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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, prioritise interventions, and ultimately build a more food-secure future for all. This 54th edition overviews 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 January 2025 Food Security Monitor are summarised below:

Food Security Updates

The prevalence of the number of people with insufficient food for consumption across the 16 of the select East, Southern, and Western African countries largely the same except in Zimbabwe and Nigeria that it declined by 11.76% and 3.31% respectively. However, the prevalence of insufficient food consumption in January 2025 remains higher than a year ago across all the select countries. Over 9.5 million people across Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda are experiencing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and above outcomes, according to the latest report of the East Africa Food Security and Nutrition Working Group report, with South Sudan alone accounts for about 64% of this outcome.

Food Commodity Prices Updates

The national average price of maize in local currency varies across the **Eastern African** region. Compared to a year ago, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda have seen lower prices due to bumper harvests, while Rwanda and South Sudan have experienced significant increases of 34.69% and 213.26%, respectively. These increases are due to tight supplies, conflict impacts, and severe macroeconomic difficulties, particularly in South Sudan. Tanzania has the lowest maize price at USD 263/MT, with both Tanzania and Ethiopia seeing price decreases of approximately 1.96% and 12.91%, respectively, from December 2024 to January 2025. This decrease is mainly attributed to the anticipation of large harvests in early 2025, leading to increased market supply and easing prices. Conversely, Kenya has the highest prices for maize, wheat, rice, and beans in the region, driven by inflationary pressures. Ethiopia's wheat prices are lower than last year, thanks to increased stocks from a successful *meher* season harvest.

In **Southern Africa**, the national average prices of maize in local currencies remain significantly high, ranging between 20% and 64% compared to the past 1-12 months. Malawian and Zambian national average maize prices are 37.9% and 20% higher than a year ago, primarily due to last year's drought. In USD terms, Malawi saw a 35% rise in price to USD 722, compared to Zambia's USD 344. This increase is driven by a fuel shortage crisis and limited forex availability, which raised transportation costs for sourcing maize from neighbouring Tanzania. Meanwhile, Zambia has managed its stock by importing through traders from Tanzania, despite the Tanzanian government's suspension of a 650,000 MT maize deal signed with the Zambian government in 2024.

In **West Africa**, local maize prices remain generally higher than a year ago but stable compared to the past month in Togo. In Ghana, maize prices have risen by 3.88% over the past month due to a prolonged dry spell in the north. Emergency food and nutrition assistance provided to 70,000 drought-affected people in northern Ghana is expected to stabilize prices soon. Overall, the prices of rice, millet, and sorghum remain higher than a year ago in most countries but are generally low or stable compared to the past 1-6 months, thanks to increased stocks from the completion of main-season cereal harvests. However, prices have been increasing in Nigeria, driven by ongoing macroeconomic challenges, including the devaluation of the Naira, reduced domestic cereal production, and high transport costs.

Food Trade Updates

- The government of Kenya, through its Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), has reinstated the physical test, examination, and inspection charges that were suspended in July 2024. Effective December 1, the cost for inspecting and obtaining a phytosanitary certificate for exporting a 40-foot container will rise from USD 11.80 to USD 90.50.
- On January 29, 2025, Tanzania and Burundi signed an agreement to construct a 282-kilometer Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) linking Uvinza in Tanzania to Musongati in Burundi. The project also includes the construction of a one-kilometer bridge connecting Tanzania and Burundi, designed to accommodate both rail and road traffic.
- In a major move to boost regional trade efficiency, Malawi has officially rolled out its COMESA Electronic Certificate of Origin (e-CO) program. This makes Malawi the second Member State to adopt the pilot electronic certificate, following Eswatini's launch in November 2024.
- Malawi and Zambia have initiated the COMESA Electronic Certificate of Origin (eCO) Programme to boost trade efficiency. This program simplifies the process for exporters, cutting down the time and costs involved in obtaining traditional certificates.
- The Zambian government has reduced transit fees for truck drivers through a Statutory Instrument. Effective December 9, 2024, the cost of Transit Permits will be K4,500 for first-time applications and duplicates, while renewals will cost K5,625.
- Nigeria's first shipment under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) successfully reached Kenya. This milestone represents a significant moment in Africa's trade history.

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 clear summary of the fluctuations in the number of people experiencing Insufficient Food Consumption (IFC), highlights hunger hotspots and tracks average changes in food prices over the past year. Figure 1 illustrates the prevalence of IFC in January 2025 across 17 countries in Eastern, Southern, and Western Africa.

In January 2025, the countries identified as food insecurity hotspots (where over 50% of the population experiences IFC) remained unchanged from November 2024: Burkina Faso (56.6%), Mali (69.1%), and Niger (82.6%). Nigeria showed improvement, with IFC rates decreasing from 49.1% to 47.5%. Zimbabwe saw a significant 11.76% reduction in IFC from November 2024 to January 2025, while other countries showed no change. Compared to a year ago, most countries experienced increases in IFC, except for Kenya, Mozambique, Niger, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, where it declined.

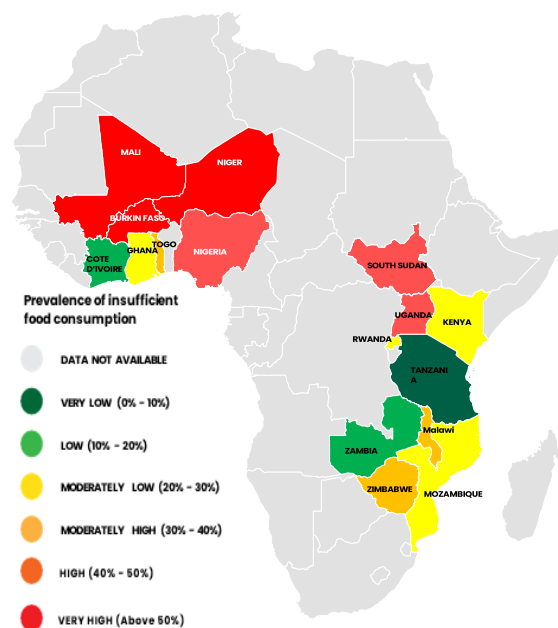
Regarding average commodity prices, only Ethiopia and Mali saw a decrease in the national prices (in local currencies) of maize and rice, respectively, over the past six months. However, compared to a year ago, maize prices fell in all four monitored East African countries (Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda) due to increased harvest supplies but rose in all Southern and West African countries, as well as in Ethiopia.

Table 1: IFC and Commodities Price (Local Currency) Changes.

Figure 1: Hunger Hotspots Snapshot, September 2024

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	●	1.82	↑	8.92	↑	17.98	↑
Cote d'Ivoire	0.00	●	6.25	↑	5.58	↑	6.00	↑
Ethiopia					-10.96	↓	-9.60	↓
Ghana	0.00	●	55.56	↑				
Kenya	0.00	●	-4.23	↓	4.85	↑	-38.58	↓
Malawi	0.00	●	47.83	↑	57.22	↑	37.88	↑
Mali*	0.00	●	0.00	●	-2.28	↓	1.20	↑
Mozambique	0.00	●	-9.52	↓				
Niger	0.00	●	-2.73	↓	0.67	↑	1.42	↑
Nigeria	-3.31	↓	6.76	↑				
Rwanda	0.00	●	2.86	↑	66.52	↑	34.69	↑
South Sudan	0.00	●	48.48	↑	32.94	↑	213.26	↑
Tanzania	0.00	●	10.64	↑	11.11	↑	-11.11	↓
Togo	0.00	●	42.11	↑	3.42	↑	20.87	↑
Uganda	0.00	●	116.87	↑	15.66	↑	-2.92	↓
Zambia	0.00	●	-17.50	↓	8.92	↑	20.06	↑
Zimbabwe	-11.76	↓	-11.76	↓				

Key: ● No Change ↑ Increase ↓ Decrease



Global Market Update

The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) averaged 124.9 points in January 2025, representing a decrease of 1.6% from its revised December 2024 level (Figure 2). Declines in the price indices for sugar, vegetable oils, and meat outweighed increases in dairy products and cereals. Although the overall index was 6.2% higher than the same time last year, it remained 22% below the peak reached in March 2022. On the other hand, the International Grain Council's (IGC) Grain and Oil Index (GOI) has experienced a minor increase by 0.8% over December 2024 but remains below the one-year's level by 7.73%. This is supported by a decline in the sub-indices of wheat and rice counterbalanced by increases in maize, soybeans and barley.

Figure 2: FAO Food Price Index (FFPI)¹

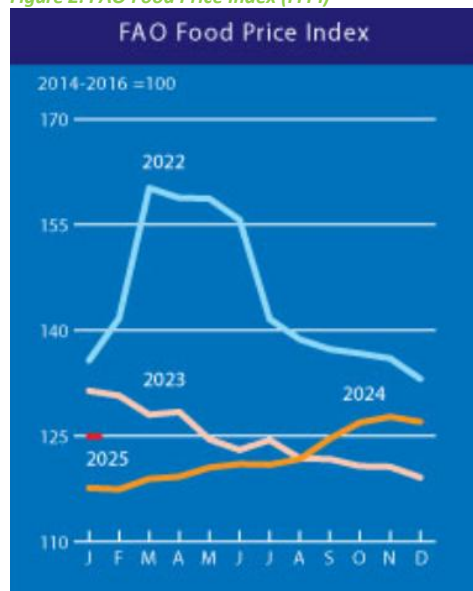


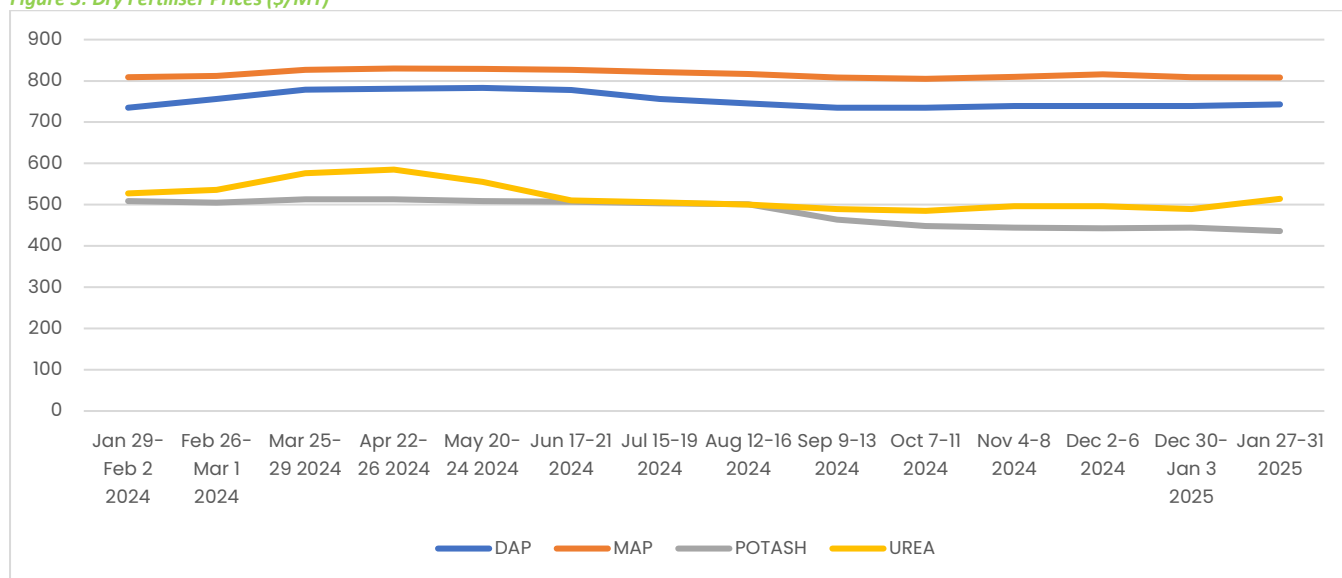
Table 2: IGC GOI Commodity Price Indices²

	Jan 2000 = 100	28-Jan	% Change 1M	% Change 1Y
GOI		219.74	0.80	-7.73
Wheat		199.52	-0.51	-9.15
Maize		238.78	5.60	12.27
Rice		196.18	-6.61	-26.30
Soybeans		203.08	1.18	-9.68
Barley		226.37	1.87	3.34

Global Fertiliser Prices

Over the past month, the monitored fertiliser types have shown mixed trends (Figure 3). MAP and potash experienced slight declines of 0.1% and 1.8%, respectively, while DAP and urea increased by 0.5% and 5.1%, respectively, compared to December 2024. However, when compared to a year ago, the prices of all selected fertiliser types have fallen, with potash seeing the largest decrease of 14.3%, except for DAP, which rose by 1.1%.

Figure 3: Dry Fertiliser Prices (\$/MT)



Source: Author's construction based on DTN³

¹ <https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/>

² <https://www.igc.int/en/markets/marketinfo-go.asp>

³ <https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2025/02/05/urea-uan32-lead-fertilizer-prices>

East Africa Food Insecurity Updates

Food Security Outlook

Figure 4: East African Countries Food Security Outlook, December 2024 - January 2025

IPC Analyses	Stressed (IPC Phase 2)	Crisis (IPC Phase 3)	Emergency (IPC Phase 4)	Catastrophe (IPC Phase 5)	IPC Phase 3+
Burundi	5,925,208	1,212,374	0	0	1,212,374
CAR	2,752,713	1,663,412	307,271	0	1,970,683
DRC	51,470,764	22,243,071	3,251,536	0	25,494,607
Djibouti ¹	474,720	232,178	52,822	0	285,000
Kenya	6,084,209	1,634,828	98,038	0	1,732,866
Somalia ¹	6,533,970	3,406,440	981,670	0	4,388,110
South Sudan	4,576,000	4,334,000	1,714,000	31,000	6,079,000
Sudan	15,622,062	15,894,221	8,098,589	638,000	24,609,605
Uganda ²	2,402,974	1,171,697	131,810	0	1,363,925
Tanzania ³	1,729,928	379,476	0	0	379,476
Total	97,572,548	52,171,697	14,635,736	669,000	67,455,228
IGAD	35,693,935	26,673,364	11,076,929	669,000	38,398,088

Other food security estimates	
Ethiopia	15.8 million people in need of food assistance (Source: HRP 2024)

Total highly food insecure population in need of assistance*	IGAD caseload: 54.2 million
	Regional caseload: 83.3 million

*Valid through December 2024. ¹Covers only refugee-hosting communities and Karamoja. ²Covers 21 districts. Regional totals for highly food insecure populations in need of assistance follow the hierarchy of data used by the Global Report on Food Crises: 1) IPC analyses when available; 2) IPC-compatible analyses when available; and 3) other data sources (e.g., HRP figures, WFP's CARL, etc.). More specifically, current regional totals include IPC figures for countries where IPC analyses are available and HRP 2024 figures for Ethiopia.

Across **Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda**, over 9.5 million people are experiencing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and above outcomes, according to the latest report of the East Africa Food Security and Nutrition Working Group report. South Sudan alone accounts for about 64% of this outcome across the four countries. In addition to these countries, about 16% (15.8 million people) of the total population of **Ethiopia** is also estimated to be facing acute food insecurity and needing food assistance. Displacements and migration underpinned by conflicts in the region, as well as climate shocks and macroeconomic challenges, continue to drive these food insecurity situations in the East African region.

Source: East Africa Food Security and Nutrition Working Group Report for January 2025

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

As of January 31, 2025, the number of people with insufficient food for consumption in five selected East African countries remained unchanged from the previous month, at 45.3 million (Table 3). However, this figure reflects a worsening food insecurity situation compared to January 2024 (34 million) and January 2023 (40.1 million). Over the past year, all selected East African countries, except Kenya, have contributed to this deterioration, with South Sudan and Uganda being the most significant contributors, at 48.48% and 116.87%, respectively.

Table 3: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption across selected East African countries (January 2025)⁴

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)	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	-4.23	52.81
Rwanda	12.30	3.60	3.60	29.27	0.00	2.86	20.00
South Sudan	11.00	4.90	4.90	44.55	0.00	48.48	-20.97
Tanzania	56.30	5.20	5.20	9.24	0.00	10.64	-5.45
Uganda	42.70	18.00	18.00	42.15	0.00	116.87	9.09

*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%)

⁴ Author's construction based on WFP HungerMap

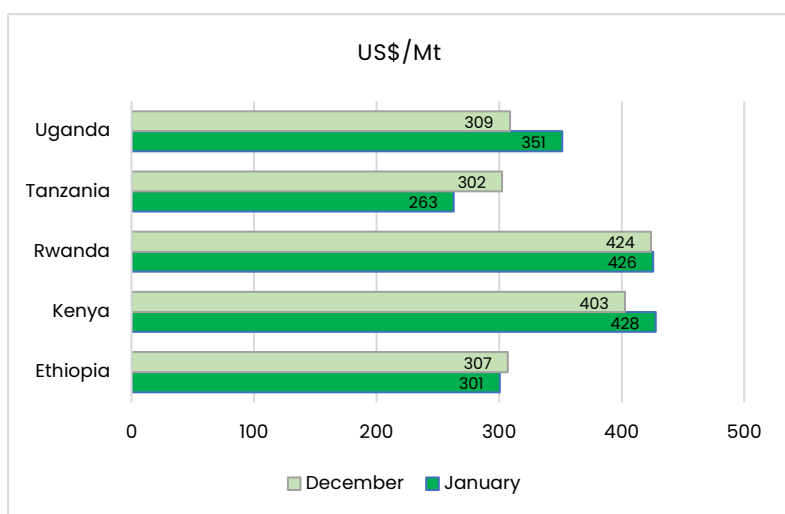
Commodity Prices

Key drivers of commodity prices in EA⁵

	Conflicts	Conflicts and insecurity persist particularly in South Sudan and Ethiopia preventing price recovery from high levels despite harvests.
	Seasonal Dynamics	The October-December season, including Tanzania's main season, harvests in the region are improving supplies in most markets, resulting in lower prices across the region. Above average rains in some parts of the region may have affected the easy movement of crops impacting prices.
	Macroeconomic Shocks	South Sudan continues to experience high prices due to poor macroeconomic conditions, an influx of returning refugees from Sudan, trade disruptions, and localised poor harvests

Maize

Figure 5: National average price spreads for maize across select East African Countries⁶



The price spread for maize (in USD) across five East African countries (Figure 5) shows that Kenya has the highest maize price in the region at USD 428/MT, with Tanzania recording the lowest price at USD 263/MT. Notably, maize prices in Ethiopia and Tanzania decreased by approximately 1.96% and 12.91%, respectively, in January compared to December 2024. This decline was primarily driven by anticipation of large early-2025 harvests, which led to increased market supply through stock releases and eased maize prices.

Kenya, Rwanda, and Uganda saw an increase in maize prices in the same period. Uganda had the highest increase at 13.59%, attributed to stock depletion and increased logistical costs brought by the ongoing heavy rains. This trend is further confirmed by local currency price changes (Table 4), with Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uganda experiencing significant increases in maize prices over the past 1-6 months. In Rwanda, maize prices have risen by 22.52-66.52% over the past 3- and 6-months, while South Sudan prices rose by 33%, underpinned by tight supplies and severe macroeconomic difficulties. Conversely, Ethiopia has seen its national average maize prices decline by 3.19% over the past month and 9.37% -10.96% over the past 3-6 months due to traders' released stocks in advance of the main *Meher* harvest.

Table 4: Percentage changes in maize prices in East Africa⁷

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	National average, Retail, ETB/100kg	3,803.54	-3.19 ↓	-9.37 ↓	-10.96 ↓	-9.60 ↓
Kenya	Maize	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	54.91	6.39 ↑	10.13 ↑	4.85 ▲	-38.58 ↓
Rwanda	Maize	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	587.00	1.06 ▲	22.52 ☒	66.52 ☒	34.69 ☒
South Sudan	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, SSP/Kg	2,011.29	-16.74 ↓	-4.52 ↓	32.94 ☒	213.26 ☒
Tanzania	Maize (Mahindi)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	66,666.67	-9.09 ↓	11.11 ↑	11.11 ↑	-11.11 ↓
Uganda	Maize (flour)	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	2,214.43	-3.52 ↓	-16.82 ↓	6.51 ▲	-21.55 ↓
Uganda	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	1,285.75	-0.60 ↓	17.56 ☒	15.66 ☒	-2.92 ↓

Note: Last price is for January 2025, * December 2024, ** November 2024, and ***October 2024

● = no change; ▲ = low increase (0-5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5-15%), ☒ = high increase (>15%),
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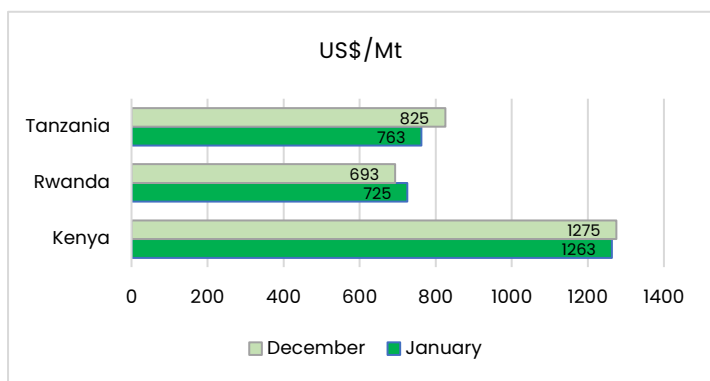
⁵ FEWS NET, 2024

⁶ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

⁷ Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, South Sudan & Uganda, 2) National MIS Ethiopia, Kenya & Tanzania

Rice

Figure 6: National average price spreads for rice across select East African Countries⁸



The rice price spread (in USD) between Tanzania, Rwanda, and Kenya (Figure 6) shows that Kenya has the highest rice prices at USD 1,263/MT and lowest in Rwanda at USD 725/MT though having slightly increased by 4.62%, indicating a rise in demand as stocks deplete. Prices in Tanzania have slightly decreased by 7.5% due to stock release by traders as both *Vuli* and main season rains continue in the country. Local currency price trends (Table 5) also attest that Tanzania's prices are comparatively lower by 18.60% to January 2024.

Kenya prices show low (0-5%) to high (>15%) price increases compared to 3-12 months by 4.21%-22.91% respectively. Similarly, Rwanda has also recorded low to high price levels compared to 1-6 months, though the prices remain lower by 3.2% compared to the past 1 year.

Table 5: Percentage changes in rice prices in East Africa⁹

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Rice	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	162.11	-0.81 ↓	4.21 ▲	5.89 ↑	22.91 ⊗
Rwanda	Rice	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	918.89	2.83 ▲	13.60 ↑	15.81 ⊗	-3.21 ↓
Tanzania	Rice (Mchele)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	193,333.33	-3.33 ↓	-3.33 ↓	1.75 ▲	-18.60 ↓

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

● = 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

Figure 7: National average price spreads for beans across select East African Countries¹⁰

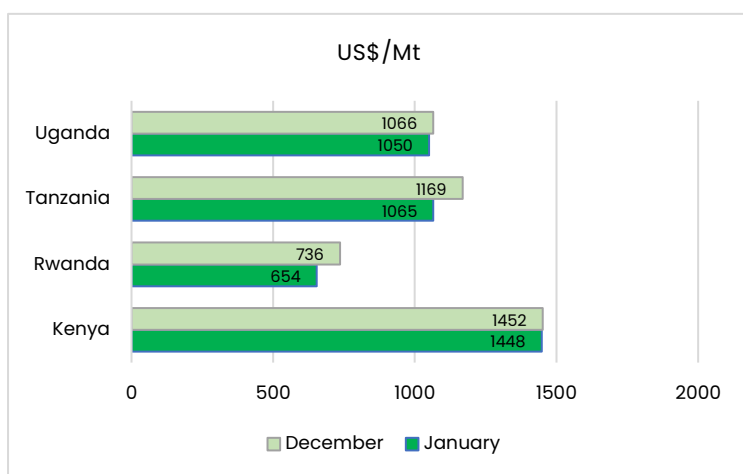


Figure 7 shows price trends of beans in USD from four select East African countries. Following good green harvests and stock maintenance in these countries, the prices have remained stable and slightly decreased, with Tanzania and Rwanda seeing a slightly bigger decrease of 8.9% and 11.14%, respectively, with the latter maintaining the lowest retail price in the region at USD 654. Small price decreases are observed in Uganda (1.50%) and Kenya (0.28%) impacting the sourcing of commodities. Kenya remains the country with the most expensive bean prices in the region, with Tanzania the second by far. Although Uganda bean prices record slight price decrease in USD at USD 1050, in local currencies as Table 6 it reveals that the price has up-ticked by 6.19%. This is mainly due to the currency depreciation that decreases the price in forex terms. However, in all three remaining countries, prices in local currencies have decreased month-on-month, ranging from 0.17% in Kenya to 10.68% in Rwanda.

Table 6: Percentage changes in beans prices in East Africa¹¹

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Beans (Yellow-Green)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	185.82	-0.17 ↓	0.31 ▲	2.74 ▲	14.54 ↑
Kenya	Beans Red Haricot (Wairimu)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	139.13	-1.34 ↓	-0.24 ↓	3.46 ▲	13.91 ↑
Rwanda	Beans	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	901.39	-10.68 ↓	-6.74 ↓	21.87 ⊗	74.43 ⊗
Tanzania	Beans (Maharage)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	270,000.00	-4.71 ↓	0.00 ●	8.00 ↑	8.00 ↑
Uganda	Beans	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	3,842.79	6.19 ↑	7.44 ↑	-3.73 ↓	5.01 ↑

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

● = 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 These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

⁹ Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, 2) National MIS Kenya & Tanzania

¹⁰ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

¹¹ Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda & Uganda, 2) National MIS Kenya & Tanzania

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

Wheat

Figure 8: National average price spreads for wheat across select East African Countries

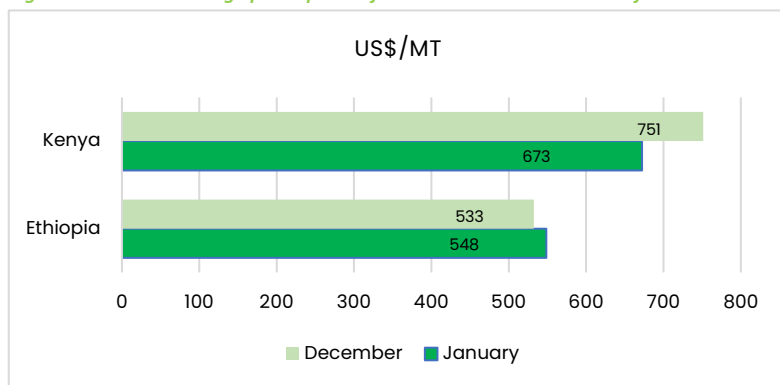


Figure 8 illustrates wheat prices in USD for two selected East African countries, Kenya and Ethiopia. Kenya recorded a 10.38% decrease to USD 673, while Ethiopia saw a 2.8% monthly increase to USD 548, driven by rising demand and stock depletion from the Meher season harvests.

On the other hand, the local currency prices (Table 7) of Ethiopia are slightly higher month-on-month by 0.17% but remain lower compared to 3-12 months by 1.74%-5.48% attributed to the overall good harvests. Similarly, Kenya also sees her prices being moderately lower compared to past 1-6 months averaging at 10%, although still significantly higher compared to past year by 43.83% as wheat farmers switch to maize cultivation in search of better prices.

Table 7: Percentage changes in wheat prices in East Africa¹²

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	National average, Retail, ETB/100kg	6,941.13	0.17 ▲	-5.48 ↓	-1.74 ↘	-3.12 ↘
Kenya	Wheat	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	86.30	-10.42 ↓	-9.48 ↓	-9.98 ↓	43.83 ⊗

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

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

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

Fertiliser

Fertiliser prices in Kenya and Rwanda remain at an all-time low compared to the past 6-12 months decreasing by approximately 3.73% and 41.87% (Table 8). However, an increase in prices in the past 1-3 months is recorded in Rwanda's Urea prices by 3.57% and 5.26% attributed to high global prices, making it difficult for farmers to access necessary nutrients as farmers start preparing for the upcoming long rainy season. In Kenya, the prices of NPK have moderately increased month-on-month by 11.29% as the demand for the commodity increases during the farm preparation period (Table 8).

Table 8: Percentage changes in fertiliser prices in East Africa¹³

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Fertilizer (CAN)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	80.56	-11.41 ↓	-11.88 ↓	-12.90 ↓	-41.87 ↓
Kenya	Fertilizer (DAP)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	99.09	-18.90 ↓	-17.85 ↓	-24.40 ↓	-21.78 ↓
Kenya	Fertilizer (NPK)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	90.11	11.29 ▲	-5.81 ↓	-13.62 ↓	-12.78 ↓
Rwanda	Urea	National Average USD/50KG*	1,000.00	5.26 ▲	3.57 ▲	-3.73 ↘	-14.89 ↓

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

● = 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

Overall, conditions for main season cereals in the region are varied. Heavy rains and flooding have led to poor early yields in some areas. In Ethiopia, the Meher season cereal harvest has been completed, yielding near-average production at the national level. This achievement is notable despite the adverse effects of unseasonal rains, flooding, dry spells, and cold waves experienced during the season. However, prolonged dry spells in parts of southern Oromia are anticipated to result in reduced yields. Additionally, recurrent frosts and floods have adversely impacted Meher crop production in isolated areas of the eastern, northern, central, and southwestern regions of the country. In South Sudan, the main season cereal harvest in the north, central, and southeast was poor due to severe flooding, pests, and dry spells, leading to below-average yields. However, the second season cereal harvest in the south-central and southwest was favourable, resulting in near-average national production as some farmers avoided flood impacts. In Tanzania, the Vuli season maize harvest is complete or nearly finished, while the planting and development of Masika season rice and wheat are progressing well under favourable conditions. In unimodal areas, planting and development of Msimu season cereals are ongoing with concerns in the south and west due to delayed and below-average rains affecting crop development. In Kenya, the long rains maize harvest in unimodal and major producing areas in the western half finished in January, and the

¹² Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, South Sudan & Uganda, 2) National MIS Ethiopia, Kenya & Tanzania

¹³ Author's construction based on 1) AfricaFertiliser.org for Ethiopia & Rwanda, 2) National MIS for Kenya; 3) AFAP for Uganda

main season rice harvest is nearly completion with good yields expected due to favorable rainfall. However, in the eastern regions, short rains maize is facing dry conditions, which may affect yields. In contrast, the unimodal central areas have favourable conditions for short rain maize. In **Uganda**, the second season maize harvest ended with near-average yields due to improved rainfall and soil moisture in October and November. However, heavy rains in late November caused flooding and minor crop damage in Bulambuli and nearby central-eastern districts. Meanwhile, in **Rwanda** and **Burundi**, the Season A maize harvest is ongoing and will conclude in February. Conditions are favourable despite early season rainfall deficits and localised flooding and waterlogging in Burundi.

Southern Africa Food Security Update

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

As of January 30, 2025, the number of people facing insufficient food for consumption situation in four selected Southern African countries has decreased to 22.2 million, down from 22.8 million in November 2024. This improvement is largely attributed to Zimbabwe, which saw an 11.76% decrease (see **Table 9**). However, the current level of food insecurity remains higher than in January 2024 (22.1 million) and January 2023 (15.2 million). Over the past year, Malawi experienced a significant increase of 47.83% in the number of people with insufficient food for consumption, reaching 6.8 million out of a total population of 18.1 million. In contrast, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe saw declines of 9.52%, 17.5%, and 11.76%, respectively. Despite these recent improvements, all selected Southern African countries have seen increases in food insecurity compared to two years ago.

Table 9: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (January 2025)¹⁴




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	47.83	74.36
Mozambique	29.50	7.60	7.60	25.76	0.00	-9.52	20.63
Zambia	17.40	3.30	3.30	18.97	0.00	-17.50	135.71
Zimbabwe	15.20	4.50	5.10	29.61	-11.76	-11.76	25.00

*Current month and **Previous month

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

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of prices in the Southern Africa region

	Seasonality Patterns	Most Southern African countries are experiencing seasonal declines in grain prices as the harvest season kicks in despite the expected below-average harvests.
	Weather Shocks	The aftermath of the cyclone, drought shocks and heavy flooding early in the planting season led to below-average harvests from the previous season, resulting in higher food prices.
	Macroeconomic Shocks	Poor macroeconomic conditions caused by forex shortages, high food inflation and high debt repayments sustain higher food prices.

¹⁴ Author's construction based on HungerMap

Figure 9: National average price spreads for maize across select Southern African Countries¹⁵

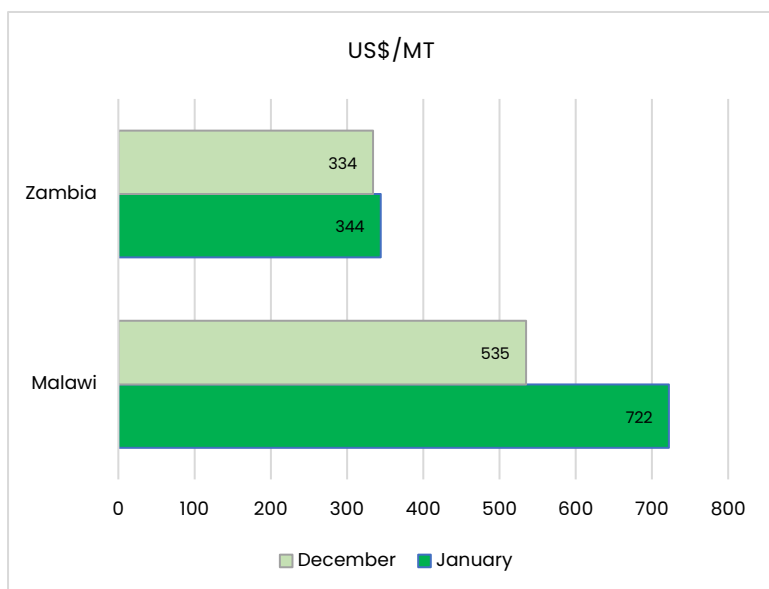


Figure 9 presents the prices in USD for Zambia and Malawi both of which have increased month-on-month. Malawi experienced a significant 35% increase in maize prices, reaching USD 722, due to a fuel shortage crisis and limited forex availability, which raised transportation costs for sourcing maize from neighboring Tanzania. Meanwhile, Zambia has managed its stock by importing through traders from Tanzania, despite the Tanzanian government suspending a 650,000 MT maize deal signed with the Zambian government in 2024. This strategy might be worth emulating by Malawi, given the similar challenges both countries face. With the onset of rains, Zambia's power crisis has begun to ease, reducing forex pressure and stabilizing the currency.¹⁶

As illustrated in Table 10 below, the current prices of maize in local currencies for Zambia and Malawi are low to extremely high compared to the past 1-12 months. Notably, prices in Malawi are significantly high by 20.70% to 68.66%, clearly demonstrating the ongoing economic struggle the country has been facing due to the drought. When compared to the past year, Zambia's maize price is 20% high; however, with ongoing

favourable rains, these prices are likely to decrease during the upcoming main season harvests.

Table 10: Percentage changes in select commodity prices in Southern Africa¹⁷

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Malawi	Cassava	Mzuzu, MWK/Kg	1,087.77	39.52 ⓧ	63.68 ⓧ	68.66 ⓧ	48.55 ⓧ
Malawi	Maize	Liwonde, MWK/Kg	1,390.97	33.56 ⓧ	56.63 ⓧ	63.81 ⓧ	42.52 ⓧ
Malawi	Maize	Mzimba, MWK/Kg	1,086.37	20.70 ⓧ	32.69 ⓧ	48.80 ⓧ	45.33 ⓧ
Malawi	Maize	National Average, MWK/Kg	1,243.31	29.34 ⓧ	53.99 ⓧ	57.22 ⓧ	37.88 ⓧ
Malawi	Maize	Nsanje, MWK/Kg	1,362.04	30.01 ⓧ	52.04 ⓧ	51.91 ⓧ	34.90 ⓧ
Zambia	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, Kwacha/KG	9.60	3.48 ▲	12.27 ↑	8.92 ↑	20.06 ⓧ
Zambia	NPK 10-20-10 + 6S	National, ZMW/50KG**	863.60	5.57 ↑	-11.95 ↓	-12.88 ↓	-7.90 ↓
Zambia	Urea	National, ZMW/50KG**	858.67	4.12 ▲	-10.96 ↓	-12.14 ↓	-6.19 ↓

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

● = 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 general, the planting of main season cereals in the Southern African countries went well with maize currently in the vegetative to reproductive stage for harvest from February. In **Zambia**, planting conditions have been mostly favourable, though some areas experienced a slow start to the seasonal rains, including the southern districts where there are emerging deficits. Similarly, **Malawi** has also experienced favourable planting conditions because of the improved rainfall conditions in the country with a general normal to below normal conditions experienced. However, the planting of 2025 summer cereal crops has been delayed due to late rains and high temperatures. While forecasted rainfall through April could aid crop growth, elevated temperatures and potential flooding pose moderate risks. Consequently, the main on-farm activities have focused on weeding and applying basal fertiliser, while rice farmers have been able to transplant crops in rice-growing areas¹⁸.

¹⁵ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

¹⁶ Agri Intelligence Africa <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AdVuYbOVAYU>

¹⁷ Author's construction based on FAO data

¹⁸ Malawi Weather Bulletin https://www.metmalawi.gov.mw/documents/363/MWJanuary2_2025.pdf

West Africa Food Security Update

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

As of January 30, 2025, the number of people facing insufficient food consumption across seven selected West African countries decreased by 3.3 million, from 161.6 million in November 2024 to 158.3 million in January 2025. This decline was primarily driven by a 3.31% reduction in Nigeria (Table 11). However, the prevalence of insufficient food consumption in January 2025 remains higher than in January 2024 (148.5 million) and January 2023 (116.9 million). Compared to the previous year, most countries have seen increases in food insecurity, except for Mali, which remained unchanged, and Niger, which experienced a 2.73% decline.

Table 11: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in selected West African countries (January 2025)¹⁹

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	1.82	-4.27
Cote d'Ivoire	29.40	5.10	5.10	17.35	0.00	6.25	15.91
Ghana	29.80	8.40	8.40	28.19	0.00	55.56	25.37
Mali	19.10	13.20	13.20	69.11	0.00	0.00	-5.04
Niger	25.90	21.40	21.40	82.63	0.00	-2.73	18.89
Nigeria	202.80	96.30	99.60	47.49	-3.31	6.76	61.85
Togo	7.90	2.70	2.70	34.18	0.00	42.11	0.00




*Current month and **Previous month

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

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

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of the price movements in West Africa include²⁰

	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 high inflation rates, local currency depreciations and elevated fuel prices are pushing food prices upwards in some West African countries.
	Seasonal Dynamics	Seasonal changes in food supply, including the early onset of the lean season in most countries in West Africa, are putting upward pressure on food prices.

¹⁹ Author's construction based on WFP HungerMap Live

²⁰ Fewsnet 2024

Maize

Figure 10: Price spreads for maize across select West African Countries²¹

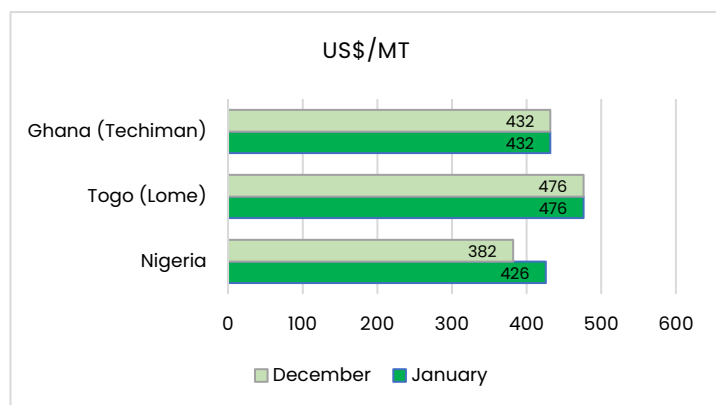


Figure 10 presents the price spread in USD of maize across three West African countries, which shows price stability and a slight increase in the region. Nigeria's average maize price increased significantly by 11.52% to USD 426/Mt month-on-month, likely due to reduced supply, increased demand, and market dynamics. Maize price is highest in Lomé valued at USD 476/Mt, followed by USD432/Mt in Techiman (Ghana). However, the changes in local prices in Ghana and Togo (Table 12), generally show stable or low (0-3.88%) increases over the previous month, although compared to past year prices in all Togo's select markets are significantly higher by 12%-28%. Inflationary pressures, low domestic supply, and currency weakness are considered amongst the contributing factors to the price increases.

Table 12: Percentage changes in maize prices in West Africa²²

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ghana	Maize (white)	National Average, (GHS/MT)	6,587.03	3.88 ▲	-4.70 ▼		
Togo	Maize (white)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg*	290.00	0.00 ●	3.57 ▲	9.43 ↑	28.89 ⊗
Togo	Maize (white)	Anie, XOF/Kg*	265.00	0.00 ●	-5.36 ▼	3.92 ▲	23.26 ⊗
Togo	Maize (white)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg*	265.00	0.00 ●	-3.64 ▼	1.92 ▲	20.45 ⊗
Togo	Maize (white)	Kara, XOF/Kg*	280.00	0.00 ●	-3.45 ▼	1.82 ▲	12.00 ↑
Togo	Maize (white)	Korbongou, XOF/Kg*	260.00	0.00 ●	-3.70 ▼	0.00 ●	18.18 ⊗
Togo	Maize (white)	Lomé, XOF/Kg*	300.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	3.45 ▲	22.45 ⊗

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

● = 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

Figure 11: Price spreads for rice across select West African Countries²³

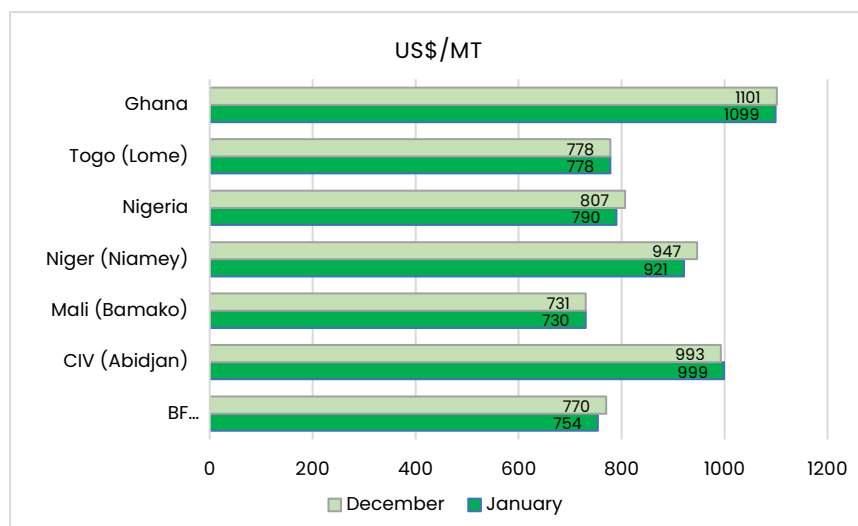


Figure 11 presents the price spread across seven West African markets for rice, with Ghana registering the highest price of rice at USD 1099/MT followed by Côte d'Ivoire (Abidjan) at USD 999/MT, while Bamako has the lowest at USD 730/MT. However, changes in the local currency prices demonstrate generally stable or declining prices over the past one month (Table 13).

Compared to the past 6-12 months, however, the prices in local currencies remain higher as most of these countries battle with conflicts, below-average market supply due to droughts/floods, and macroeconomic economic challenges, with a good example of Burkina Faso markets, which have prices that are 18.75%-36.36% higher year-on-year.

²¹ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

²² Author's construction based on FAO data

²³ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates on the last day of the month at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

Table 13: Percentage changes in rice prices in West Africa²⁴

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	55,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	13.40 ↑	22.22 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	55,000.00	-1.79 ▾	5.77 ↑	1.85 ▲	19.57 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	50,000.00	0.00 ●	11.11 ↑	19.05 ⊗	19.05 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	55,000.00	0.00 ●	10.00 ↑	10.00 ↑	27.91 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	60,000.00	0.00 ●	50.00 ⊗	36.36 ⊗	36.36 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	47,500.00	-2.06 ▾	-5.00 ↓	2.15 ▲	18.75 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,500.00	0.00 ●	-15.00 ↓	-11.46 ↓	0.00 ●
Cote d'Ivoire	Rice	Abidjan, Retail, XOF/Kg**	625.00	-0.64 ▾	2.46 ▲	8.89 ↑	7.94 ↑
Cote d'Ivoire	Rice (imported)	Abidjan, Retail, XOF/Kg**	530.00	-0.19 ▾	-0.38 ▾	5.58 ↑	6.00 ↑
Ghana	Rice	National Average, (GHS/MT)	16,775.00	3.71 ▲	6.62 ↑		
Mali	Rice	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	46,000.00	0.00 ●	-17.86 ↓	-4.17 ▾	13.58 ↑
Mali	Rice	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	55,000.00	-15.38 ↓	-21.43 ↓	-15.38 ↓	22.22 ⊗
Mali	Rice	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	54,000.00	0.00 ●	-10.00 ↓	3.85 ▲	8.00 ↑
Mali	Rice	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	42,500.00	-5.56 ↓	-22.73 ↓	-7.61 ↓	-5.56 ↓
Mali	Rice	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	45,000.00	0.00 ●	-25.00 ↓	7.14 ↑	-4.26 ▾
Mali	Rice (imported)	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	44,000.00	0.00 ●	-13.73 ↓	-2.22 ▾	2.33 ▲
Mali	Rice (imported)	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	60,000.00	0.00 ●	-6.25 ↓	0.00 ●	0.00 ●
Mali	Rice (imported)	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	39,500.00	-1.25 ▾	-9.20 ↓	-9.20 ↓	-12.22 ↓
Mali	Rice (imported)	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	45,000.00	-6.25 ↓	-10.00 ↓	0.00 ●	2.27 ▲
Niger	Rice (imported)	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	700.00	9.38 ↑	-4.11 ▾	9.38 ↑	9.38 ↑
Niger	Rice (imported)	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	600.00	-6.25 ↓	-16.67 ↓	-6.25 ↓	-6.25 ↓
Niger	Rice (imported)	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	620.00	-3.13 ▾	-13.89 ↓	3.33 ▲	3.33 ▲
Niger	Rice (imported)	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	600.00	-3.23 ▾	-16.67 ↓	0.00 ●	-6.25 ↓
Niger	Rice (imported)	Tillabéri, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	620.00	-3.13 ▾	-11.43 ↓	-3.13 ▾	6.90 ↑
Togo	Rice (imported)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg*	500.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-7.41 ↓
Togo	Rice (imported)	Anié, XOF/Kg*	500.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	4.17 ▲	0.00 ●
Togo	Rice (imported)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg*	480.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-2.04 ▾
Togo	Rice (imported)	Kara, XOF/Kg*	490.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	3.16 ▲
Togo	Rice (imported)	Kor bongou, XOF/Kg*	500.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	2.04 ▲	-1.96 ▾
Togo	Rice (imported)	Lomé, XOF/Kg*	490.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	2.08 ▲	-2.97 ▾

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

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

Millet

Figure 12: Price spreads for millet across select West African Countries²⁵

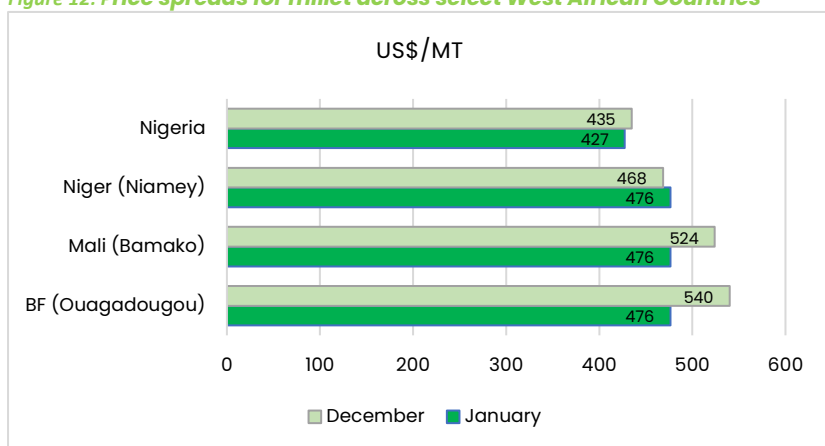


Figure 12 presents millet prices in USD across West Africa and it shows that millet prices in four West African countries have generally decreased compared to the previous month, except in Niger (Niamey), where prices slightly increased to USD 476/MT.

. In local currency, prices of millet across these countries (Table 14) show that most markets show stable or declining prices, at least compared to the previous 1-3 months. However, when compared to the past year, prices of the majority of the markets in Burkina Faso and Mali are extremely high by 9%-46% with an exception of Sikasso market in Mali. On the other hand, Niger has experienced stable to lower prices throughout the year defying the economic and political instabilities facing the country.

²⁴ Author's construction based on FAO data

²⁵ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

Table 14: Percentage changes in millet prices in select West African Countries²⁶

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Millet	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	36,000.00	0.00 ●	-5.26 ↓	-2.70 ↘	33.33 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	30,000.00	-14.29 ↓	-25.00 ↓	-6.25 ↓	15.38 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	38,000.00	-13.64 ↓	-20.00 ↓	2.70 ▲	11.76 ↑
Burkina Faso	Millet	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	32,500.00	1.56 ▲	8.33 ↑	16.07 ⊗	20.37 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Millet	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,500.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	13.33 ↑	57.41 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Millet	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	35,000.00	0.00 ●	16.67 ⊗	27.27 ⊗	42.86 ⊗
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	30,000.00	-11.76 ↓	-22.08 ↓	-11.76 ↓	9.09 ↑
Burkina Faso	Millet	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	36,000.00	-4.00 ↘	-17.24 ↓	10.77 ↑	20.00 ⊗
Mali	Millet	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	30,000.00	-9.09 ↓	-23.08 ↓	9.09 ↑	46.34 ⊗
Mali	Millet	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	43,000.00	0.00 ●	-9.47 ↓	14.67 ↑	43.33 ⊗
Mali	Millet	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	33,000.00	-13.16 ↓	-17.50 ↓	-5.71 ↓	22.22 ⊗
Mali	Millet	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	22,500.00	-25.00 ↓	-43.75 ↓	-18.18 ↓	0.00 ●
Mali	Millet	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	35,000.00	0.00 ●	-15.66 ↓	2.94 ▲	16.67 ⊗
Niger	Millet	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	340.00	-34.62 ↓	-34.62 ↓	13.33 ↑	6.25 ↑
Niger	Millet	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	250.00	-37.50 ↓	-41.86 ↓	-26.47 ↓	0.00 ●
Niger	Millet	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	250.00	-1.96 ↘	-31.51 ↓	-21.88 ↓	0.00 ●
Niger	Millet	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	280.00	-12.50 ↓	-36.36 ↓	-17.65 ↓	3.70 ▲
Niger	Millet	Tillabéri, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	300.00	-11.76 ↓	-36.84 ↓	-21.05 ↓	0.00 ●

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

● = 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

Figure 13: Price spreads for sorghum across select West African Countries²⁷

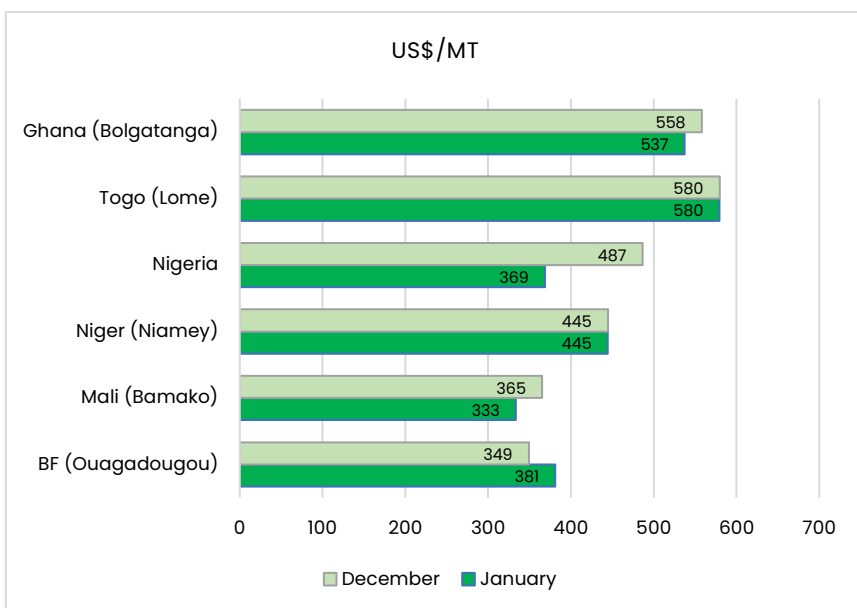


Figure 13 illustrates the price spread among major markets in the select West African countries for Sorghum. Over the previous month we have seen a significant drop in the prices of sorghum in Nigeria (from USD 487 to USD 369), Ghana (from USD 558/MT to USD 537/MT), and Mali (from USD 365/MT to USD 333/MT), while Burkina Faso has experienced a minor surge in price (from USD349/Mt to USD381/Mt). However, Togo and Niger have maintained their prices in USD mainly due to stabilisation of the West African CFA Franc. Table 15 further highlights the changes in local currency prices. Compared to the previous month, the prices of sorghum generally show decline or stability in all select countries over the past month. Compared to the past year, majority of the markets in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger are significantly high between 2% and 25%. In Togo, Kara market has recorded the highest prices in the past 3-12 months to the tune of 53.13%.

²⁶ Author's construction based on FAO data

²⁷ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

Table 15: Percentage changes in sorghum prices in select West African countries ²⁸

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	22,500.00	4.65 ▲	-10.00 ↓	-10.00 ↓	2.27 ▲
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	0.00 ●	-16.67 ↓	-9.09 ↓	25.00 ☒
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	32,000.00	-5.88 ↓	-14.67 ↓	-3.03 ▾	10.34 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	0.00 ●	-15.25 ↓	-7.41 ↓	2.04 ▲
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	0.00 ●	-16.67 ↓	0.00 ●	11.11 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	-9.09 ↓	-9.09 ↓	4.17 ▲	16.28 ☒
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	24,000.00	9.09 ↑	-14.29 ↓	-17.24 ↓	9.09 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	20,000.00	5.26 ↑	-28.57 ↓	-23.08 ↓	-9.09 ↓
Ghana	Sorghum	National Average, (GHS/MT)	7,416.67	-3.68 ▾	-9.55 ↓		
Mali	Sorghum	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	21,000.00	-8.70 ↓	-35.38 ↓	-16.00 ↓	10.53 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	25,500.00	-5.56 ↓	-27.14 ↓	-17.74 ↓	10.87 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	22,500.00	-10.00 ↓	-25.00 ↓	-10.00 ↓	25.00 ☒
Mali	Sorghum	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	33,000.00	0.00 ●	-5.71 ↓	1.54 ▲	10.00 ↑
Niger	Sorghum	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	360.00	-33.33 ↓	-21.74 ↓	20.00 ☒	12.50 ↑
Niger	Sorghum	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	275.00	-26.67 ↓	-36.05 ↓	-19.12 ↓	-5.17 ↓
Niger	Sorghum	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	290.00	-9.38 ↓	-17.14 ↓	-9.38 ↓	20.83 ☒
Niger	Sorghum	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	350.00	-18.60 ↓	-18.60 ↓	16.67 ☒	22.81 ☒
Niger	Sorghum	Tillabéri, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	310.00	-26.19 ↓	-29.55 ↓	-13.89 ↓	-3.13 ▾
Togo	Sorghum	Anié, XOF/Kg*	320.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-14.67 ↓
Togo	Sorghum	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg*	285.00	0.00 ●	-8.06 ↓	-5.00 ↓	-18.57 ↓
Togo	Sorghum	Kara, XOF/Kg*	490.00	0.00 ●	50.77 ☒	53.13 ☒	22.50 ☒
Togo	Sorghum	Korbongou, XOF/Kg*	290.00	0.00 ●	-7.94 ↓	-3.33 ▾	-17.14 ↓
Togo	Sorghum	Lomé, XOF/Kg*	365.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	1.39 ▲	-22.34 ↓

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

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

Fertiliser

The prices of monitored fertiliser types across selected West African countries exhibit a downward trend, attributable to diminished off-season demand (Table 16). In Côte d'Ivoire, current fertiliser prices are between 13.53% and 21.63% lower than those recorded in the past 1-12 months. Conversely, in Ghana, fertiliser prices have remained stable over the past month but are predominantly higher compared to the prices observed over the past 3-12 months by 15% and 19%.

Table 16: Percentage changes in fertiliser prices in West Africa ²⁹

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Cote d'Ivoire	Urea	National Av, USD/50KG**	29.56	-2.22 ▾	-2.86 ▾	-15.90 ↓	-21.63 ↓
Cote d'Ivoire	NPK 15-15-15	National Av, USD/50KG**	32.34	-2.27 ▾	-2.88 ▾	-11.45 ↓	-15.25 ↓
Cote d'Ivoire	PK 0-23-19 + 6.5S + 5MgO + 10CaO	National Av, USD/50KG**	30.74	-2.26 ▾	-2.88 ▾	-5.12 ↓	-13.53 ↓
Ghana	Ammonium Sulphate	National Av, GHS/50KG	288.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-1.37 ▾	4.35 ▲
Ghana	NPK 15-15-15	National Av, GHS/50KG	437.50	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-0.41 ▾	4.17 ▲
Ghana	NPK 20-10-10	National Av, GHS/50KG	431.70	0.00 ●	2.18 ▲	0.75 ▲	8.20 ↑
Ghana	NPK 23-10-5	National Av, GHS/50KG	521.50	0.00 ●	15.48 ☒	16.82 ☒	18.98 ☒
Ghana	NPK 25-10-10	National Av, GHS/50KG	420.00	0.00 ●	5.00 ▲	5.00	10.53 ↑
Ghana	Urea	National Av, GHS/50KG	422.70	0.00 ●	0.28 ▲	-2.40 ▾	3.88 ▲

Note: Last price is for November 2024, * October 2024, ** September 2024, and ***August 2024

● = 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

The 2024/25 main season cereal harvest is nearly complete in the region, with generally near-average yields expected despite erratic rainfall, including overly wet conditions in the north and dry conditions in the south. Regional System for the Prevention and Management of Food Crises (PREGEC)'s Key Message, updated in December 2024, predicts an increase of 2 percent in this season's cereal production to an estimated 78.9 million metric tonnes. However, yield declines are anticipated in conflict-affected areas, such as northern Nigeria, and northern Ghana, which

²⁸ Author's construction based on FAO data

²⁹ Author's construction based on AfricaFertiliser.org

was impacted by a prolonged dry spell. In **Burkina Faso**, delayed rains initially affected planting, but subsequent average to above-average rainfall from July to October supported replanting and crop development. Government initiatives, including the provision of improved seeds, fertilisers, free ploughing services, and lowland agricultural development, enhanced yields and expanded planting areas. Despite ongoing conflict in the north overall, 2024 cereal production is expected to be three percent above average. In **Mali**, late rains and below-average precipitation in May and June reduced southern yields. Heavy rains from July to October caused flooding and crop losses, particularly in Ségou, Mopti, and Koulikoro. Conflict and limited input access further decreased yields in central and northern areas. Overall, 2024 cereal production is forecast to be three percent below average

Food Trade Updates

East Africa

Figure 14 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 14: East Africa cross-border trade updates January 2025



Kenya

Kenya, through its Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), has reinstated the physical test, examination, and inspection charges that were suspended in July 2024. Effective December 1, the cost for inspecting and obtaining a phytosanitary certificate for exporting a 40-foot container will rise from USD 11.80 to USD 90.50.

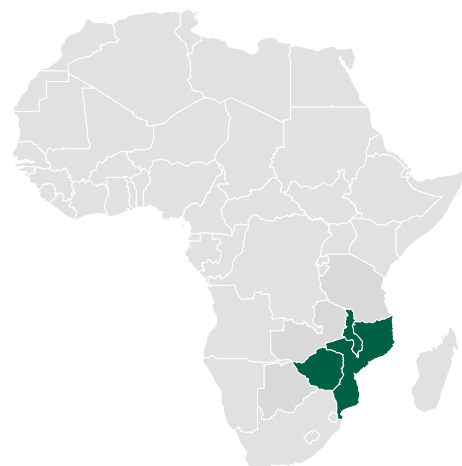
Tanzania

On January 29, 2025, Tanzania and Burundi signed an agreement to construct a 282-kilometer Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) linking Uvinza in Tanzania to Musongati in Burundi. The project also includes the construction of a one-kilometer bridge connecting Tanzania and Burundi, designed to accommodate both rail and road traffic.

Southern Africa

Figure 15 below summarises some key activities and events recorded across Southern Africa that impact food trade activities.

Figure 15: Southern Africa Food Trade updates for January 2025



Malawi and Zambia

- In a major move to boost regional trade efficiency, Malawi has officially rolled out its COMESA Electronic Certificate of Origin (e-CO) program. This makes Malawi the second Member State to adopt the pilot electronic certificate, following Eswatini's launch in November 2024.
- Malawi and Zambia have initiated the COMESA Electronic Certificate of Origin (eCO) Programme to boost trade efficiency. This program simplifies the process for exporters, cutting down the time and costs involved in obtaining traditional certificates.
- The Zambian government has reduced transit fees for truck drivers through a Statutory Instrument. Effective December 9, 2024, the cost of Transit Permits will be K4,500 for first-time applications and duplicates, while renewals will cost K5,625.

West Africa

- ECOWAS have approved the withdrawal of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger but have offered a six-month grace period for them to reconsider. In addition, the bloc in the spirit of solidarity maintained the privileges of free movement of goods and people from the three countries.³⁰

Figure 16 provides an update on the issues and events reported in West African countries, that impact the region's food trade and food security.

Figure 16: West Africa Cross Border Trade Updates January 2025



Nigeria

Nigeria's first shipment under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) successfully reached Kenya. This milestone represents a significant moment in Africa's trade history.

³⁰ [Ecowas crisis: West African states approve exit of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger](#)

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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