.00	9.24	4.00	-5.45	10.64
Uganda	42.70	8.00	8.00	18.74	0.00	-51.52	-43.26

*Current month and **Previous month

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

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

Nutrition[6]

Table 4: Acute and Chronic Malnutrition (WFP Hunger Map) [7]

Country	Acute malnutrition of Children under 5 (%)	Chronic malnutrition of Children under 5 (%)
Kenya	4.2	26.2
Rwanda	2	36.9
South Sudan	22.7	31.3
Tanzania	3.5	31.8
Uganda	3.5	28.9

Close to 23% of children under the age of five in South Sudan are acutely malnourished, while in other monitored East African countries, this is low, below 5%. Nonetheless, chronic malnutrition remains significant, ranging from 26% in Kenya to 36.9% in Rwanda.

[6] ***Updated*: Annually or when available. Acute malnutrition:** *also known as 'wasting', acute malnutrition is characterized by a rapid deterioration in nutritional status over a short period. In children, it can be measured using the weight-for-height nutritional index or mid-upper arm circumference. There are different levels of severity of acute malnutrition: moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM).* ***Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM):*** *also known as severe wasting, SAM is defined by a very low weight for height (below -3z scores of the median WHO child growth standards) or by a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) less than 115 mm or by visible signs of severe wasting, or by the presence of nutritional oedema.* ***Moderate Acute Malnutrition:*** *Also known as moderate wasting, MAM is defined by weight for height between -3 and -2 z-scores of the median WHO child growth standards or by a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) between 115 mm and 125 mm.* ***Chronic malnutrition:*** *also known as 'stunting', chronic malnutrition is a form of growth failure that develops over a long period due to inadequate nutrition (including poor maternal nutrition and poor infant and young child feeding practices) and/or repeated infections. It is defined as the percentage of children aged 0 to 59 months who have low height for their age. Height for age < -2 standard deviations from the median height for age of reference population = Stunting. Height for age < -3 standard deviations from the median height for age of reference population = Severe stunting.*

[7] *Author's construction based on the WFP Hunger Map*

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of commodity prices in EA [8]

	**Conflicts**	Conflicts and insecurity persist, particularly in South Sudan and Ethiopia, preventing price recovery from high levels despite ongoing harvests.
	**Seasonal Dynamics**	Seasonal harvests are increasing supplies in most markets and resulting in price declines. However, droughts and flooding have negatively impacted harvests and prevented price recovery in certain areas.
	**Macroeconomic Shocks**	Poor macroeconomic conditions, an influx of returning refugees, and localized poor harvests have particularly sustained higher prices in South Sudan.

Maize

Maize prices across the East African region remain lower than they were in the past 1-12 months, except in Ethiopia and South Sudan, where there are increases due to largely conflicts and below-average seasonal harvests (Table 5). Maize prices are particularly lower, between 33.7% in Uganda and 39% in Kenya compared to the past year. Although Ethiopian maize prices declined or experienced low increases compared to the previous month, they remain higher than a year ago, at a minimum above 23% in the selected markets. South Sudan's national average maize price remains 14.12% and 65.49% above the previous month and a year ago, respectively. Typically, except in Ethiopia and South Sudan, where conflicts and below-average seasonal harvests occurred due to unfavourable climatic conditions, the East African region, particularly in Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya, has generally had an increased supply of maize from the seasonal harvests in the last quarter of 2023. [9]

Table 5: Percentage Changes in Maize Prices in East Africa [10]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	Bahir Dar kebele 04, Retail, ETB/100kg*	4,800.00	4.35 ▲	-4.00 ↘	14.97 ↑	58.68 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	Bale Robe, Retail, ETB/100kg*	4,000.00	1.91 ▲	4.58 ▲	-4.76 ↘	23.08 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	Hawassa , Retail, ETB/100kg*	4,475.00	-0.56 ↘	-4.11 ↘	-8.67 ↓	
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	Hosaena, Retail, ETB/100kg*	4,000.00	0.00 ●	17.65 ⊗	-15.79 ↓	25.00 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	Nekemte Town, Retail, ETB/100kg*	3,307.50	-2.97 ↘	0.61 ▲	-20.45 ↓	25.64 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	Shashemene Town, Retail, ETB/100kg*	4,466.67	-0.30 ↘	31.37 ⊗	-9.58 ↓	34.00 ⊗
Kenya	White Maize	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	45.17	-49.48 ↓	-69.65 ↓	-40.62 ↓	-39.03 ↓
Rwanda	Maize	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	472.48	-5.88 ↓	-19.61 ↓	-19.35 ↓	-27.44 ↓
Rwanda	Maize (flour)	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	953.70	-2.24 ↘	-5.12 ↓	-0.42 ↘	-6.64 ↓
South Sudan	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, SSP/Kg	768.10	14.12 ↑	13.08 ↑	-14.99 ↓	65.49 ⊗
Tanzania	Maize (Mahindi)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG*	73,333.33	-2.22 ↘	-16.57 ↓	-24.48 ↓	-36.12 ↓
Uganda	Maize (flour)	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg**	2,822.75	-4.28 ↘	-7.85 ↓	-16.68 ↓	-17.67 ↓
Uganda	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg**	1,324.45	-5.16 ↓	-13.48 ↓	-36.56 ↓	-33.76 ↓

Note: Last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

[8] *Fewsnet, 2024*
[9] *Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG)*
[10] *Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, South Sudan & Uganda, 2) national MIS Ethiopia, Kenya & Tanzania*

Rice

Generally, rice prices in the three monitored East African countries appeared lower, as is typical around these times, than in the past 1 and 12 months (Table 6). Specifically, Kenya and Tanzania have registered lower prices than in the past 1-12 months, with the current price being 21.6% higher than a year ago. On the other hand, Rwanda's current (January 2024) price remains above what was seen 3 and 6 months ago by 0.73% and 19.22%, respectively.

Table 6: Percentage Changes in Rice prices in East Africa [11]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Rice	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	129.10	-2.12 ↘	-12.67 ↓	-17.54 ↓	-21.60 ↓
Rwanda	Rice	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	1,200.00	-2.49 ↘	0.73 ▲	19.22 ⊗	-1.37 ↘
Tanzania	Rice (Mchele)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG*	236,666.67	-0.35 ↘	-11.36 ↓	-5.18 ↓	-19.06 ↓

Note: Last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

Beans

Generally, bean prices in the selected East African countries (Table 7) are lower than in the past 1-12 months. Nonetheless, the cost of yellow-green beans in Kenya is 25.51% higher than in January 2024, while the Ugandan national average price is higher by 7.24% than the same time a year ago. Improved supplies from the short rain (October-December) seasonal harvests in most East African countries have dampened bean prices.

Table 7: Percentage Changes in Beans prices in East Africa [12]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Beans (Yellow-Green)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	203.60	25.51 ⊗	-17.45 ↓	-2.70 ↘	-5.88 ↓
Kenya	Beans Red Haricot (Wairimu)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	119.77	-1.94 ↘	-19.86 ↓	-17.86 ↓	-6.15 ↓
Rwanda	Beans	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	544.85	-20.52 ↓	-47.99 ↓	-49.97 ↓	-44.01 ↓
Tanzania	Beans (Maharage)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG*	250,000.00	0.00 ●	-7.58 ↓	-4.36 ↘	-16.67 ↓
Uganda	Beans	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg**	3,659.60	-6.42 ↓	-15.05 ↓	-21.37 ↓	7.24 ↑

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

[11] *Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, 2) national MIS Kenya & Tanzania*
[12] *Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda & Uganda, 2) national MIS Kenya & Tanzania*

Wheat Prices

Wheat prices remain largely above their levels compared to the past 1-12 months, except in a few areas where the current prices are below their previous months' (1-3) levels (Table 8). Although in Ethiopia, prices have declined (particularly in Bahir Dar Kebele, Hawassa, and Hosaina of Ethiopia) or experienced low increases (0-5%) compared to the past 1-3 months in most selected markets, the current price remains well above their one-year level with Bale Robe recording the highest at 78%. Similarly, the current wheat prices in Kenya remain significantly above what was recorded 1-3 months ago, at 42.17% and 36.43%, respectively, but lower than six months ago. Macroeconomic challenges, including rapid depreciation of the local currencies and the rising cost of importation of wheat caused by the Red Sea attacks, are gradually taking a toll on wheat prices in the East African region. [13]

Table 8: Percentage Changes in Wheat prices in East Africa [14]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	Bahir Dar kebele 04, Retail, ETB/100kg*	8,562.50	-2.14 ↘	4.58 ▲	55.68 ⊗	68.72 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	Bale Robe, Retail, ETB/100kg*	6,250.00	4.60 ▲	2.46 ▲	22.55 ⊗	78.57 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	Hawassa , Retail, ETB/100kg*	7,500.00	-6.25 ↓	-9.09 ↓	13.64 ↑	
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	Hosaena, Retail, ETB/100kg*	6,500.00	-1.02 ↘	0.00 ●	13.64 ↑	35.42 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	Nekemte Town, Retail, ETB/100kg*	6,930.00	3.45 ▲	17.72 ⊗	34.91 ⊗	69.35 ⊗
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	Shashemene Town, Retail, ETB/100kg*	6,833.33	0.20 ▲	1.23 ▲	6.77 ↑	35.76 ⊗
Kenya	Wheat	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	85.30	42.17 ⊗	36.43 ⊗	-39.76 ↓	2.47 ▲
South Sudan	Wheat (flour)	National Average, Retail, SSP/Kg	1,775.00	8.35 ↑	15.26 ⊗	-18.92 ↓	59.73 ⊗

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

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

[13] https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/east-africa-braces-for-further-rise-in-food-fuel-prices-over-red-sea-crisis-4512884

[14] *Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, 2) national MIS Ethiopia & Kenya*

Fertiliser Prices

Fertiliser prices show mixed trends across the region (Table 9). Whereas in Ethiopia, the prices of all monitored fertilisers have had a low (0-5%) rise compared to 1-6 months but below the one-year level, in Rwanda, the prices of all fertilisers had declined compared to the past 1-6 months. In Kenya, except CAN, the national average prices of DAP and NPK are all above their recorded levels in the past 1-12 months. Uganda, on the other hand, shows mixed results. Whereas the prices of all types of fertilisers are generally higher than in the past 1-3 months, they remain mostly lower than in the past 6-12 months.

Table 9: Percentage Changes in Fertiliser prices in East Africa [15]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	NPS 19-38-0 + 7S	National Average, USD/50KG**	35.19	1.38 ▲	4.14 ▲	3.87 ▲	-12.66 ↓
Ethiopia	NPSB 18.9-37.7-0 + 6.95S + 0.1B	National Average, USD/50KG**	35.31	1.38 ▲	4.10 ▲	4.01 ▲	-13.31 ↓
Ethiopia	Urea	National Average, USD/50KG**	35.64	1.37 ▲	4.06 ▲	4.30 ▲	-14.70 ↓
Kenya	Fertilizer (CAN)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	93.19	-32.76 ↓	-42.15 ↓	-34.96 ↓	-32.88 ↓
Kenya	Fertilizer (DAP)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	254.40	100.83 ⊗	22.69 ⊗	52.95 ⊗	97.68 ⊗
Kenya	Fertilizer (NPK)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG*	129.99	25.83 ⊗	22.69 ⊗	43.69 ⊗	4.16 ▲
Rwanda	DAP	National Average USD/50KG	49.77	-1.19 ↘	-3.68 ↘	-7.83 ↓	
Rwanda	NPK 17-17-17	National Average USD/50KG	50.32	-1.20 ↘	-3.69 ↘	-7.86 ↓	
Rwanda	Urea	National Average USD/50KG	38.40	-1.08 ↘	-3.59 ↘	-7.74 ↓	
Uganda	AMMONIUM SULPHATE	National Average, Retail, UGX/50Kg*	160,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-8.57 ↓
Uganda	CAN	National Average, Retail, UGX/50Kg*	115,000.00	9.52 ↑	4.55 ▲	-8.00 ↓	-34.66 ↓
Uganda	DAP	National Average, Retail, UGX/50Kg*	180,000.00	5.88 ↑	20.00 ⊗	20.00 ⊗	-21.74 ↓
Uganda	MICROP	National Average, Retail, UGX/50Kg*	145,000.00	3.57 ▲	-3.33 ↘	-3.33 ↘	-19.44 ↓
Uganda	MICROP TOP DRESSING	National Average, Retail, UGX/50Kg*	120,000.00	9.09 ↑	-7.69 ↓	-14.29 ↓	-35.14 ↓
Uganda	Urea	National Average, Retail, UGX/50Kg*	135,000.00	0.00 ●	3.85 ▲	3.85 ▲	-31.82 ↓

Note: Last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

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

Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions

In Kenya, harvesting the long-cycle crops has been completed in the eastern part of the country, and preparation for the short rain (March-May) planting is underway in the eastern and the northern rift regions. In Uganda, second-season harvesting, drying, and storing activities are completed in bimodal areas, while in Karamoja, the early onset of the lean season has been reported. [16]

In South Sudan, the lean season has set in with a predicted depletion of household stocks due to high demand from returnees from Sudan as conflicts heightened.

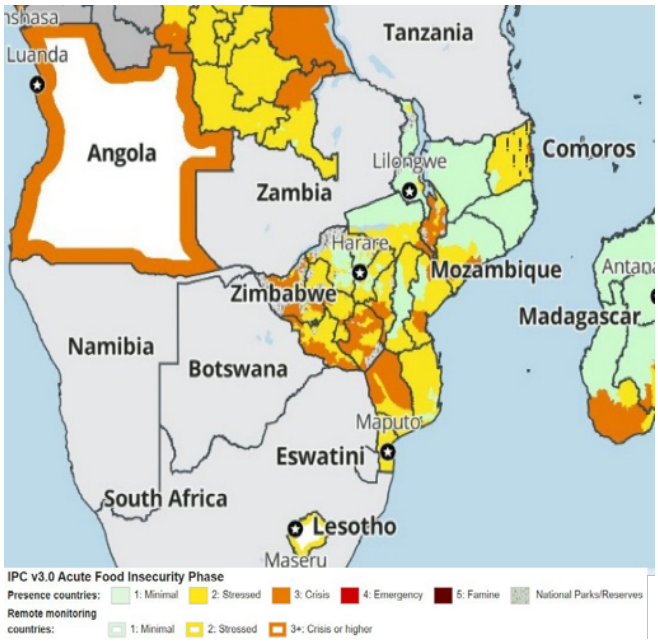
[15] *Author's construction based on 1) AfricaFertilizer.org for Ethiopia & Rwanda, 2) National MIS for Kenya; 3) AFAP for Uganda*

[16] https://reliefweb.int/report/uganda/uganda-key-message-update-crisis-ipc-phase-3-outcomes-persist-refugees-despite-favorable-second-season-harvest-january-2024

Southern Africa Food Security Updates

Food Security Outlook

Figure 5: Southern African Countries Food Security Outlook, October 2023 - January 2024



Malawi: The Malawi Vulnerability Assessment Committee projects that 4.4 million people across Malawi will be food insecure and require humanitarian assistance, with the Southern region accounting for about 56% of these people (IFPRI 2024). Meanwhile, IPC Phase 2 & 3 outcomes mostly persist across the country due to humanitarian food assistance and are expected to improve after the harvests from March despite the likelihood of reduced production. [17]

Mozambique: Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Stressed (IPC Phase 2) outcomes are present in the southern and central areas as well as areas most affected by the conflict. This condition is expected to continue till September due to the adverse effects of El Niño, which will result in below-average harvests. [18]

Zimbabwe: Nearly 3.5 million people are projected to be acutely food insecure through to at least March 2024, driven by high food prices, macroeconomic challenges, and reduced agricultural outputs from the previous cropping season in 2022/23 in southern and western provinces. [19]

Zambia: Emergency food security situation are highly prevalent in Southern Africa, particularly in Zambia. Prolonged El Niño driven dry spell and heat wave had particularly affected 35-60% of crops in Zambia, leading the Zambian government to declare a state of national disaster on 29th February 2024. According to Oxfam, over 6 million people in Zambia are likely facing acute food insecurity and malnutrition over the ensuing months.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

As of February 27, 2024, 22.8 million people across four selected Southern African countries (see Table 10) did not have sufficient food for consumption, which is 1.2 million more people than what was recorded on January 31 (21.6 million), which is a deterioration in the region's food security situation compared to January 2024. Zimbabwe mainly contributed to this increment, as all other countries remain unchanged. The current number of people who are food insecure is higher than recorded in the same period last year (15.2 million) and 2022 (21.3 million).

[17] https://fews.net/southern-africa/malawi
[18] https://fews.net/southern-africa/mozambique/food-security-outlook/february-2024
[19] https://reliefweb.int/report/zimbabwe/giews-country-brief-zimbabwe-21-february-2024

Table 10: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (February 2024)

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 1yr ago (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 2yrs ago (%)
Malawi	18.10	6.80	6.80	37.57	0.00 ●	74.36 ↑	134.48 ↑
Mozambique	29.50	7.60	7.60	25.76	0.00 ●	20.63 ↑	-26.21 ↓
Zambia	17.40	3.30	3.30	18.97	0.00 ●	135.71 ↑	13.79 ↑
Zimbabwe	15.20	5.10	3.90	33.55	30.77 ↑	41.67 ↑	-1.92 ↘

**Current month and **Previous month*

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

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

Nutrition [20]

Table 11: Acute and Chronic Malnutrition (WFP Hunger Map) [21]

Country	Acute malnutrition of Children under 5 (%)	Chronic malnutrition of Children under 5 (%)
Malawi	1.3	39
Mozambique	4.4	42.3
Zambia	4.2	34.6
Zimbabwe	2.9	23.5

Although acute malnutrition remains relatively low in the selected Southern African countries (Table 11), chronic malnutrition remains significant, particularly in Mozambique (42.3%), Malawi (39%), and Zambia (34.6%).

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of prices in the Southern Africa region

	**Seasonality Patterns**	Most Southern African countries are experiencing seasonal declines in grain supplies as the lean season takes full effect, putting upward pressure on prices.
	**Weather Shocks**	The aftermath of the cyclone, drought shocks, and heavy flooding early in the planting season led to below-average harvests from the past season, resulting in higher food prices.
	**Macroeconomic Shocks**	Poor macroeconomic conditions, caused by forex shortages, high food inflation, and high debt repayments, drive high food prices.

[20] ***Updated: Annually or when available.***

Acute malnutrition: *Also known as 'wasting', acute malnutrition is characterized by a rapid deterioration in nutritional status over a short period. In children, it can be measured using the weight-for-height nutritional index or mid-upper arm circumference. There are different levels of severity of acute malnutrition: moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM): Also known as severe wasting, SAM is defined by a very low weight for height (below -3z scores of the median WHO child growth standards) or by a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) less than 115 mm or by visible signs of severe wasting, or by the presence of nutritional oedema. Moderate Acute* ***Malnutrition:*** *Also known as moderate wasting, MAM is defined by weight for height between -3 and -2 z-scores of the median WHO child growth standards or by a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) between 115 mm and 125 mm.*

Chronic malnutrition: *Also known as 'stunting', chronic malnutrition is a form of growth failure which develops over a long period due to inadequate nutrition over long periods (including poor maternal nutrition and poor infant and young child feeding practices) and/or repeated infections. It is defined as the percentage of children aged 0 to 59 months who have low height for their age. Height for age < -2 standard deviations from the median height for age of reference population = Stunting. Height for age < -3 standard deviations from the median height for age of reference population = Severe stunting.*

[21] *Author's construction based on Hunger Map*

Maize

Maize prices in the Southern African region remain above the levels recorded in the past 3-12 months, as the lean season in the region peaks (Table 12). Also, climatic shocks, conflicts, and macroeconomic challenges in the Southern African region continue to limit agriculture productivity and trade, putting upward pressure on food prices. However, the price of maize in Lilongwe and the national average price of maize in Zambia dropped over the past one month. In Malawi, high food prices are linked to low productivity and weak macroeconomic conditions caused by the balance of payments challenges, which put upward pressure on the prices of all imported goods, including agricultural inputs and food (IFPRI, 2024). However, ongoing humanitarian assistance has lowered prices in the last month.

Table 12: Percentage Changes in maize prices in Southern Africa [21]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Malawi	Maize	Lilongwe, MWK/Kg**	800.00	5.96 ↑	14.29 ↑	61.62 ⊗	146.15 ⊗
Malawi	Maize	Liwonde, MWK/Kg**	851.50	-1.45 ↘	11.16 ↑	50.11 ⊗	72.02 ⊗
Malawi	Maize	Mzimba, MWK/Kg**	634.63	-1.91 ↘	7.61 ↑	38.11 ⊗	34.10 ⊗
Malawi	Maize	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg**	618.00	-2.68 ↘	3.82 ▲	27.82 ⊗	36.35 ⊗
Malawi	Maize	National Average, MWK/Kg**	730.50	-1.81 ↘	4.81 ▲	46.03 ⊗	56.01 ⊗
Malawi	Maize	Nsanje, MWK/Kg**	756.13	-1.80 ↘	9.94 ↑	64.73 ⊗	52.37 ⊗
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/Kg**	34.29	0.00 ●	20.02 ⊗	50.00 ⊗	50.00 ⊗
Mozambique	Maize (white)	Montepuez, Retail, MZN/Kg**	28.57	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	15.39 ⊗	53.85 ⊗
Mozambique	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, MZN/Kg**	27.51	-4.10 ↘	3.36 ▲	29.86 ⊗	22.03 ⊗
Zambia	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, Kwacha/KG	7.99	9.49 ↑	18.58 ⊗	52.01 ⊗	71.06 ⊗

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

Rice

The prices of food commodities in selected markets of Malawi remain elevated, although only marginally increased over the previous month (Table 13). The current price in Lilongwe is 16.5% and 28.5% higher than 6 and 12 months ago. On the other hand, rice prices in Mozambique remain stable or have declined, except for Montepuez, whose current price is 9% higher than a year ago.

Table 13: Percentage Changes in rice prices in Southern Africa [22]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Malawi	Rice	Lilongwe, MWK/Kg**	1,800.00	1.41 ▲	12.50 ↑	16.50 ⊗	28.57 ⊗
Malawi	Rice	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg**	1,900.00	2.15 ▲	5.56 ↑	10.95 ↑	11.76 ↑
Mozambique	Rice (imported)	Maputo, Retail, MZN/Kg**	50.00	0.00 ●	-2.44 ↘	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Mozambique	Rice (imported)	Montepuez, Retail, MZN/Kg**	60.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	9.09 ↑
Mozambique	Rice (imported)	National Average, Retail, MZN/Kg**	57.15	2.04 ▲	-5.85 ↓	-4.40 ↘	3.87 ▲

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

[21] *Author's construction based on FAO data*
[22] *Author's construction based on FAO data*

Fertilisers Prices

The national average price of all types of fertilisers in Mozambique remains mostly stable or lower than it was 1-12 months ago (Table 14). In Zambia, however, the current price of urea and NPK fertilisers are above their levels seen in the past 1-3 months, but still below their one-year levels.

The national average price of all types of fertilisers in Mozambique remains primarily stable or lower than 1-12 months ago (Table 14). In Zambia, however, the current price of urea and NPK fertilisers is above the previous 1-3 months but still below its one-year levels.

Table 14: Table 14: Percentage Changes in Fertiliser Prices in Southern Africa [23]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Mozambique	NPK 12-24-12	Nationa Average, MZN/50KG	3,101.00	0.00 ●	-1.43 ↘	-0.48 ↘	1.27 ▲
Mozambique	NPK 23-10-5 +3S + 1Zn	Nationa Average, MZN/50KG	2,791.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-4.06 ↘	-6.66 ↓
Mozambique	Urea	Nationa Average, MZN/50KG	3,144.00	0.00 ●	-0.38 ↘	-6.18 ↓	-5.10 ↓
Zambia	NPK 10-20-10 + 6S	National, ZMW/50KG***	863.60	5.57 ↑	6.79 ↑	-2.09 ↘	-5.23 ↓
Zambia	Urea	National, ZMW/50KG***	858.67	4.12 ▲	4.67 ▲	1.02 ▲	-8.26 ↓

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions

Drought conditions in parts of Southern Africa and flooding in Tanzania and Zambia worsen and threaten cropping conditions.[24] In Malawi, the ongoing El Niño climatic event brings prolonged dry spells to southern parts of Malawi as it often did, with maize production expected to be below normal in the 2023/24 agricultural season (IFPRI, 2024).

In Mozambique, below-average harvest is expected at the national level, mainly due to the negative effects of El Niño which is affecting most of the country except for northern parts of Niassa and Cabo Delgado provinces.[25]

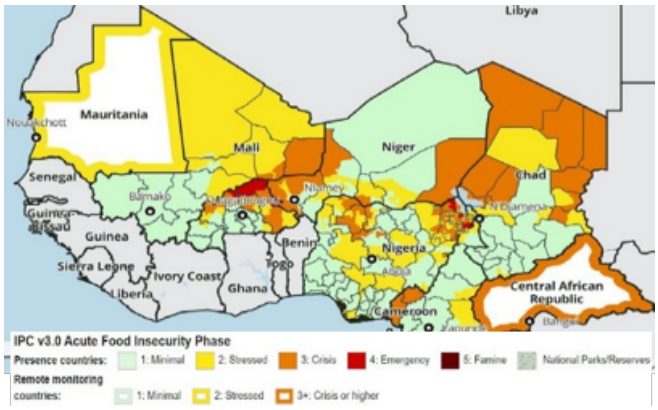
In Zimbabwe, planting of the summer 2024 cereal crops was completed later than usual due to the delayed onset of seasonal rainfall, with the western parts of the country experiencing one of the driest starts of the rainy season (typically October-May) in the last 40 years, potentially resulting in a shorter growing season and raising concerns for cereal yield potentials (FAO GIEWS Country Brief, February 2024).

[23] *Author's construction based on AfricaFertilizer.org*
[24] https://fews.net/global/global-weather-hazards/february-2024-2
[25] https://fews.net/southern-africa/mozambique/food-security-outlook/february-2024

West Africa Food Security Updates

Food Security Outlook

Figure 6: West African Countries Food Security Outlook, October 2023 - January 2024



Burkina Faso: nearly 3 million people are projected to face acute food insecurity (Crisis IPC Phase 3 and above) during the 2024 June to August lean season period due to the persisting conflict, mainly in northern and eastern areas, which has reduced agricultural, trading and humanitarian activities (FAO GIEWS Country Brief, February 2024).

Mali: conflicts and high food prices generally drive Stressed (IPC Phase 2) and Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes. This is further expected to be perpetuated by the early and harsher lean season.[26]

Prevalence of insufficient food consumption

As of 27th February 2024, 158.2 million people across seven selected West African countries had insufficient food for consumption, a decline of 400,000 people (see Table 15). This is an indication of improvement in the food security situation across the monitored countries over the past one month. The prevalence of insufficient food consumption remains significantly high in Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, with as high as 82.63%, 69.11%, and 56.57% of their populations, respectively, having insufficient food for consumption. This figure is also substantially above last year's period (116.9 million people) and two years ago (106.5 million people).

Table 15: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected West African countries (February 2024)

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 1yr ago (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 2yrs ago (%)
Burkina Faso	19.80	11.20	11.20	56.57	0.00 ●	-4.27 ↘	-0.88 ↘
Cote d'Ivoire	29.40	4.70	4.80	15.99	-2.08 ↘	6.82 ↗	-14.55 ↓
Ghana	29.80	5.40	5.40	18.12	0.00 ●	-19.40 ↓	0.00 ●
Mali	19.10	13.20	13.20	69.11	0.00 ●	-5.04 ↘	11.86 ↑
Niger	25.90	21.40	21.40	82.63	0.00 ●	18.89 ↑	44.59 ↑
Nigeria	202.80	100.40	100.70	49.51	-0.30 ↘	68.74 ↑	80.58 ↑
Togo	7.90	1.90	1.90	24.05	0.00 ●	-29.63 ↓	-9.52 ↘

**Current month and **Previous month*

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

[26] https://fews.net/west-africa/mali

Nutrition[27]

Table 16: Acute and Chronic Malnutrition (WFP Hunger Map)

Country	Acute malnutrition of Children under 5 (%)	Chronic malnutrition of Children under 5 (%)
Burkina Faso	8.4	24.9
Cote d'Ivoire	6.1	21.6
Ghana	6.8	17.5
Mali	9	26.9
Niger	14.1	48.5
Nigeria	6.8	36.8
Togo	5.7	23.8

As in Table 16, chronic malnutrition among children under the age of five dominates in Niger (48.5%) and Nigeria (36.8%) in West Africa. On the other hand, Niger (14.1%) and Burkina Faso (8.4%) have the most significant number of children under age five being acutely malnourished.

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of the price movements in West Africa include [28]

	**Insecurity & Armed Conflicts**	Conflict, insecurity, and political tension in West Africa continue to disrupt agriculture, trade, and food assistance activities, resulting in higher food prices.
	**Macroeconomic Challenges**	Poor macroeconomic conditions, driven by local currency depreciations and high fuel and transport costs, are increasing food prices in some West African countries.
	**Seasonal Dynamics**	Seasonal harvests in most West African countries are improving food availability and lowering or stabilizing prices.

[27] ***Updated: Annually or when available***. *Acute malnutrition: Also known as 'wasting', acute malnutrition is characterized by a rapid deterioration in nutritional status over a short period. In children, it can be measured using the weight-for-height nutritional index or mid-upper arm circumference. There are different levels of severity of acute malnutrition: moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) and severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Severe* ***Acute Malnutrition (SAM):*** *Also known as severe wasting, SAM is defined by a very low weight for height (below -3z scores of the median WHO child growth standards) or by a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) less than 115 mm or by visible signs of severe wasting, or by the presence of nutritional oedema. Moderate Acute Malnutrition: Also known as moderate wasting, MAM is defined by weight for height between -3 and -2 z-scores of the median WHO child growth standards or by a mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) between 115 mm and 125 mm.*
Chronic malnutrition: *Also known as 'stunting', chronic malnutrition is a form of growth failure which develops over a long period due to inadequate nutrition over long periods (including poor maternal nutrition and poor infant and young child feeding practices) and/or repeated infections. It is defined as the percentage of children aged 0 to 59 months who have low height for their age. Height for age < -2 standard deviations from the median height for age of reference population = Stunting. Height for age < -3 standard deviations from the median height for age of reference population = Severe stunting.*
[28] *Fewsnet 2024*

Maize

Overall, maize prices remain lower than in the past 1-12 months in most monitored markets of West Africa (Table 17). Except for Togo, the current prices are well below what was recorded in the past month, with Kumasi (Ghana) registering as much as a 52.73% drop in maize price. Similarly, except for selected markets in Niger, and Anié and Lomé in Togo, most maize prices remain lower than a year ago. **Most West African countries have had increased supplies from seasonal harvests from the last quarter of 2023, which helped reduce prices.**[29] Also, humanitarian food assistance in conflict-affected countries and the release of cereals from national food reserves at subsidised prices such as Burkina Faso have contributed to lower prices in the region (FAO GIEWS Country Brief, February 2024).

Table 17: Percentage Changes in maize prices in West Africa [30]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ghana	Maize	Kumasi, Retail, GHC/KG	3.11	-52.73 ↓	-56.83 ↓	-66.11 ↓	-65.96 ↓
Ghana	Maize	Sekondi/Takoradi, Retail, GHC/KG	4.56	-2.61 ↘	-0.09 ↘	-63.33 ↓	-55.49 ↓
Ghana	Maize (white)	Accra, Retail, Ghc/KG	3.60	-4.13 ↘	-5.61 ↓	-47.44 ↓	-44.34 ↓
Niger	Maize	Agadez, Retail, XOF/Kg**	360.00	-10.00 ↓		5.88 ↑	5.88 ↑
Niger	Maize	Dosso, Retail, XOF/Kg**	286.00	0.00 ●	-17.10 ↓	19.17 ⊗	-5.92 ↓
Niger	Maize	Maradi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	265.00	-1.85 ↘	-26.80 ↓	-10.17 ↓	12.77 ↑
Niger	Maize	Niamey, Retail, XOF/Kg**	272.00	-8.11 ↓	-28.42 ↓	7.94 ↑	7.51 ↑
Niger	Maize	Tillaberi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	290.00	-8.81 ↓	-25.06 ↓	-2.68 ↘	0.69 ▲
Niger	Maize	Zinder, Retail, XOF/Kg**	269.00	-2.18 ↘	-21.80 ↓	-9.73 ↓	14.47 ↑
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Giwa, NGN/KG**	182.50	-10.98 ↓	-6.41 ↓	-40.89 ↓	-51.56 ↓
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Ibadan, NGN/KG**	260.00	-4.83 ↘	-0.76 ↘	-21.57 ↓	-31.76 ↓
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Kano, NGN/KG**	219.18	-4.12 ↘	-4.36 ↘	-25.51 ↓	-46.77 ↓
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Kaura Namoda, NGN/KG**	219.35	-5.91 ↓	-0.36 ↘	-26.31 ↓	-45.74 ↓
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Lagos, NGN/KG**	245.75	-0.43 ↘	-5.48 ↓	-14.89 ↓	-43.76 ↓
Nigeria	Maize (white)	Maiduguri, NGN/KG**	210.00	-1.87 ↘	-3.45 ↘	-35.38 ↓	-48.15 ↓
Togo	Maize (white)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg	255.00	13.33 ↑	13.33 ↑	2.00 ▲	-0.78 ↘
Togo	Maize (white)	Anie, XOF/Kg	240.00	11.63 ↑	11.63 ↑	-3.61 ↘	9.09 ↑
Togo	Maize (white)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	250.00	13.64 ↑	11.11 ↑	-5.66 ↓	-0.79 ↘
Togo	Maize (white)	Kara, XOF/Kg	250.00	0.00 ●	-7.41 ↓	-14.09 ↓	-0.79 ↘
Togo	Maize (white)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	247.00	12.27 ↑	12.27 ↑	-5.00 ↓	-1.20 ↘
Togo	Maize (white)	Lomé, XOF/Kg	270.00	10.20 ↑	3.85 ▲	-5.59 ↓	1.12 ▲

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

[29] https://fews.net/west-africa
[30] *Author's construction based on FAO data*

Rice

The prices of rice across the monitored markets in West Africa show mainly stability and declines compared to the past 1-12 months, except in Niger, where it dominantly indicates a surge in rice prices compared to the past 3-12 months (Table 18). In Burkina Faso, specifically, rice prices were high in Dori and Ouagadougou compared to the past 1-12 months, with Dori registering a 20% increment over the past year. Also, the price of imported rice in Tamale is 18.2% and 10.7% higher than in the past month and three months, respectively. In Mali, the price of imported rice has been higher in Gao and Kayes than in the past 1-12 months. Although Nigeria's current prices are significantly lower than a year ago, most markets have recorded low to moderate increases in rice prices over the past 1-6 months.

Table 18: Percentage Changes in rice prices in West Africa [31]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	BBobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,000.00	5.00 ▲	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	48,000.00	4.35 ▲	6.67 ↑	9.09 ↑	20.00 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Kongoussi, Wholeslae, XOF/100 kg	43,000.00	0.00 ●	1.18 ▲	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	46,000.00	15.00 ↑	17.95 ⊗	19.48 ⊗	10.84 ↑
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,500.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-1.16 ↘
Cote d'Ivoire	Rice	Abidjan, Retail, XOF/Kg**	589.00	1.73 ▲	-1.17 ↘	6.70 ↑	5.94 ↑
Cote d'Ivoire	Rice (imported	Abidjan, Retail, XOF/Kg**	503.00	0.60 ▲	0.20 ▲	7.71 ↑	13.29 ↑
Ghana	Rice (imported)	Accra, Retail, Ghc/KG	5.28	0.08 ▲	1.01 ▲	-73.59 ↓	-47.18 ↓
Ghana	Rice (imported)	Kumasi, Retail, GHC/KG	5.94	-2.30 ↘	-2.11 ↘	-60.82 ↓	-37.64 ↓
Ghana	Rice (imported)	Sekondi/Takoradi, Retail, GHC/KG	6.65	-0.65 ↘	5.30 ↑	-49.40 ↓	-54.30 ↓
Ghana	Rice (imported)	Tamale, Rice (imported), Retail, GHC/KG	6.95	18.20 ⊗	10.70 ↑	-41.83 ↓	-60.16 ↓
Mali	Rice	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	40,500.00	-10.68 ↓	-11.96 ↓	-11.96 ↓	-11.96 ↓
Mali	Rice	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	45,000.00	-1.02 ↘	-35.71 ↓	-5.26 ↓	0.00 ●
Mali	Rice	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	50,000.00	-3.85 ↘	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Mali	Rice	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	40,000.00	0.00 ●	-9.09 ↓	-11.11 ↓	-11.11 ↓
Mali	Rice	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	43,750.00	9.38 ↑	-7.89 ↓	-7.89 ↓	-4.89 ↘
Mali	Rice	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	45,000.00	5.88 ↑	-5.26 ↓	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Mali	Rice (imported)	Bamako,Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	43,000.00	-5.23 ↓	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Mali	Rice (imported)	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	60,000.00	31.88 ⊗	-14.29 ↓	33.33 ⊗	42.86 ⊗
Mali	Rice (imported)	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	45,000.00	13.92 ↑	12.50 ↑	18.42 ⊗	11.11 ↑
Mali	Rice (imported)	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	44,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	10.00 ↑
Mali	Rice (imported)	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	44,000.00	0.00 ●	10.00 ↑	-7.37 ↓	4.76 ▲
Niger	Rice (imported)	Agadez, Retail, XOF/Kg**	700.00	4.95 ▲	16.67 ⊗	40.00 ⊗	40.00 ⊗
Niger	Rice (imported)	Dosso, Retail, XOF/Kg**	700.00	0.00 ●	12.00 ↑	40.00 ⊗	40.00 ⊗
Niger	Rice (imported)	Maradi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	600.00	-7.69 ↓	5.82 ↑	33.33 ⊗	33.33 ⊗
Niger	Rice (imported)	Niamey, Retail, XOF/Kg**	650.00	-0.76 ↘	9.43 ↑	30.00 ⊗	30.00 ⊗
Niger	Rice (imported)	Tillaberi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	800.00	0.00 ●	14.29 ↑	60.00 ⊗	60.00 ⊗
Nigeria	Rice (imported)	Giwa, NGN/KG**	780.00	0.52 ▲	0.00 ●	6.12 ↑	-20.06 ↓
Nigeria	Rice (imported)	Ibadan, NGN/KG**	710.00	8.90 ↑	0.28 ▲	9.57 ↑	-37.00 ↓
Nigeria	Rice (imported)	Kaura Namoda, NGN/KG**	668.80	1.10 ▲	0.74 ▲	-2.15 ↘	-40.85 ↓
Nigeria	Rice (imported)	Lagos, NGN/KG**	881.00	0.52 ▲	5.57 ↑	13.42 ↑	-19.98 ↓
Nigeria	Rice (imported)	Maiduguri, NGN/KG**	855.00	1.54 ▲	1.79 ▲	2.40 ▲	-27.54 ↓
Togo	Rice (imported)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg	505.00	-6.48 ↓	-9.82 ↓	-11.40 ↓	-9.82 ↓
Togo	Rice (imported)	Anie, XOF/Kg	460.00	-8.00 ↓	-6.12 ↓	-4.17 ↘	0.00 ●
Togo	Rice (imported)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	460.00	-6.12 ↓	-1.08 ↘	-1.08 ↘	0.00 ●
Togo	Rice (imported)	Kara, XOF/Kg	455.00	-4.21 ↘	-8.08 ↓	-6.19 ↓	-1.09 ↘
Togo	Rice (imported)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	485.00	-4.90 ↘	-10.19 ↓	-10.19 ↓	-3.00 ↘
Togo	Rice (imported)	Lomé, XOF/Kg	465.00	-7.92 ↓	-5.10 ↓	-5.10 ↓	1.09 ▲

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

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

[31] *Author's construction based on FAO data*

Millet

Overall, the price of millet across the selected West African markets shows mostly declines (Table 19). However, compared to the past month, Bobo-Dioulasso, Kumasi, Tamale, and Zinder have significantly increased millet prices at 22.64%, 12.74%, 19.01%, and 6.37%, respectively. Similarly, compared to a year ago, Tenkodogo, Dosso, Tillaberi, and Zinder markets have seen a 7.41%, 8.2%, 15.88%, and 21.89% rise in millet prices, respectively.

Table 19: Percentage Changes in millet prices in Ghana [32]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Millet	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	32,500.00	22.64	-8.45	-8.45	-10.96
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	-1.96	-3.85	0.00	-3.85
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	33,000.00	-2.94	-5.71	-4.35	-5.71
Burkina Faso	Millet	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	26,000.00	-3.70	-3.70	-3.70	-13.33
Burkina Faso	Millet	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,500.00	0.00	1.85	-8.33	-8.33
Burkina Faso	Millet	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	24,250.00	1.04	-1.02	-3.00	-13.39
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	26,500.00	0.00	-3.64	-3.64	-3.64
Burkina Faso	Millet	Tenkodogo, Wholsale, XOF/100 kg	29,000.00	-6.45	-3.33	-3.33	7.41
Ghana	Millet	Accra, Retail, Ghc/KG	3.62	-36.14	-36.94	-61.46	-61.46
Ghana	Millet	Kumasi, Retail, GHC/KG	4.89	12.74	11.30	-54.88	-43.18
Ghana	Millet	Sekondi/Takoradi, Retail, GHC/KG	4.89	-0.50	-1.39	-61.06	-51.82
Ghana	Millet	Tamale, Retail, GHC/KG	4.28	19.01	15.42	-50.25	-53.08
Mali	Millet	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	20,500.00	-54.76	-14.58	-10.87	-18.00
Mali	Millet	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	30,000.00	-33.97	-3.23	-7.69	-14.29
Mali	Millet	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	27,000.00	-3.57	-6.90	0.00	-30.77
Mali	Millet	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	23,000.00	-4.17	-2.13	-11.54	-13.21
Mali	Millet	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	18,250.00	4.29	-3.95	-3.95	-23.96
Mali	Millet	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	22,500.00	0.00	18.42	-10.00	-10.00
Mali	Millet	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	30,000.00	0.00	-14.29	-14.29	-14.29
Niger	Millet	Agadez, Reail, XOF/Kg**	296.00	-6.33	-11.90	-6.33	-11.11
Niger	Millet	Dosso, Retail, XOF/Kg**	277.00	-1.42	-16.06	-1.07	8.20
Niger	Millet	Maradi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	239.00	-5.53	-17.87	-11.15	4.37
Niger	Millet	Niamey, Retail, XOF/Kg**	275.00	-3.85	-24.66	-8.94	-7.72
Niger	Millet	Tillaberi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	321.00	-0.93	-18.53	-10.08	15.88
Niger	Millet	Zinder, Retail, XOF/Kg**	284.00	6.37	-4.05	20.34	21.89
Nigeria	Millet	Giwa, NGN/KG**	225.00	-1.75	-3.23	-34.31	-43.57
Nigeria	Millet	Ibadan, NGN/KG**	291.50	-0.58	-0.85	-14.20	
Nigeria	Millet	Kano, NGN/KG**	249.18	-2.39	-9.18	-19.53	-38.75
Nigeria	Millet	Kaura Namoda, NGN/KG**	242.20	-7.88	1.09	-21.55	-43.38
Nigeria	Millet	Lagos, NGN/KG**	286.00	0.70	-6.46	-8.99	-36.09
Nigeria	Millet	Maiduguri, NGN/KG**	237.50	1.50	4.40	-20.83	-39.49

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

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

[32] *Author's construction based on FAO data*

Sorghum

Similar to millet prices, the prices of sorghum remain largely stable or lower than in the past 1-12 months across the West African selected markets (Table 20). However, compared to one year ago, Dori and Fada-Ngourma in Burkina Faso as well as all the selected markets in Togo have experienced moderate price increases, while Tillaberi and Zinder in Niger have had an 18% and 49.41% uptick in sorghum price. Similarly, compared to the past month, the markets of Tamale (Ghana) and Segou (Mali) recorded a 13.99% and 12.86% surge in sorghum prices.

Table 20: Percentage Changes in prices in Mali [33]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	22,000.00	2.33 ▲	-2.22 ↘	0.00 ●	-4.35 ↘
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,500.00	-5.17 ↓	-8.33 ↓	-8.33 ↓	5.77 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	24,000.00	0.00 ●	-2.04 ↘	-2.04 ↘	6.67 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	22,000.00	2.33 ▲	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-4.35 ↘
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	20,000.00	-4.76 ↘	-9.09 ↓	-9.09 ↓	0.00 ●
Ghana	Sorghum	Accra, Retail, Ghc/KG	5.01	-24.89 ↓	-27.52 ↓	-29.88 ↓	-46.11 ↓
Ghana	Sorghum	Kumasi, Retail, GHC/KG	4.47	2.12 ▲	1.10 ▲	-55.33 ↓	-45.12 ↓
Ghana	Sorghum	Sekondi/Takoradi, Retail, GHC/KG	4.64	0.00 ▲	0.63 ▲	-63.09 ↓	-54.10 ↓
Ghana	Sorghum	Tamale, Retail, GHC/KG	4.26	13.99 ↑	10.63 ↑	-45.21 ↓	-47.83 ↓
Mali	Sorghum	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	19,000.00	-58.15 ↓	-17.39 ↓	-13.64 ↓	-15.56 ↓
Mali	Sorghum	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	30,000.00	0.00 ●	-14.29 ↓	-14.29 ↓	0.00 ●
Mali	Sorghum	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	23,000.00	-14.81 ↓	4.55 ▲	-8.00 ↓	-17.86 ↓
Mali	Sorghum	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	23,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-4.17 ↘	4.55 ▲
Mali	Sorghum	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	19,750.00	12.86 ↑	-1.25 ↘	-1.25 ↘	-12.22 ↓
Mali	Sorghum	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	18,000.00	0.00 ●	-10.00 ↓	-10.00 ↓	-18.18 ↓
Niger	Sorghum	Agadez, Retail, XOF/Kg**	300.00	-6.25 ↓	-10.98 ↓	-5.36 ↓	-10.98 ↓
Niger	Sorghum	Maradi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	226.00	-14.39 ↓	-33.33 ↓	-12.74 ↓	9.71 ↑
Niger	Sorghum	Niamey, Retail, XOF/Kg**	290.00	-10.22 ↓	-18.54 ↓	-2.68 ↘	-3.33 ↘
Niger	Sorghum	Tillaberi, Retail, XOF/Kg**	295.00	1.03 ▲	-25.13 ↓	-18.28 ↓	18.00 ⊗
Niger	Sorghum	Zinder, Retail, XOF/Kg**	254.00	1.20 ▲	-14.48 ↓	13.39 ↑	49.41 ⊗
Nigeria	Sorghum (white)	Ibadan, NGN/KG**	280.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-21.13 ↓	-46.15 ↓
Nigeria	Sorghum (white)	Kano, NGN/KG**	204.53	-5.96 ↓	-16.24 ↓	-21.05 ↓	-43.70 ↓
Nigeria	Sorghum (white)	Kaura Namoda, NGN/KG**	230.50	-7.58 ↓	-3.92 ↘	-23.86 ↓	-46.14 ↓
Nigeria	Sorghum (white)	Lagos, NGN/KG**	283.00	0.86 ▲	2.54 ▲	-5.47 ↓	-50.09 ↓
Nigeria	Sorghum (white)	Maiduguri, NGN/KG**	192.50	2.39 ▲	-8.33 ↓	-28.04 ↓	-49.01 ↓
Togo	Sorghum	Anie, XOF/Kg	285.00	-24.00 ↓	-8.06 ↓	-18.57 ↓	7.55 ↑
Togo	Sorghum	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg	275.00	-21.43 ↓	-11.29 ↓	-8.33 ↓	10.00 ↑
Togo	Sorghum	Kara, XOF/Kg	300.00	-25.00 ↓	-16.67 ↓	-23.08 ↓	8.70 ↑
Togo	Sorghum	Korbongou, XOF/Kg	275.00	-21.43 ↓	-21.43 ↓	-11.29 ↓	7.00 ↑
Togo	Sorghum	Lomé, XOF/Kg	345.00	-26.60 ↓	-25.81 ↓	-27.37 ↓	1.47 ▲

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

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

[33] *Author's construction based on FAO data*

Fertiliser Prices

Overall, the prices of monitored fertiliser types across the selected West African countries show mostly declines compared to the past 1-12 months (Table 21). Urea and NPK fertilisers in Nigeria show the most significant drops of between 29% and 44% over the past year's prices, even though the national average price of urea is 10.21% higher than three months ago.

Table 21: Percentage Changes in Fertiliser Prices in West Africa [34]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Cote d'Ivoire	Urea	National Av, USD/50KG*	38.09	0.00 ●	-2.16 ↘	-6.48 ↓	
Cote d'Ivoire	NPK 15-15-15	National Av, USD/50KG*	38.53	-0.03 ↘	-3.29 ↘	-7.58 ↓	
Cote d'Ivoire	PK 0-23-19 + 6.5S + 5MgO + 10CaO	National Av, USD/50KG*	35.90	0.00 ●	-5.10 ↓	-9.30 ↓	
Ghana	Amonium Sulphate	National Average, (US$/50kg)	22.81	-0.70 ↘	-4.16 ↘	-13.20 ↓	-14.92 ↓
Ghana	NPK 15-15-15	National Average, (US$/50kg)	34.49	-1.32 ↘	-2.13 ↘		
Ghana	NPK 20-10-10	National Average, (US$/50kg)	32.91	-0.90 ↘	3.52 ▲	-16.81 ↓	-6.05 ↓
Ghana	NPK 23-10-5	National Average, (US$/50kg)	36.16	-0.88 ↘	-3.39 ↘	-9.12 ↓	-9.74 ↓
Ghana	NPK 25-10-10	National Average, (US$/50kg)	32.33	2.25 ▲	-2.47 ↘		
Ghana	Urea	Urea (US$/50kg)	33.78	-0.24 ↘	-2.37 ↘	-12.21 ↓	-29.49 ↓
Nigeria	NPK 15-15-15	National, USD/50KG	32.77	-1.89 ↘	-7.25 ↓	-34.47 ↓	-43.72 ↓
Nigeria	NPK 20-10-10	National, USD/50KG	29.94	-1.87 ↘	-6.90 ↓	-32.73 ↓	-44.12 ↓
Nigeria	Urea	National, USD/50KG	28.72	-2.11 ↘	10.21 ↑	-13.60 ↓	-39.24 ↓

Note: The last price is for January 2024, *February 2024, **December 2023, and ***November 2023

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

Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions

In **Mali**, there is an early and harsher onset of the lean season. However, the current off-season crops for both market gardening crops and rice and flood recession crops, for which the installation of nurseries and seedlings are underway, are generally average in the country.[35]

In **Burkina Faso**, harvesting of the 2023 cereal crops was concluded in December and estimated at 5.2 million tonnes, which is 4% higher than the average of the previous five years, supported by adequate cumulative seasonal rainfall amounts supported yields in most producing regions (FAO GIEWS Country Brief, February 2024).

In **Nigeria**, dry season cash crop cultivation of various vegetables, fruits, and cereals such as rice, wheat, and maize is progressing along major floodplains in parts of the north.[36]

[34] *Author's construction based on AfricaFertilizer.org*
[35] https://fews.net/west-africa/mali
[36] https://fews.net/west-africa/nigeria

Food Trade Updates

Continental

Figure 7 provides an overview of the events and activities that have taken place across various countries in East Africa in the last month and are affecting the food trade in the region.

Figure 7: Continental Cross border trade updates February 2024

Russia has supported six African countries with wheat. This includes 50,000 tonnes each to Somalia and the Central African Republic (CAR) and 25,000 to Mali, Burkina Faso, Zimbabwe, and Eritrea.

East Africa

Figure 8 provides an overview of the events and activities that have taken place across various countries in East Africa in the last month and are affecting the food trade in the region.

Intra-EAC trade is hampered by non-tariff barriers (NTBs), which are estimated to cost the region about $16m, with the total trade impact being $94,918,000.[37]

Figure 8: East Africa Cross border trade updates February 2024

Tanzania

The Government of Tanzania, through a US$91.76 million facility from AfDB, plans to construct a modern railway connecting Burundi and DRC to improve the movement of goods and services.

[37] https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/ntbs-cost-region-16m-threatening-intra-eac-trade-4528146

Southern Africa

Figure 9 below summarises some key activities and events recorded across Southern Africa impacting food trade activities.

Figure 9: Southern Africa Food Trade updates for February 2024

Malawi

Malawi, Zambia, and Eswatini have successfully integrated and interfaced their national systems with the COMESA Electronic Certificate of Origin (e-CO) system. The COMESA e-CO is a vital component of the COMESA digital Free Trade Area (FTA) Action Plan, which includes e-Trade, e-Logistics, and e-Legislation. The development and implementation of the COMESA e-CO fall under e-Logistics and aim to facilitate intra-regional trade.

Zambia

- The Government of Zambia has restricted the export of maize and mealie meal (maize flour) as well as soya beans meal and cake due to a prolonged dry spell that will likely affect the harvest.
- China plans to spend US$1 billion to refurbish a key railway line connecting Zambia's copper belt region with the Tanzanian port of Dar es Salaam under its Belt and Road Initiative.
- With the support of the European Development Fund (EDF) Trade Facilitation Programme, the Government of Zambia has installed advanced baggage scanners to address gaps in detecting illegal items at the borders and ensure transparent cross-border movements. The initiative will cover three pivotal border posts – Nakonde, Mwami, and Chirundu.

West Africa

Figure 10 provides an update on the issues and events reported in selected West African countries with implications for food trade and food security in the region.

Figure 7: Continental Cross border trade updates February 2024

Mali & Guinea

ECOWAS lifts sanctions against Guinea and Mali, resuming dialogue with the three military regimes, Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, which withdrew from the economic bloc.

Nigeria

Nigeria has begun enforcing its export prohibition act, which forbids exportation of certain grains such as maize, beans, sorghum, rice, in the wake of the current food crisis the country is facing.

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

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