FOOD SECURITY MONITOR

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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, prioritise interventions, and ultimately build a more food-secure future for all. This 55th edition overviews the food security situation and market prices across East, South, and West Africa.

The Food Security Monitor is produced with support from the UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) through the Africa Food Trade & Resilience Programme.

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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 2025 Food Security Monitor are summarised below:

Food Commodity Prices Updates

Tanzania registered the lowest price for maize across five **East African** countries, at USD 289/MT, while Kenya has the highest price at USD 421/MT. In local currency, the price of maize is well above what was registered a year ago, except in Ethiopia when it dropped by 4.17%. Primarily, price fluctuations were influenced by stock shortages caused by seasonal variations and the high demand for maize from the southern region.
In **Southern Africa**, the price of maize in Zambia has decreased by 12% from January 2025 to USD 305/MT in February 2025, while in Malawi, prices have surged by 23% from January 2025 to USD 838/MT in February 2025. Since December 2024, Malawi's maize price has increased by 69%. The FAO attributes Malawi's price hikes to domestic supply pressures, a reduced maize harvest, and a weakened currency. Zambia has managed the situation by importing from neighbouring countries and has seen economic stabilisation due to the onset of rains easing the power crisis and reducing forex pressure. In local currencies, national average maize prices in Malawi have surged by 23% and 81% compared to the past 1- and 12 months, highlighting the severe economic challenges the country is facing due to the impact of the past drought. Similarly, cassava prices have also surged by 39% and 68% compared to the past one and six months in Malawi. This calls for greater efforts to bridge the food insecurity gap in Malawi through food assistance. In contrast, Zambia's maize prices have remained stable compared to a year ago.

In **West Africa**, Nigeria recorded the lowest maize price at USD 375/MT in February 2025, down from USD 426/MT in January 2025. Conversely, Togo had the highest maize price at USD 478/MT. The decline in maize prices in Nigeria in USD, reflects similar trends in local currencies, with prices falling by 14.1% and 23.6% over the past 1 and 3 months, respectively. Overall, maize prices have begun to decline compared to the past 3 months due to increased supplies from recent harvests. In Nigeria, the government's issuance of tariff moratoria on wheat, maize, rice and other food crops last year, increased supply of these commodities and contributed to the recent price decrease. Similarly, rice prices in the region are lower than the past 1-12 months. The exception is Burkina Faso where the price of rice remains significantly higher than last year's level.

Food Security Updates

The prevalence of insufficient food consumption (IFC) remains unchanged from previous month in all monitored countries across East, Southern, and West Africa, except Nigeria which saw 1% improvement, equivalent to 2.1 million people. The incidence of IFC also remain stable in majority of the monitored countries across the continent, compared to a year ago, but lower in Nigeria and Zimbabwe by 5% and 11.7% respectively. However, the incidence of IFC remains significantly higher in Ghana (55.5%), Rwanda (38.4%), South Sudan (53.1%), Togo (42.1%), and Uganda (125%), compared to a year ago. According to the latest report from the East and Central Africa Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG), nearly 10 million people across Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda are experiencing a food crisis (IPC Phase 3 or worse), which is 4.3% higher than in January 2025. Conflicts and insecurity, climate shocks and hazards, and macroeconomic challenges continue to drive these food insecurity situations in across these regions.

Food Trade Updates

- The African Union has made a historic move to enhance food safety across the continent by adopting the statute for the establishment of the Africa Food Safety Agency during the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 16 February 2025. This landmark decision signifies a major advancement in the continent's commitment to protecting consumer health, strengthening food safety governance, and facilitating trade in safe food products under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- The Food Safety Agency will function as a Specialized Technical Institution of the African Union, dedicated to coordinating and harmonising food safety policies, regulations, and risk assessment frameworks across Member States.
- The border between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda has reopened after almost three years of partial restrictions, to allow more trade between the people of the two neighbouring states.
- The African Development Bank (AfDB) has committed USD 2.5 billion to the development of priority infrastructure projects in the United Republic of Tanzania. The funding is for priority infrastructure projects, with more than 70% of the funds being allocated to transport infrastructure including roads, railways and airports, some of which include the multinational Tanzania/Kenya 400-km Bagamoyo – Pangani – Tanga – Horohoro/Lunga Lunga – Mombasa – Malindi (Kenya) road which forms part of the Coastal Transport Corridor of East Africa.
- The Government of Madagascar, with funding from the African Development Fund (ADF), launched a call for expressions of interest for consulting services to enhance trade facilitation through soft infrastructure development between the Port of Toliara (Madagascar) and the Port of Beira (Mozambique). This initiative forms part of the Project for the Development of Corridors and Trade Facilitation (PACFC II), a strategic effort to improve logistics efficiency and regional connectivity. The project focuses on non-physical infrastructure—including digital systems, regulatory frameworks, and operational coordination—to optimise port efficiency and reduce delays in cargo movement.
- The Trucks Transit Parks Ltd (TTP) has successfully integrated the Central Bank of Nigeria's (CBN) and Nigeria Export Proceeds (NXP) system with its innovative Ètò electronic call-up platform. This integration is aimed at modernizing & streamlining Nigeria's export operations, enhancing transparency, efficiency, and overall operational excellence at the nation's ports.
- The Government of Burkina Faso continues to maintain a ban on the export of key staples including rice, millet, maize, sorghum, and cowpeas from Ghana.

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)[1], highlights hunger hotspots and tracks average changes in food prices over the past year. **Figure 1** illustrates the prevalence of IFC in February 2025 across 17 countries in Eastern, Southern, and Western Africa.

In February 2025, the list of countries identified as food insecurity hotspots (where over 50% of the population experiences IPC) remained unchanged. These countries include Burkina Faso (56.6%), Mali (69.1%), and Niger (82.6%). Other countries with scores close to this threshold are South Sudan (44.5%), Uganda (42.2%), and Nigeria (47%). Over the past month, only Nigeria experienced a drop in IPC by 1.04%. Similarly, compared to a year ago, most countries status of IFC remain unchanged. However, Nigeria and Zimbabwe saw a decline of 5% and 11.7% respectively in the number of people with IFC. Conversely, Ghana, Rwanda, South Sudan, Togo, and Uganda have experienced significant increases of 55.5% (from 5.4 million to 8.4 million), 38.4% (from 2.6 million to 3.6 million), 53.1% (from 3.2 million to 4.9 million), 42.1% (from 1.9 million to 2.7 million), and 125% (from 8 million to 18 million) respectively in the number of people having insufficient food consumption.

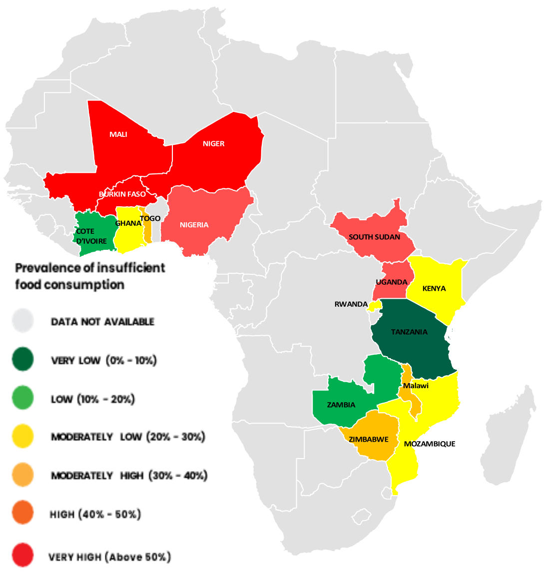
Regarding average commodity prices, only Ethiopia and Niger saw a decrease in the national average prices (in local currencies) of maize and rice, respectively, compared to their levels a year ago. The national average price of maize in Zambia remained unchanged, while all other countries experienced increases.

Table 1: IFC and Commodities Price (Local Currency) 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	●	0.00	●	6.64	↑	18.08	↑
Cote d'Ivoire	0.00	●	8.51	↑				
Ethiopia					-5.36	↓	-4.17	↓
Ghana	0.00	●	55.56	↑				
Kenya	0.00	●	0.00	●	-5.03	↓	16.20	↑
Malawi	0.00	●	0.00	●	81.64	↑	81.17	↑
Mali*	0.00	●	0.00	●	-10.26	↓	1.11	↑
Mozambique	0.00	●	0.00	●				
Niger	0.00	●	0.00	●	-15.85	↓	-2.29	↓
Nigeria	-1.04	↓	-5.08	↓				
Rwanda	0.00	●	38.46	↑	34.66	↑	51.21	↑
South Sudan	0.00	●	53.13	↑	7.16	↑	158.30	↑
Tanzania	0.00	●	0.00	●	25.00	↑	2.27	↑
Togo	0.00	●	42.11	↑	3.42	↑	20.87	↑
Uganda	0.00	●	125.00	↑	18.44	↑	3.88	↑
Zambia	0.00	●	0.00	●	2.35	↑	0.00	●
Zimbabwe	0.00	●	-11.76	↓				

Key: ● No Change ↑ Increase ↓ Decrease

Figure 1: Hunger Hotspots Snapshot, February 2025



[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 standardised 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 every day and never, or very seldom, consume protein-rich food such as meat and dairy (FCS of less than 28). Borderline food consumption typically refers to households that consume staples and vegetables every day, accompanied by oils and pulses a few times a week (FCS of less than 42). Acceptable food consumption typically refers to households that consume staples and vegetables every day, frequently accompanied by oils and pulses, and occasionally meat, fish and dairy (FCS greater than 42).

Global Market Update

In February 2025, the FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) increased by 1.6% compared to its revised level in January (**Figure 2**). This rise was attributed to higher prices across all indices except for the meat price index, which remained unchanged. Notable price hikes were observed in sugar (6.6%), dairy (4%), and vegetable oils (2%). Overall, the index was 9.7 points (8.2%) higher than the same period last year. Conversely, the International Grain Council's (IGC) Grain and Oil Index (GOI) saw reductions of 1.71% in February 2025 compared to January 2025, and 2.67% compared to February 2024. These decreases were driven by falling prices for wheat, rice, and soybeans, which outweighed the price increases for maize and barley.

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

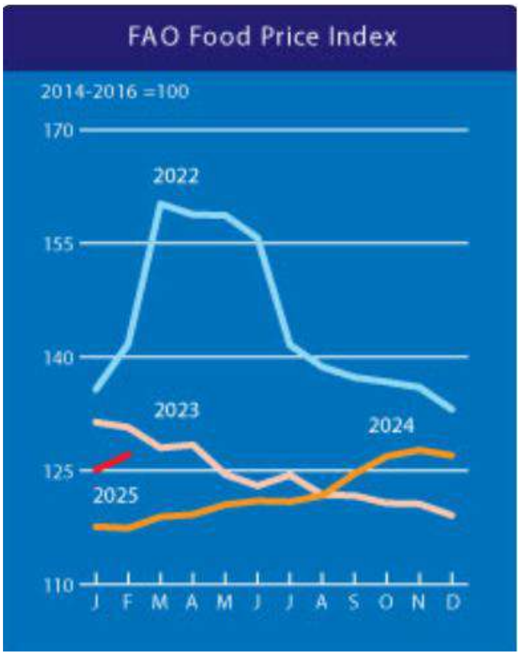


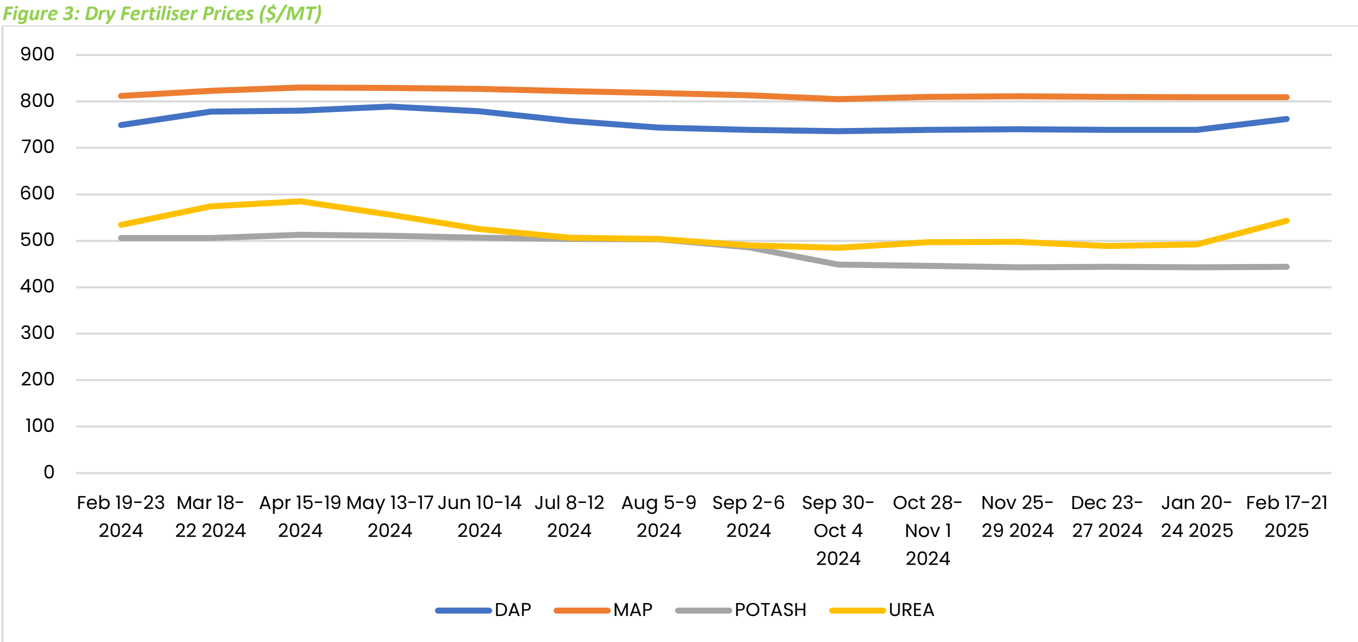
Table 2: IGC GOI Commodity Price Indices[3]

Jan 2000 = 100	28-Feb	% Change 1M	% Change 1Y
GOI	215.97	*-1.71*	*-2.67*
Wheat	198.08	*-0.72*	*-3.17*
Maize	231.51	*-3.04*	*21.85*
Rice	182.03	*-7.21*	*-29.06*
Soya beans	201.73	*-0.67*	*-3.86*
Barley	231.86	*2.42*	*12.70*

Global Fertiliser Prices

Overall, the prices of the monitored fertiliser types have surged over the past month, with DAP and urea increasing by 3.1% and 10.4%, respectively. Compared to the same time last year, DAP and urea prices were 1.7% higher, while MAP and potash prices declined by 0.4% and 12.3%, respectively.

Figure 3: Dry Fertiliser Prices ($/MT)



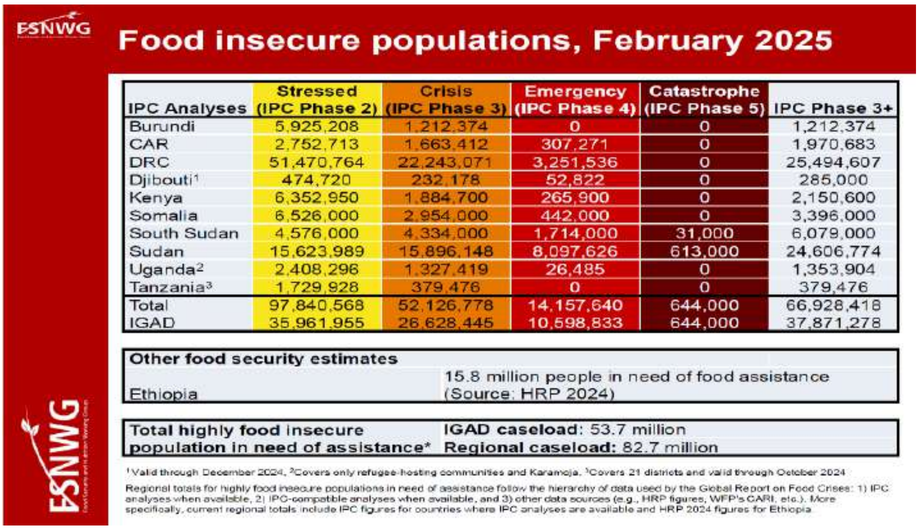
***Source**: Author's construction based on DTN[4]*

[2] https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/
[3] https://www.igc.int/en/markets/marketinfo-goi.aspx
[4] 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, February 2025



FSNWG

Food insecure populations, February 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	6,352,950	1,884,700	265,900	0	2,150,600
Somalia	6,526,000	2,954,000	442,000	0	3,396,000
South Sudan	4,576,000	4,334,000	1,714,000	31,000	6,079,000
Sudan	15,623,989	15,896,148	8,097,626	613,000	24,606,774
Uganda[2]	2,408,296	1,327,419	26,485	0	1,353,904
Tanzania[3]	1,729,928	379,476	0	0	379,476
Total	97,840,568	52,126,778	14,157,640	644,000	66,928,418
IGAD	35,961,955	26,628,445	10,598,833	644,000	37,871,278

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: 53.7 million Regional caseload: 82.7 million

[1] Valid through December 2024, [2] Covers only refugee-hosting communities and Karamoja, [3] Covers 21 districts and valid through October 2024

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 CARI, etc.). More specifically, current regional totals include IPC figures for countries where IPC analyses are available and HRP 2024 figures for Ethiopia

FSNWG

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

According to the February 2025 report from the East and Central Africa Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG), nearly 10 million people across **Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda** are experiencing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes, which is about 4.3% higher than in January 2025. The surge in food insecurity is primarily driven by Kenya, although South Sudan alone accounts for approximately 61% of the affected population across these four countries. In Ethiopia, the number of people facing acute food insecurity and needing food assistance remains at 15.8 million. Conflicts and insecurity, climate shocks and hazards, and macroeconomic challenges continue to drive these food insecurity situations in the East African region.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

As of February 28, 2025, the number of people with insufficient food for consumption in five selected East African countries remains at 45.3 million, the same as the previous month (**Table 3**). However, this figure indicates a worsening food insecurity situation compared to February 2024 (32.6 million) and January 2023 (42.3 million). Over the past year, all selected East African countries, except Kenya and Tanzania, have contributed to this deterioration, with Rwanda, South Sudan, and Uganda being the most significant contributors, at 38.4%, 53.1%, and 125%, respectively.

Table 3: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption across selected East African countries (February 2025)[5]

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 ●	0.00 ●	29.52 ↑
Rwanda	12.30	3.60	3.60	29.27	0.00 ●	38.46 ↑	20.00 ↑
South Sudan	11.00	4.90	4.90	44.55	0.00 ●	53.13 ↑	-26.87 ↓
Tanzania	56.30	5.20	5.20	9.24	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-10.34 ↓
Uganda	42.70	18.00	18.00	42.15	0.00 ●	125.00 ↑	10.43 ↑

**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%)

[5] Author's construction based on WFP HungerMap Live

Commodity Prices

Key drivers of commodity prices in EA

	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 Countries[6]

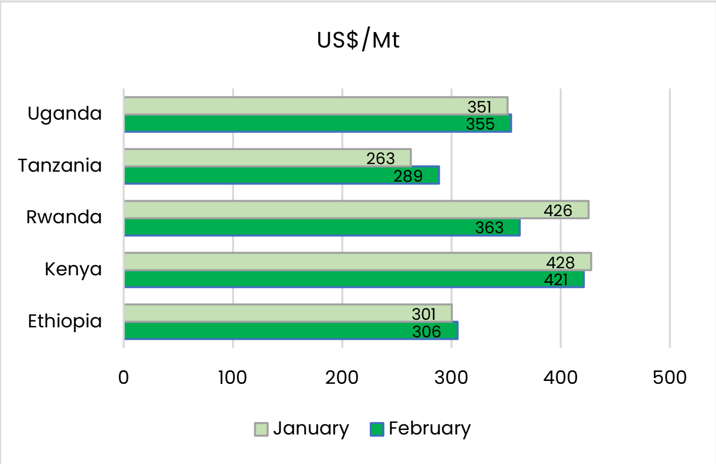


Figure 5 shows the price spread for maize (in USD) across five East African countries, highlighting that Tanzania has the lowest price in the region at USD 289/MT, despite a 10% month-on-month increase. Kenya, Uganda, and Ethiopia have seen relatively stable month-on-month price changes, with variations of +/- 1%. Kenya has the highest price at USD 421/MT, followed by Uganda at USD 355/MT, and Ethiopia at USD 306/MT. Notably, Rwanda experienced the most significant price decrease of 15% month-on-month, with prices at USD 363/MT, reflecting increased supplies during the principal Season A maize harvest period.

Local currency price changes (**Table 4**) further confirm this trend, with Rwanda's prices decreasing by 13.76% and 6.73% compared to the past 1 and 3 months, respectively. In Tanzania, prices have risen compared to the past 1-12 months, with current prices up by 2.27% and 25% compared to the past 1 and 3 months. Compared to February 2024, prices in Kenya, Rwanda, and South Sudan are significantly higher by 16.20%, 51.21%, and 158.30%, respectively, indicating stock depletion following the end of Ethiopia's Mehr cereal harvests and Tanzania's Vuli season harvests. However, Rwanda's Season A maize harvests are expected to slightly stabilise prices in the region. In Uganda, maize prices have increased by 0.95%, 15.26%, and 18.44% compared to the past 1, 3, and 6 months, respectively.

Table 4: Percentage changes in maize prices in East Africa[7]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	National average, Retail, ETB/100kg	3,882.22	2.07	-0.27	-5.36	-4.17
Kenya	Maize	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	54.14	-1.40	7.81	-5.03	16.20
Rwanda	Maize	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	506.20	-13.76	-6.73	34.66	51.21
South Sudan	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, SSP/Kg	1,959.10	-2.60	0.27	7.16	158.30
Tanzania	Maize (Mahindi)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	75,000.00	12.50	7.14	25.00	2.27
Uganda	Maize (flour)	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	2,336.56	5.52	2.61	2.13	-12.66
Uganda	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	1,298.02	0.95	15.26	18.44	3.88

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

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

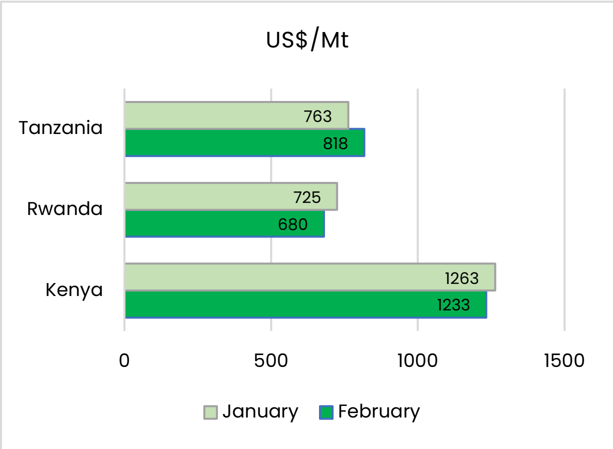
= low decrease (0-5%), = moderate decrease (5-15%), = high decrease (>15%)

[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 Countries[8]



The rice price spread (in USD) between Tanzania, Rwanda, and Kenya (**Figure 6**) shows that Kenya has the highest rice prices at USD 1,233/MT, while Rwanda has the lowest at USD 680/MT. Both Kenya and Rwanda have recorded slight month-on-month price decreases of 2.4% and 6.6%, respectively. Kenya's decrease is largely due to India's oversupply of rice stocks by 700% this season, as India is the leading rice exporter to Kenya. Rwanda's decrease is attributed to the Season A harvests. In contrast, rice prices in Tanzania have increased by 7% month-on-month due to stock depletion from the previous month and ongoing main-season rains.

Local currency price trends (**Table 5**) show that Tanzania's prices are higher by 9.91% and 11.84% compared to the past 1, 3, and 6 months. Kenya's prices are 2.24% lower compared to the previous month but are higher by 2.67% and 22.76% against its 6- and 12-months levels. Similarly, Rwanda has recorded low to moderate lower price levels over the past 1-3 months, despite being higher by 10.38% and 1.24% compared to the past 6 and 12 months.

Table 5: Percentage changes in rice prices in East Africa[9]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Rice	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	158.48	-2.24	0.38	2.68	22.76
Rwanda	Rice	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	852.11	-7.27	-1.32	10.38	1.24
Tanzania	Rice (Mchele)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	212,500.00	9.91	11.84	11.84	-10.21

Note: Last price is for February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 Countries[10]

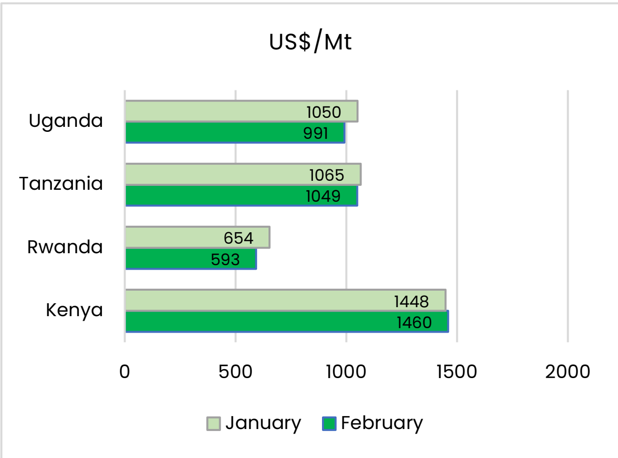


Figure 7 illustrates the price trends of beans in USD across four selected East African countries. Following favourable green harvests and effective stock maintenance, prices have remained stable or slightly decreased across the region. Uganda and Rwanda experienced more significant decreases of 5.7% and 9.3%, respectively, with Rwanda having the lowest retail price in the region at USD 593/Mt and Uganda at USD 991/Mt. Tanzania saw a low-price decrease of 1.5%, with prices at USD 1049/Mt, while Kenya recorded the highest price at USD 1460/Mt, reflecting a 0.8% month-on-month increase.

In local currencies, as shown in **Table 6,** prices in Rwanda and Uganda decreased by 15.17% and 6.68% compared to November 2024, indicating increased stock levels following the completion of the harvesting seasons in January 2025. However, compared to February 2024, bean prices in Rwanda, Kenya, and Tanzania have significantly and moderately increased by 58.22%, 17.63%, and 9%, respectively, due to rising demand from countries in the East and Southern Africa regions.

Table 6: Percentage changes in beans prices in East Africa[11]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Beans (Yellow-Green)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	187.63	0.98	1.51	6.00	16.44
Kenya	Beans Red Haricot (Wairimu)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	140.89	1.26	3.38	7.16	17.63
Rwanda	Beans	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	827.48	-8.20	-15.17	5.04	58.22
Tanzania	Beans (Maharage)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	272,500.00	0.93	3.49	9.00	9.00
Uganda	Beans	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	3,625.17	-5.66	-6.68	-3.95	1.62

Note: Last price is for February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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

Wheat

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

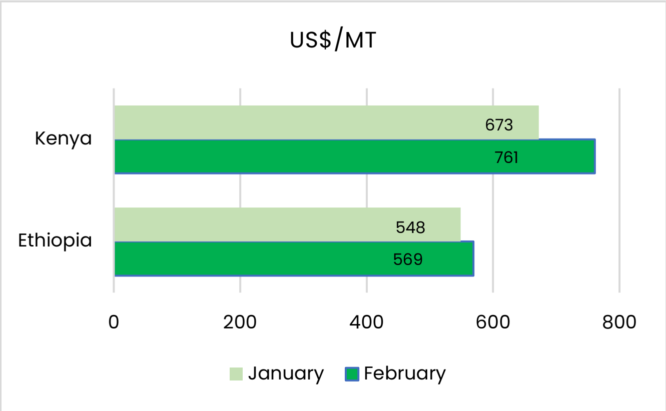


Figure 8 illustrates wheat prices in USD for two selected East African countries, Kenya and Ethiopia, with both countries recording price increases of 4% and 12% to USD 761/Mt and USD 569/Mt respectively. This trend is driven by rising demand and stock depletion in both countries.

Similarly, the local currency prices (**Table 7)** are up by 4.10% and 13.32% month-on-month in Ethiopia and Kenya respectively. Both countries have also registered higher prices at 0.25% and 46.7% respectively compared to a year ago due to ongoing inflationary pressures.[12] However, it anticipated that households in Ethiopia that harvested their crops in July and August are projected to exhaust their food reserves by February. Furthermore, economically disadvantaged pastoral households are anticipated to possess herd sizes below the normative levels[13].

Table 7: 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)	National average, Retail, ETB/100kg	7,225.52	4.10	-1.93	-2.05	0.25
Kenya	Wheat	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	97.79	13.32	2.32	-8.02	46.70

Note: Last price is for February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 are currently at their lowest levels in the past 6-12 months, with decreases of between 3 and 57%, observed (**Table 8**). However, over the past 1-3 months, Kenya has experienced price increases across all fertiliser types by 0.8% to 10.80%, driven by rising demand during the land preparation and planting period in anticipation of the upcoming long-rain season starting in March. In Rwanda, urea prices have decreased slightly month-on-month by 5.06% due to off-season reduced demand. Nevertheless, urea prices remain slightly higher by 3.16% compared to November 2024.

Table 8: Percentage changes in fertiliser prices in East Africa[15]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Fertilizer (CAN)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	81.21	0.80	2.38	-7.23	-12.86
Kenya	Fertilizer (DAP)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	108.86	9.86	4.58	-31.85	-57.21
Kenya	Fertilizer (NPK)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	95.52	6.01	10.80	-3.15	-26.51
Rwanda	Urea	National Average USD/50KG*	949.44	-5.06	3.16	-4.77	-18.20

Note: Last price is for February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 East Africa, the main season cereal harvest was largely completed in January, with conditions varying across the region. In **Ethiopia**, the planting of Belg season maize has started, but there are concerns due to a delayed and below-average onset of seasonal rains, coupled with ongoing socio-economic issues in the north. In **Tanzania**, Masika season rice and wheat are transitioning from the vegetative to the reproductive stage in the bimodal areas of the north and northern coast. Conversely, in the unimodal areas, Msimu season cereals are developing under mixed conditions, with persistent dryness in the southern and western regions raising concerns.

In **Kenya**, the harvesting of short rains maize is nearing completion, but conditions have been downgraded to poor due to unfavourable rainfall patterns this season. These patterns included a delayed onset, leading to late planting, followed by an early cessation of rain. In **Uganda**, the sowing and planting of first season maize and millet crops have begun in bimodal regions. However, there is apprehension that the suboptimal

[12] ReliefWeb https://reliefweb.int/report/world/food-security-monitor-january-2025

[13] WB Food Security Update https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/40ebbf38f5a6b68bfc11e5273e1405d4-0090012022/related/Food-Security-Update-113-February-14-2025.pdf

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

[15] Author's construction based on 1) AfricaFertiliser.org for Ethiopia & Rwanda, 2) National MIS for Kenya

onset of seasonal precipitation will likely impair seed germination and crop establishment, with subpar rainfall expected to persist through May.

Meanwhile, in **Rwanda**, the harvesting of Season A maize crops, which account for 60 percent of total cereal production, has been completed under favourable agronomic conditions. The planting of Season B maize crops, representing 40 percent of total cereal production, has recently commenced, but there are concerns that current arid conditions may negatively impact sowing operations and subsequent crop establishment. Similarly, in **Burundi**, the harvesting of Season A maize crops, which constitute 35 percent of total cereal production, has been completed under favourable agronomic conditions.

Southern Africa Food Security Update

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

As of February 28, 2025, the number of people experiencing insufficient food consumption in four selected Southern African countries remains at 22.2 million, unchanged from January (see **Table 9**). This figure is lower than the 22.8 million recorded in February 2024, signifying an improvement in the number of people experiencing IFC, supported by stability or decline seen in the select countries. This is, however, higher than the 19.9 million reported in February 2023 underpinned by increases in Mozambique (46.1%), Zambia (32%), and Zimbabwe (4.6%), with only Malawi experiencing a decline of 13.9%.

Table 9: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (February 2025)[16]

Country	Total Population (millions)	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)*	People with insufficient food consumption (millions)**	Percentage of total population with insufficient food for consumption (%)	Change in people with insufficient food consumption from previous month (%)		Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 1yr ago (%)		Change in people with insufficient food consumption from 2yrs ago (%)	
Malawi	18.10	6.80	6.80	37.57	0.00	●	0.00	●	-13.92	↓
Mozambique	29.50	7.60	7.60	25.76	0.00	●	0.00	●	46.15	↑
Zambia	17.40	3.30	3.30	18.97	0.00	●	0.00	●	32.00	↑
Zimbabwe	15.20	4.50	4.50	29.61	0.00	●	-11.76	↓	4.65	↗

**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.

Figure 9: National average price spreads for maize across select Southern African Countries[17]

[16] Author's construction based on HungerMap
[17] These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en

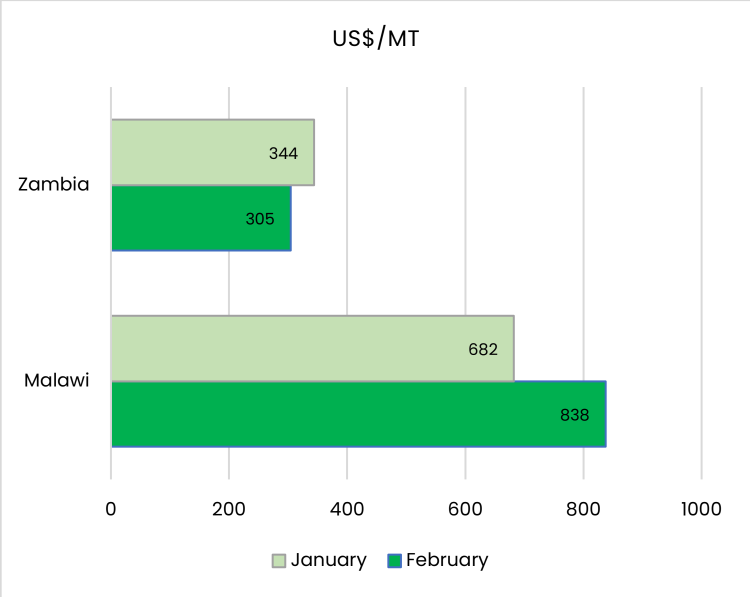


Figure 9 depicts the maize prices in USD for Zambia and Malawi, highlighting contrasting trends. In Zambia, the price has decreased by 12% month-on-month to USD 305/MT. Conversely, Malawi has seen a significant 23% price increase, reaching USD 838/MT during the same period. Since December 2024, Malawi's maize price has surged by 69%, with the country's year-on-year inflation rate hitting 28.5% as of January 2025. The FAO attributes these price hikes to domestic supply pressures, a reduced national maize harvest in 2024, and a weakened local currency, which has increased the cost of importing key agricultural inputs. Meanwhile, Zambia has managed its stock by importing maize from neighbouring countries, particularly Tanzania. Additionally, the onset of rains has eased Zambia's power crisis, reduced forex pressure, and stabilised the currency.

As shown in **Table 10**, the current maize prices in local currencies for Zambia and Malawi range from low to extremely high compared to the past 1-12 months. Alarmingly, maize prices in Malawi have surged by 20.70% to 81.17% compared to the past 1-12 months, highlighting the severe economic challenges the country is facing due to the drought. In contrast, Zambia's maize prices have remained stable over the past year. Given the ongoing favourable rains, these prices are expected to continue decreasing during the upcoming main season harvests.

Table 10: Percentage changes in select commodity prices in Southern Africa[18]

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*	1,445.71	23.12	67.23	81.64	81.17
Malawi	Maize	Nsanje, MWK/Kg*	1,362.04	30.01	52.04	51.91	34.90
Zambia	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, Kwacha/KG	8.64	-9.95	-0.87	2.35	0.00

Note: Last price is for February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 Zambia and Malawi, crops are developing well under mostly favourable conditions. Significant rainfall improvements since January have enhanced vegetation and soil conditions in these countries. However, dry condition concerns also remain in northern Malawi where seasonal precipitation remains below-average despite the recent passage of several storms.

[18] Author's construction based on FAO data

West Africa Food Security Update

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

As of February 28, 2025, the number of people experiencing insufficient food consumption in seven selected West African countries was 157.3 million. This represents a decrease of 1 million people compared to January 2025, driven solely by Nigeria (see **Table 11**). This figure is lower than the 158.2 million recorded in February 2024, supported by rises in IFC in Cote d'Ivoire (8.5%), Ghana (55.5%), and Togo (42.1%) counterbalanced by decline seen in Nigeria (5%), and stability seen in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Niger. Conversely, the current state of IFC in the region in February 2025 is higher than the 126.7 million reported in February 2023. This is as a result of declines or stability in Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Mali were not enough to neutralize the significant increases seen in Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, and Nigeria.

Table 11: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in selected West African countries (February 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	0.00	-11.11
Cote d'Ivoire	29.40	5.10	5.10	17.35	0.00	8.51	24.39
Ghana	29.80	8.40	8.40	28.19	0.00	55.56	-6.67
Mali	19.10	13.20	13.20	69.11	0.00	0.00	-5.71
Niger	25.90	21.40	21.40	82.63	0.00	0.00	12.04
Nigeria	202.80	95.30	96.30	46.99	-1.04	-5.08	46.17
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 include

	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

Maize

Figure 10: Price spreads for maize across select West African Countries[20]

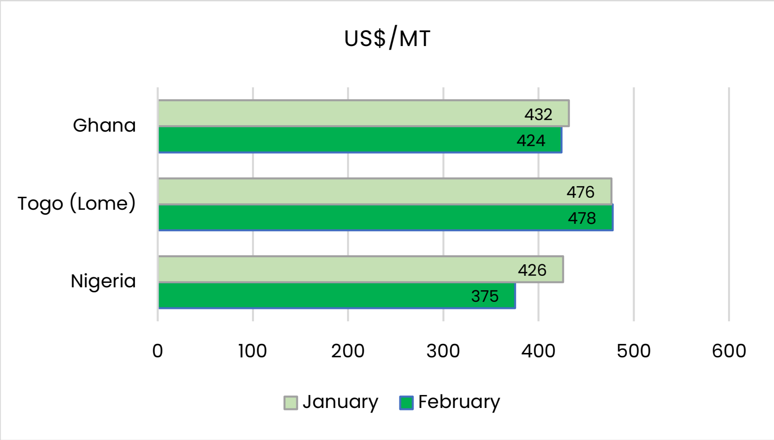


Figure 10 illustrates the price spread of maize in USD across three West African countries: Ghana, Togo, and Nigeria. Nigeria recorded the lowest maize price at USD 375/MT, down from USD 426. Conversely, Togo had the highest maize price at USD 478/MT. The decline in maize prices in Nigeria in USD is also reflective of the trends seen in local currencies, with prices falling by 14.13% and 23.6% over the past 1 and 3 months, respectively (see **Table 12**). Similarly, maize prices in local currency in select markets in Togo have remained stable or declined over the past 1 and 3 months. However, the current price level in Togo remains higher than it was 6-12 months ago. The high prices of cereals are attributed to several factors, including weak national currency, high transport costs, cereal production shortfalls, and conflict-related market disruptions in several areas.

However, following the bumper harvests experienced in some of these countries, such as Nigeria, coupled with the increase in cash demand by farmers to purchase necessary items for the Ramadan fasting season, there has been a decrease in prices. This situation has also prompted cereal hoarders to release their stocks for fear of further price declines.

Table 12: Percentage changes in maize prices in West Africa[21]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ghana	Maize (white)	National Average, (GHS/MT)	6,559.92	-0.41	4.49		
Nigeria	Maize (white)	National Average, NGN/KG	562.17	-14.13	-23.60		
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 February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 Countries[22]

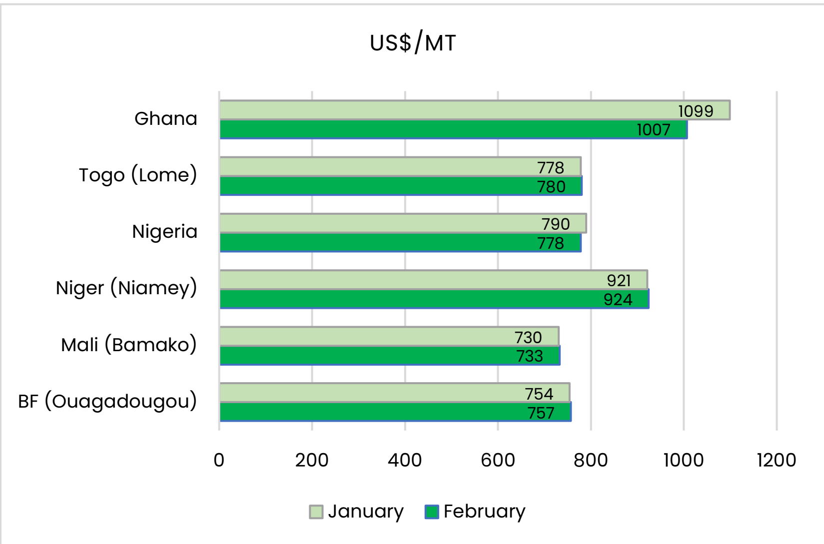


Figure 11 shows the price spread of rice in USD across seven West African markets. Ghana has the highest rice price at USD 1,007/MT, down from USD 1,099/MT. Mali recorded the lowest price at USD 733/MT. Overall, rice prices in local currencies have remained stable or declined across most selected markets in West Africa over the past 1-6 months, except in Burkina Faso (see Table 13). In Burkina Faso, rice prices have remained stable over the past month but are generally higher than those recorded in the past 3-12 months. With the onset of Ramadhan fasting in March 2025, prices are expected to continue dropping in the region as farmers, including cereal hoarders, continue selling their commodities to meet their cash demands. In Nigeria, the Government's issuance of [tariff moratorium](#) on wheat, corn, rice and other food crops last year, increased supply of these commodities and contributed to recent price decrease[23].

[20] These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en
[21] Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Togo
[22] These price spreads are calculated based on online rates on the last day of the month at https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en
[23] Nigeria Imports 32000 MT of Rice https://msmeafricaonline.com/nigeria-imports-32000-tons-of-thai-rice-amid-food-inflation-crisis/

Table 13: Percentage changes in rice prices in West Africa[24]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,500.00	1.19	1.19	1.19	6.25
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	55,000.00	0.00	-8.33	13.40	22.22
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	55,000.00	0.00	-1.79	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, Wholeslae, XOF/100 kg	55,000.00	0.00	37.50	10.00	27.91
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	55,000.00	-8.33	-8.33	25.00	25.00
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	47,500.00	0.00	-5.00	-3.06	18.75
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	45,000.00	5.88	-12.20	-14.29	5.88
Ghana	Rice	National Average, (GHS/MT)	15,571.43	-7.17	-4.80		
Mali	Rice	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	46,000.00	0.00	-16.36	-11.54	13.58
Mali	Rice	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	54,000.00	0.00	-3.57	3.85	8.00
Mali	Rice	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	45,000.00	5.88	-18.18	-6.25	0.00
Mali	Rice	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	48,000.00	6.67	-10.28	6.67	37.14
Mali	Rice (imported)	Bamako,Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	44,000.00	0.00	-8.33	-12.00	2.33
Mali	Rice (imported)	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	39,500.00	0.00	-3.66	-11.24	-12.22
Mali	Rice (imported)	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	48,000.00	6.67	-4.00	-12.73	4.35
Niger	Rice (imported)	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	650.00	1.56	-7.14	-10.96	1.56
Niger	Rice (imported)	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	600.00	-6.25	0.00	-16.67	-3.23
Niger	Rice (imported)	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	580.00	-3.33	-6.45	-19.44	3.57
Niger	Rice (imported)	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	580.00	0.00	-3.33	-19.44	-9.38
Niger	Rice (imported)	Tillaberi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	600.00	0.00	-3.23	-14.29	0.00
Nigeria	Rice (milled)	National Average, NGN/KG	1,226.19	0.94	-8.33		
Togo	Rice (imported)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg**	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-7.41
Togo	Rice (imported)	Anie, 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)	Korbongou, 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 February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 Countries[25]

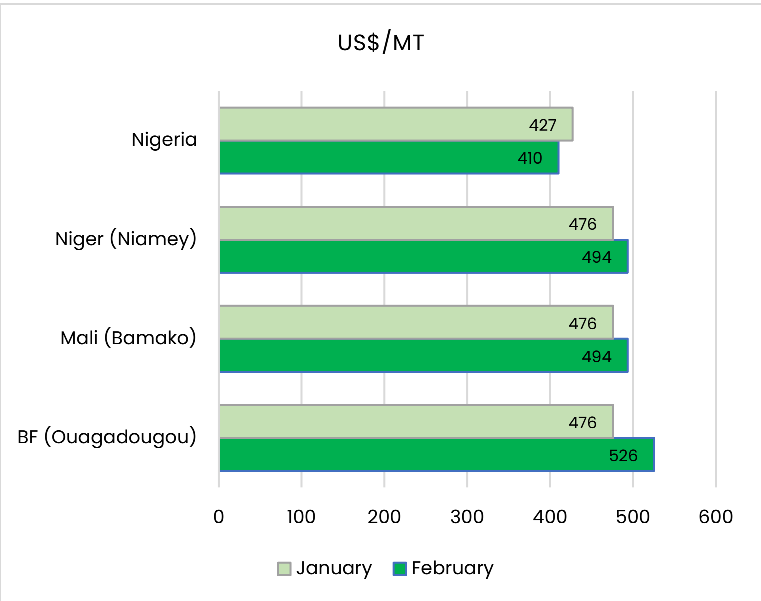


Figure 12 illustrates millet prices in USD across selected West African countries. In February, millet prices were highest in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, and lowest in Nigeria. The price of millet in Burkina Faso increased from USD 476/MT to USD 526/MT due to poor 2024 seasonal harvests. Meanwhile Nigeria saw a decrease of USD 17/MT from January 2025 attributed to increase in supply from imports due to Government's issuance of [tariff moratorium] on the crop. In local currencies (see Table 14), mixed trends are observed: Nigeria experienced declines of 6.42% and 16.23% over the past one and two months, respectively, while prices in Burkina Faso remained largely stable or saw moderate increases. In Mali and Niger, prices were significantly higher than the previous month. Overall, millet prices are lower than they were 3 to 6 months ago but remain higher than their levels from a year ago.

[24] Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo
[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 Countries[26]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Millet	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	37,000.00	2.78	-2.63	-2.63	39.62
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	30,000.00	0.00	-25.00	-20.00	17.65
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	40,000.00	5.26	-11.11	-20.00	17.65
Burkina Faso	Millet	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	33,500.00	3.08	15.52	1.52	24.07
Burkina Faso	Millet	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,500.00	0.00	-6.59	0.00	54.55
Burkina Faso	Millet	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	35,000.00	0.00	0.00	33.33	45.83
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	33,000.00	10.00	-17.50	-21.43	24.53
Burkina Faso	Millet	Tenkodogo, Wholsale, XOF/100 kg	36,500.00	1.39	-17.51	-18.89	17.74
Mali	Millet	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	31,000.00	3.33	-17.33	-13.89	29.17
Mali	Millet	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	36,000.00	9.09	-12.20	14.29	38.46
Mali	Millet	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	30,000.00	33.33	-25.00	-21.05	33.33
Mali	Millet	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	36,000.00	2.86	-11.66	-18.18	20.00
Niger	Millet	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	400.00	37.93	17.65	-23.08	25.00
Niger	Millet	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	275.00	7.84	10.00	-36.05	10.00
Niger	Millet	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	275.00	3.77	10.00	-24.66	5.77
Niger	Millet	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	310.00	3.33	10.71	-29.55	6.90
Niger	Millet	Tillaberi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	300.00	0.00	0.00	-36.84	-3.23
Nigeria	Millet	National Average, NGN/KG	614.70	-6.42	-16.23		

Note: Last price is for February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 Countries[27]

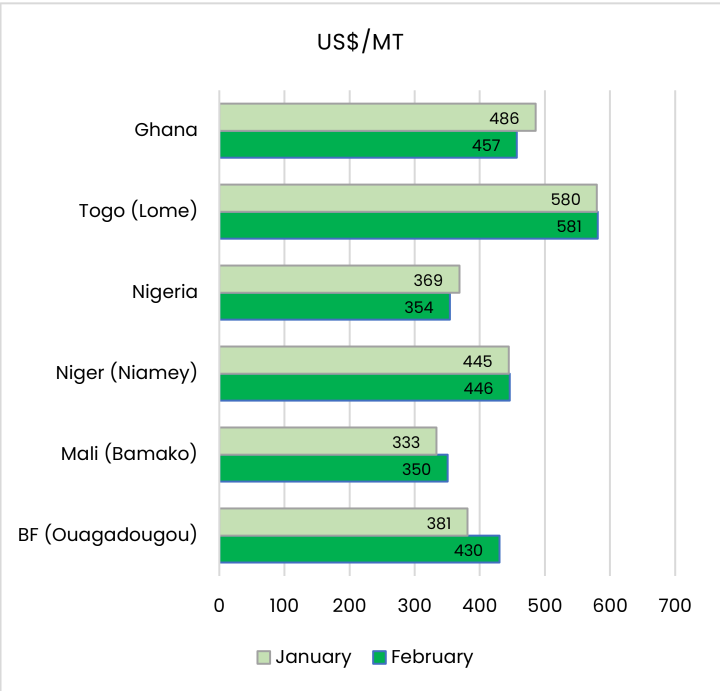


Figure 13 illustrates the price spread among major markets in the select West African countries for Sorghum. The data indicates that the highest price of sorghum is in Lomé, Togo, at USD 581/MT, while the lowest price is in Bamako, Mali, close to Nigeria's price of USD 354/MT. **Table 15** highlights changes in local currency prices, showing mixed trends. Compared to the past 3 to 6 months, sorghum prices are mostly lower or stable in most of the selected markets. In contrast, Kara, Togo registered particularly higher price by 50.77% and 53.13% compared to 3 and 6 months ago. Compared to the previous month, sorghum prices have increased in Dori, Fada Ng'ouma, Ouagadougou, and Tenkodogo in Burkina Faso; and in Agadez, Dosso, Maradi, and Tillaberi in Niger. Prices have remained stable or decreased in the rest of the markets in these countries. In Ghana and Nigeria, sorghum prices have been declined by 4.72% and 6.47% respectively, while the price in Togo is stable compared to the past month. Overall, sorghum prices remain well above their levels from a year ago in all selected markets in Burkina Faso, as well as in Bamako, Kayes, Tombouctou, Agadez, and Kara, attributed to high transport costs, strong local demand, conflict-related market disruptions as well as production shortfalls of the 2024 cereal harvest[28].

[26] Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo
[27] These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en
[28] FPMA Feb 2025 https://www.fao.org/giews/food-prices/regional-roundups/detail/en/c/1733197/

Table 15: Percentage changes in sorghum prices in select West African countries [29]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	23,500.00	4.44	0.00	-6.00	9.30
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	0.00	-16.67	-16.67	25.00
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	37,500.00	17.19	8.70	-6.25	29.31
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,000.00	8.00	0.00	-12.90	12.50
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	0.00	-16.67	-16.67	8.70
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	0.00	-9.09	7.53	19.05
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,000.00	12.50	-3.57	-14.29	25.58
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	21,000.00	5.00	-25.00	-26.32	0.00
Ghana	Sorghum	National Average, (GHS/MT)	7,066.67	-4.72	-18.15		
Mali	Sorghum	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	22,000.00	4.76	0.00	-24.14	22.22
Mali	Sorghum	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	25,000.00	-1.96	-26.47	-12.28	38.89
Mali	Sorghum	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	20,000.00	-11.11	-33.33	-20.00	0.00
Mali	Sorghum	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	34,000.00	3.03	-9.33	-20.00	13.33
Niger	Sorghum	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	360.00	24.14	0.00	-21.74	12.50
Niger	Sorghum	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	260.00	4.00	-5.45	-39.53	0.00
Niger	Sorghum	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	240.00	4.35	-17.24	-31.43	-4.00
Niger	Sorghum	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	280.00	0.00	-20.00	-34.88	3.70
Niger	Sorghum	Tillaberi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg**	300.00	7.14	-3.23	-31.82	0.00
Nigeria	Sorghum (white)	National Average, NGN/KG	530.30	-6.47	-31.10		
Togo	Sorghum	Anie, 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 February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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

Table 16 illustrates the price fluctuations of various monitored fertiliser types in Ghana and Nigeria. Over the past month, fertiliser prices in Ghana have remained stable, while Nigeria experienced slight increases ranging from 1.7-2.2%. Compared to the previous year, all fertiliser prices in Ghana have risen, with NPK-23-10-5 showing a significant increase of 18.98%. In Nigeria, the average prices of NPK and urea have decreased by 5.1% and 9.13%, respectively, compared to the past three months.

Table 16: Percentage changes in fertiliser prices in West Africa[30]

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
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
Nigeria	Fertiliser_NPK	National Average, NGN/50KG	862.14	1.77	-5.10		
Nigeria	Fertiliser_Urea	National Average, NGN/50KG	701.16	2.19	-9.13		

Note: Last price is for February 2025, * January 2025, and ** December 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 West Africa, the harvesting of both main and second season cereals is complete, with mostly favourable outcomes despite mixed rainfall, except in northern **Ghana** where drought led to below-average yields. In the Sahel, main season rice harvesting finished in February in **Mali**, and second season rice harvesting is ongoing. Land preparation for the 2025/2026 main cropping season is underway, with planting expected to start in March in several other West African countries, including Liberia, **Côte d'Ivoire**, **Ghana**, **Togo, Benin, Nigeria, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic**.

[29] Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo
[30] Author's construction based on AfricaFertiliser.org

Food Trade Updates

Continental

The African Union has made a historic move to enhance food safety across the continent by adopting the statute for the establishment of the Africa Food Safety Agency during the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 16 February 2025. This landmark decision signifies a major advancement in the continent's commitment to protecting consumer health, strengthening food safety governance, and facilitating trade in safe food products under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The Food Safety Agency will function as a Specialized Technical Institution of the African Union, dedicated to coordinating and harmonising food safety policies, regulations, and risk assessment frameworks across Member States.

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

South Sudan

The National Coordination Committee (NCC) for the East African Community (EAC) in South Sudan has formed a new committee to oversee cross-border trade in pre-packaged food products and cosmetics. The initiative aims to enhance the quality and safety of goods traded within the region.

Rwanda

The border between the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda has reopened after almost three years of partial restrictions, to allow more trade between the people of the two neighbouring states.

Tanzania

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has committed USD 2.5 billion to the development of priority infrastructure projects in the United Republic of Tanzania. The funding is for priority infrastructure projects, with more than 70% of the funds being allocated to transport infrastructure including roads, railways and airports, some of which include the multinational Tanzania/Kenya 400-km Bagamoyo – Pangani – Tanga – Horohoro/Lunga Lunga – Mombasa – Malindi (Kenya) road which forms part of the Coastal Transport Corridor of East Africa.

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 February 2025

Mozambique

The Government of Madagascar, with funding from the African Development Fund (ADF), launched a call for expressions of interest for consulting services to enhance trade facilitation through soft infrastructure development between the Port of Toliara (Madagascar) and the Port of Beira (Mozambique). This initiative forms part of the Project for the Development of Corridors and Trade Facilitation (PACFC II), a strategic effort to improve logistics efficiency and regional connectivity. The project focuses on non-physical infrastructure—including digital systems, regulatory frameworks, and operational coordination—to optimise port efficiency and reduce delays in cargo movement.

West Africa

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 February 2025

Nigeria

- The Trucks Transit Parks Ltd (TTP) has successfully integrated the Central Bank of Nigeria's (CBN) and Nigeria Export Proceeds (NXP) system with its innovative Ètò electronic call-up platform. This integration is aimed at modernising and streamlining Nigeria's export operations, enhancing transparency, efficiency, and overall operational excellence at the nation's ports.
- The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) has launched its Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programme to modernise trade facilitation, reduce the cost of doing business, and enhance supply chain security.
- The government of the Niger Republic has implemented new immigration restrictions on Nigerian travellers. Those using an Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) passport without a valid international passport are now barred from entry. This measure follows Niger's recent withdrawal from ECOWAS, along with Mali and Burkina Faso, after military takeovers in these countries.

Burkina Faso

The Government of Burkina Faso continues to maintain a ban on the export of key staples including rice, millet, maize, sorghum, and cowpeas from Ghana.

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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