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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 58th edition overviews the food security situation and market prices across East, South, and West Africa.

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	3
Summary	4
Food Commodity Prices Updates	4
Food Security Updates.....	4
Food Trade Updates.....	5
Introduction.....	6
Food Security Dashboard.....	6
Global Market Update.....	8
Global Fertiliser Prices.....	8
East Africa Food Insecurity Updates.....	9
Food Security Outlook	9
Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption	9
Commodity Prices	10
Maize.....	10
Rice	11
Beans.....	12
Wheat.....	13
Fertiliser	13
Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions	14
Southern Africa Food Security Update	15
Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption	15
Commodity Prices	16
Maize.....	16
Rice	17
Beans.....	17
Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions	18
West Africa Food Security Update	19
Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption.....	19
Commodity Prices	20
Maize.....	20
Rice	21
Millet.....	22
Sorghum.....	23
Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions	24
Food Trade Updates	25
Continental.....	25
East Africa	25
West Africa.....	26

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 May 2025 Food Security Monitor are summarised below:

Food Commodity Prices Updates

In **East Africa**, Kenya's maize prices have surged to USD 510 per metric tonne, the highest among monitored commodities, largely due to reduced domestic supply and rising demand from animal feed millers¹. To ease supply pressure, the Government of Kenya has permitted the importation of 5.5 million bags of yellow maize with a 50% import duty waiver for animal feed, while also releasing 200,000 bags to millers to stabilise flour prices². Meanwhile, Ethiopia recorded the lowest maize price in East Africa at USD 281 per metric tonne, while Tanzania saw a 3% month-on-month decrease due to the approaching harvest season, although prices may rise soon amid Kenya's crisis. Conversely, Uganda's maize price rose sharply by 15.17% month-on-month to USD 441 per metric tonne, driven by strong export demand from Kenya and South Sudan, making it the second highest priced maize in the region. These price fluctuations were primarily driven by stock shortages resulting from seasonal variations and heightened demand for maize in the region.

In **Southern Africa**, despite the arrival of newly harvested 2025 crops, maize prices in Malawi remain the highest in the region at USD 507 per metric tonne, due to depleted stocks from the previous season. Zambia follows with USD 324 per metric tonne, while Mozambique records the lowest maize prices at USD 206 per metric ton, reflecting a significant 54% decline in the past month due to increased supply from ongoing harvests. Zimbabwe has recorded the highest rice price in the region at USD 2,090 per metric tonne, driven by increased demand and supply constraints. Meanwhile, Malawi saw an 11% price drop from April, bringing rice prices to USD 2,037 per metric ton, due to improved supply from ongoing harvests. In contrast, Mozambique experienced a 15% price increase, with prices rising from USD 949 per metric tonne in April to USD 1,094 in May, reflecting broader regional economic dynamics influencing food costs.

In **West Africa**, Ghana has recorded the highest maize price in the region at USD 655 per metric ton, reflecting a 42% increase driven by the appreciation of the Ghanaian Cedi against the US dollar. Meanwhile, Nigeria reported the lowest maize price at USD 425 per metric ton, while Togo's price remained stable. Similarly, Ghana saw the highest rice price, surging from USD 1,012 per metric ton to USD 1,472, marking a significant increase due to currency fluctuations. Nigeria again reported the lowest rice price at USD 761 per metric ton, mirroring the trend observed in maize prices. However, it is worth noting that the year-on-year increases in coarse grain prices in the region are underpinned by 2024 production shortfalls in several regions, elevated fuel prices that have driven up transport costs, and supply chain disruptions in conflict-affected areas.

Food Security Updates

According to the May 2025 FEWS NET report, **East Africa** continues to face severe food insecurity conditions driven by overlapping conflict and climate shocks. The most critical conditions are in Sudan, where over 20 million people are in need and Famine (IPC Phase 5) persists in North Darfur and the Nuba Mountains due to ongoing conflict, mass displacement, and a cholera outbreak. Humanitarian access remains extremely limited. Across the region, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) and Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes persist.

In **Southern Africa**, mixed food security outlook persists, shaped by both persistent challenges and recent improvements. On one hand, the region continues to grapple with intensifying conflict and macroeconomic instability. On the other, the 2024/25 agricultural season brought relief following the severe El Niño-induced drought of 2023/24. The October 2024 to April 2025 rainy season delivered generally average to above-average rainfall across much of the region, significantly boosting crop development. As a result, the 2025 main harvest is expected to substantially enhance food availability, improve affordability, and increase income from agricultural labour and crop sales. Consequently, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected across most countries in the region.

¹ See <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/bd/markets/commodities/kagwe-allows-imports-as-unga-prices-hit-13-month-high>

² CS Kagwe Releases 200,000 Bags of Maize to Curb Soaring Unga Prices - Kenyans.co.ke

In **West Africa**, food insecurity is projected to worsen during the June–August lean season, particularly in northern areas where entrenched conflict and political instability continue to disrupt agricultural production, market access, and trade flows. In the Sahel, violence remains a major driver of food insecurity, especially in northern and eastern Burkina Faso, northern and central Mali, and the border regions of Niger, where access to food and livelihoods is increasingly constrained. The spill over of violence into coastal countries such as Togo is also a growing concern, evidenced by the recent influx of thousands of refugees fleeing conflict-affected areas. Across much of West Africa, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes persist in Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Mali, while Crisis (IPC Phase 3) conditions continue in Niger and Togo.

Food Trade Updates

- The East African Community (EAC) has approved a new Cross-border Payment System Masterplan during the 28th Ordinary Meeting of the Monetary Affairs Committee (MAC), comprising central bank governors from EAC member states. This strategic initiative aims to enhance financial integration, support regional trade, and establish a secure, efficient, and unified payment ecosystem. The Masterplan supports the EAC's goal of adopting a single currency by 2031 and focuses on four key pillars: (i) Policy and Regulatory Harmonisation, (ii) Infrastructure Development and Modernisation, (iii) Financial Market Deepening, and (iv) Capacity Building. Its implementation is expected to reduce the cost and duration of cross-border transactions, making payments faster and more affordable.
- Uganda, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic (CAR) have launched a transformative 1,800-kilometre regional road project, marking a significant milestone in infrastructure development across East and Central Africa. This ambitious initiative aims to boost trade, enhance connectivity, and foster deeper economic integration throughout the region. The project will be financed through a combination of national budgets, international development partner support, and private-sector investments.
- The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) and the Benin Republic Customs Administration have officially launched a digital cross-border trade system known as SIGMAT Connectivity. This initiative aims to streamline trade processes and enable both countries leverage the \$3.4 trillion African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). SIGMAT, which stands for System for Interconnected Management of Goods in Transit, enables real-time customs data exchange and efficient goods tracking. It now connects six West African nations: Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Burkina Faso, enhancing regional trade integration and transparency.

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 and 2**) provides a summary trend in the fluctuations in the number of people experiencing Insufficient Food Consumption (IFC)³, identifies hunger hotspots and tracks average changes in food prices over the past year. **Figure 1** illustrates the prevalence of IFC in May 2025 across 17 countries in Eastern, Southern, and Western Africa.

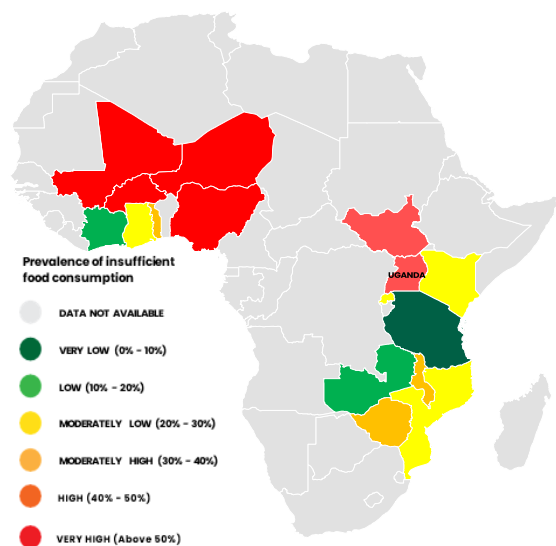
Burkina Faso (56.6%), Mali (69.1%), and Niger (82.6%) remain the primary hunger hotspots in the region over the past 13 months, with over half of their populations facing insufficient food consumption (IFC). These are followed by South Sudan and Uganda, where 44.5% and 42.2% of the population, respectively, are also experiencing IFC. Nigeria, on the other hand, has shown notable improvement for the fifth consecutive month, the country has recorded a significant decline in IFC levels. In May 2025, 60.4 million people were affected, representing a 40% decrease since December 2024, and a 39.8% year-on-year reduction. However, several countries have experienced deteriorating food security conditions. Uganda recorded the most significant with IFC levels surging by 116.8% compared to a year ago. Ghana, Togo, South Sudan, and Rwanda also experienced increases of 61%, 50%, 44%, and 33%, respectively. These negative trends are largely driven by ongoing conflicts and insecurity, the influx of returnees from Sudan, economic instability, rising food prices, and a reduction in humanitarian assistance.

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	1.11	8.57
Ethiopia			-2.51	-3.34
Ghana	0.00	61.54	7.06	
Kenya	0.00	0.00	30.33	35.15
Malawi	0.00	0.00	-7.26	45.52
Mali	0.00	0.00	-5.91	1.76
Mozambique	0.00	0.00		
Niger	0.00	0.00	-15.68	-16.85
Nigeria	-23.74	-39.84	14.39	
Rwanda	0.00	33.33	-22.74	
South Sudan	0.00	44.12	7.16	285.12
Tanzania	0.00	0.00	14.29	60.00
Togo	0.00	50.00	0.18	3.15
Uganda	0.00	116.87	41.51	40.14
Zambia	0.00	0.00	3.58	0.78
Zimbabwe	0.00	-18.18	1.78	47.19

Key: ● No Change ↑ Increase ↓ Decrease

Figure 1: Hunger Hotspots Snapshot, May 2025



³ 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).

Figure 2 below illustrates maize and rice prices across the monitored countries. During April–May 2025, maize prices (in USD per metric tonne) were highest in Ghana, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Kenya, each exceeding USD 500/MT. In contrast, Tanzania and Ethiopia recorded the lowest maize prices, both falling below USD 300/MT. A similar trend is observed for rice prices, with Malawi, Kenya, and Ghana reporting the highest costs, each surpassing USD 1,000/MT. Meanwhile, Mozambique and Ethiopia had the lowest rice prices, both under USD 300/MT.

Maize Prices



Global Market Update

The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) had declined by 0.8% in May over April (Figure 2), supported by declines in the price indices for cereals, sugar and vegetable oils despite increases for dairy products and meat.⁴ The decline the cereal prices were as a result of increasing seasonal availability from ongoing harvests in Argentina and Brazil, as well as expectations of a record 2025 maize harvest in the United States of America. The International Grains Council (IGC) Grain and Oilseeds Index (GOI) fell by 2.5% in May compared to the previous month, and by 11.7% year-on-year. This overall decline was driven by decreases across all sub-indices, except for wheat (month-on-month) and maize (year-on-year), which remained stable or improved. Notably, the rice, wheat, and soybean sub-indices recorded significant year-on-year drops of 32.5%, 12.1%, and 12.3%, respectively.

Figure 3: FAO Food Price Index (FFPI)⁵

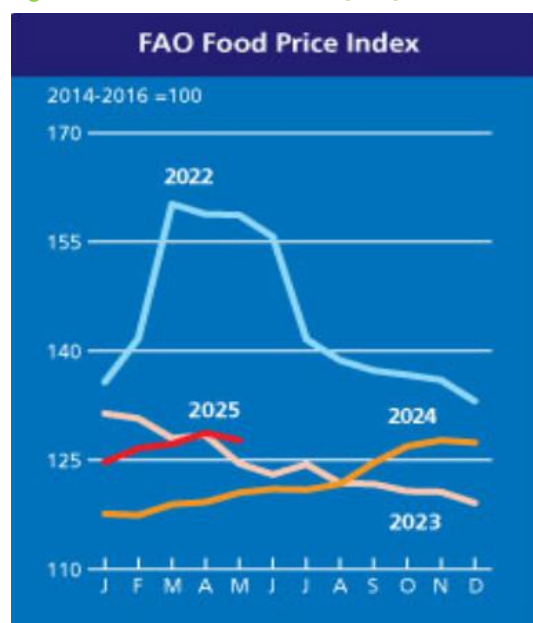


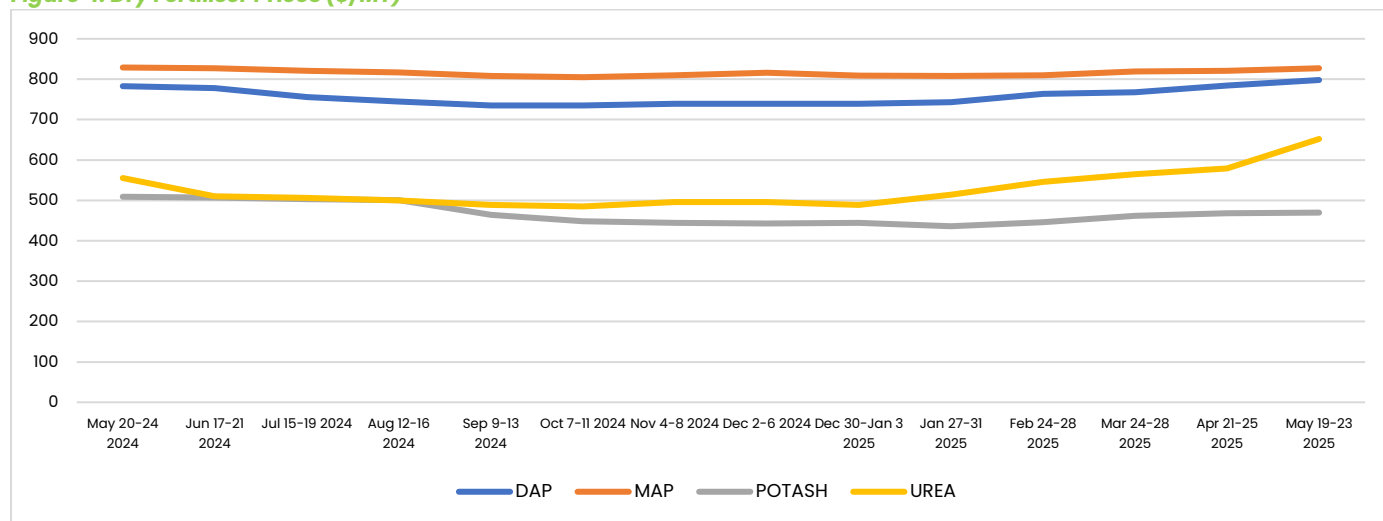
Table 2: IGC GOI Commodity Price Indices⁶

	Jan 2000 = 100	30-May	% Change 1M	% Change 1Y
GOI		214.68	-2.50	-11.70
Wheat		201.90	0.57	-12.11
Maize		221.01	-7.38	5.71
Rice		174.00	-1.47	-32.57
Soyabeans		203.25	-2.21	-12.31
Barley		222.46	-4.09	-4.08

Global Fertiliser Prices

Fertiliser prices have risen across the board over the past month, with notable increases in DAP and urea, which increased by 1.8% and 12.6%, respectively. On a year-on-year basis, DAP and urea prices also rose by 1.9% and 17.5%. In contrast, prices for MAP and potash declined compared to the same period last year, falling by 0.2% and 7.7%, respectively.

Figure 4: Dry Fertiliser Prices (\$/MT)



Source: Author's construction based on DTN ⁷

⁴ <https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/>

⁵ <https://www.fao.org/worldfoodsituation/foodpricesindex/en/>

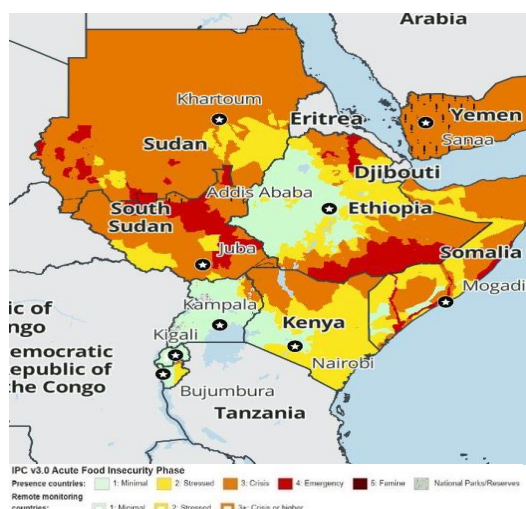
⁶ <https://www.igc.int/en/markets/marketinfo-goi.aspx>

⁷ <https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/crops/article/2025/05/28/urea-leads-major-fertilizer-prices>

East Africa Food Insecurity Updates

Food Security Outlook

Figure 5: East African Countries Food Security Outlook, May 2025



According to the May 2025 FEWS NET report, **East Africa** continues to experience severe food insecurity conditions driven by the combined effects of conflict and climate shocks.⁸ The most critical conditions are in Sudan, where over 20 million people are in need and Famine (IPC Phase 5) persists in North Darfur and the Nuba Mountains due to ongoing conflict, mass displacement, and a cholera outbreak. Humanitarian access remains extremely limited. In **South Sudan**, 60–65% of the population is experiencing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes, worsened by political instability, flooding, and disease outbreaks. **Ethiopia** is also facing Emergency (IPC Phase 4) conditions in several regions, particularly due to conflict in Amhara and Tigray, drought in Afar and Somali regions, and economic challenges, with aid delivery hampered by funding and access constraints. While conditions in **Kenya** are relatively stable, 2.5–2.99 million people are projected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, largely due to economic and weather-related vulnerabilities. Similarly, **Uganda** is expected to see Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes for 1.5–1.99 million people, driven by localised weather shocks, economic pressures, and the strain of hosting large refugee populations.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

Since October 2024, the number of people facing insufficient food consumption has remained unchanged across the five selected East African countries (Table 3). However, compared to the same period last year, the current levels have increased significantly in Rwanda (33%), South Sudan (44%), and Uganda (116%). In contrast, Kenya and Tanzania have seen no year-on-year change.

Table 3: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption across selected East African countries (May 2025)⁹

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	38.78
Rwanda	12.30	3.60	3.60	29.27	0.00	33.33	24.14
South Sudan	11.00	4.90	4.90	44.55	0.00	44.12	-23.44
Tanzania	56.30	5.20	5.20	9.24	0.00	0.00	-3.70
Uganda	42.70	18.00	18.00	42.15	0.00	116.87	18.42

*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%)

⁸ FEWS NET Global Food Security Update, May to September 2025

⁹ 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 previously high levels despite ongoing harvests.
	Seasonal Dynamics	The October-December season, including Tanzania's main harvest is improving supplies in most markets, leading to lower prices across the region. However, above average rainfall in some areas may have hindered smooth movement of crops hence affecting prices.
	Macroeconomic Shocks	South Sudan continues to experience high prices due to poor macroeconomic conditions, an influx of returnees from Sudan, trade disruptions, and localised poor harvests.

Maize

Figure 6: National average price spreads for maize across select East African Countries¹⁰

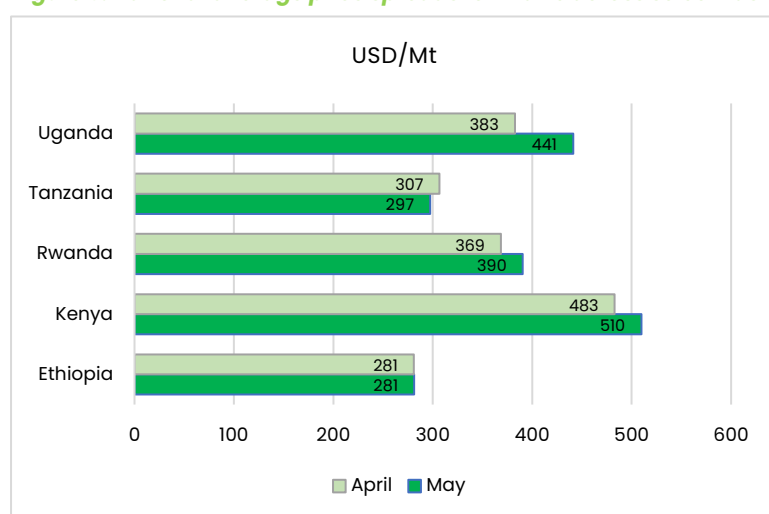


Figure 6 highlights the maize price distribution (in USD) across five East African countries, with Ethiopia maintaining a nearly unchanged price from the previous month and recording the lowest regional price at USD 281 per metric tonne. Kenya's maize prices have continued to rise for the third consecutive month, reaching USD 510 per metric tonne, the highest in the region. This increase is driven by a reduced domestic supply and growing demand from animal feed millers¹¹. To alleviate supply pressures, the government has authorized the importation of 5.5 million bags of yellow maize, subject to a 50% import duty waiver and designated exclusively for animal feed production.¹² Additionally, the government has

taken proactive measures by releasing 200,000 bags of maize to millers in a bid to stabilise flour prices.¹³

Uganda's maize price rose sharply by 15.17% month-on-month to USD 441 per metric tonne, driven by strong export demand from Kenya and South Sudan, making it the region's second highest priced maize. Conversely, Rwanda prices have also increased by 5.8% month-on-month to USD 390 per metric tonne, the third highest price in the region. In contrast Tanzania experienced a slight 3% month-on-month decrease in maize prices attributed to the approaching harvest season. However, prices are expected to rise in the coming weeks, influenced by Kenya's ongoing maize supply crisis.

Overall, maize prices in local currency across the East African region remain elevated compared to the past 1-12 months (**Table 4**), with South Sudan recording the most significant price surges among the five East African countries standing at 7.08% and 285% higher than one month and 12 months ago, respectively. Kenya and Uganda have continued to experience upward trends in maize prices over the past year, with Kenya recording increases ranging from 5.53% to 35.15%, and Uganda from 14.41% to 41.51%. In contrast, Rwanda registered a modest 2.15% month-on-month increase, though prices remain 21.74% and 22.74% lower compared to three and six months ago, respectively. These prices reflect ongoing macroeconomic challenges and the depletion of maize stocks, largely driven by heightened demand in South Sudan, Kenya, and Southern Africa.

In Ethiopia, maize prices recorded a modest month-on-month increase of 1.53%, though they remain lower compared to the past three to twelve months, with declines ranging from 2.24% to 3.34%. This overall stability is attributed to increased stock availability following a successful main season harvest. The recent uptick, however, is largely driven

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

¹¹ See <https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/bd/markets/commodities/kagwe-allows-imports-as-unga-prices-hit-13-month-high>

¹² <https://farmersreviewafrica.com/kenya-approves-5-5m-bags-of-yellow-maize-imports-with-50-duty-waiver-to-ease-pressure-on-white-maize>

¹³ [CS Kagwe Releases 200,000 Bags of Maize to Curb Soaring Unga Prices - Kenyans.co.ke](https://kenyans.co.ke/CS-Kagwe-Releases-200,000-Bags-of-Maize-to-Curb-Soaring-Unga-Prices)

by rising export demand from neighbouring countries experiencing supply shortages. Conversely, Tanzania recorded a 3.03% decline in maize prices over the past month. However, prices remain considerably elevated by 14.29% and 60% compared to six and twelve months ago, respectively primarily due to sustained demand from neighbouring East and Southern African countries.

Table 4: Percentage changes in maize prices in East Africa¹⁴

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	White Maize (Quintal)	National average, Retail, ETB/100kg	3,795.24	1.53 ▲	-2.24 ▾	-2.51 ▾	-3.34 ▾
Kenya	Maize	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	65.45	5.53 ↑	20.89 ×	30.33 ×	35.15 ×
Rwanda	Maize	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	549.05	2.15 ▲	-21.74 ↓	-22.74 ↓	
South Sudan	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, SSP/Kg*	4,218.50	7.08 ↑	109.74 ×	7.16 ↑	285.12 ×
Tanzania	Maize (Mahindi)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	80,000.00	-3.03 ▾	6.67 ↑	14.29 ↑	60.00 ×
Uganda	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	1,593.68	14.41 ↑	22.78 ×	41.51 ×	40.14 ×

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

● = 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 7: National average price spreads for rice across select East African Countries¹⁵

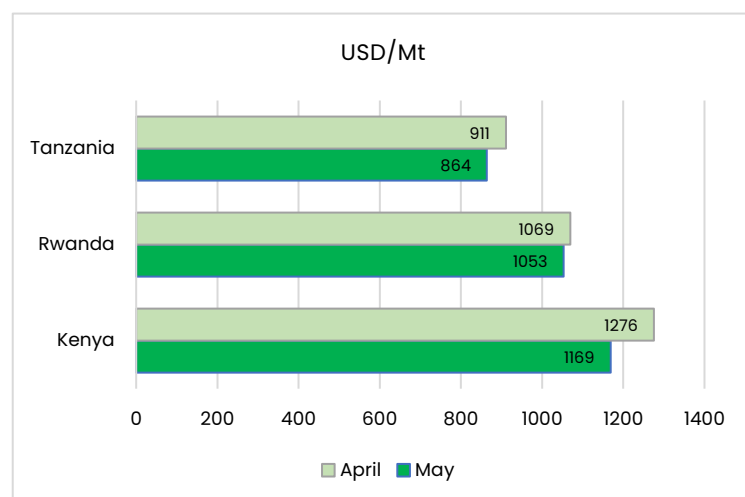


Figure 7 illustrates the rice price spread in USD across Tanzania, Rwanda, and Kenya, with all three countries experiencing price decreases compared to previous month.

Despite marking an 8.39% decrease to USD 1,169/MT, Kenya's rice price remains highest in the region. Conversely, Rwanda saw a 1.50% decrease to USD 1,053/MT while Tanzania experienced a 5.16% reduction to USD 864/MT attributed to onset of main season harvests.

The local currency price trends (**Table 5**) mirror similar trends, with all countries recording price decreases month-on-month. Notably, Kenya's rice price recorded 8.34%, 5.26% and 4.90% decrease

compared to past one, three and six months respectively but remain slightly high compared to last year by 0.85%. Although Tanzania and Rwanda rice prices are lower by 5.10% and 1.30% respectively month-on-month, the prices remain modest to significantly high compared to past three and six month.

Table 5: Percentage changes in rice prices in East Africa¹⁶

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Rice	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	150.14	-8.34 ▾	-5.26 ▾	-4.90 ▾	0.85 ▲
Rwanda	Rice	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	1,480.43	-1.30 ▾	7.37 ↑	14.26 ↑	
Tanzania	Rice (Mchele)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	232,500.00	-5.10 ▾	9.41 ↑	22.37 ×	10.71 ↑

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

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

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

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

¹⁶ Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, 2) National MIS Kenya & Tanzania

Beans

Figure 8: National average price spreads for beans across select East African Countries¹⁷

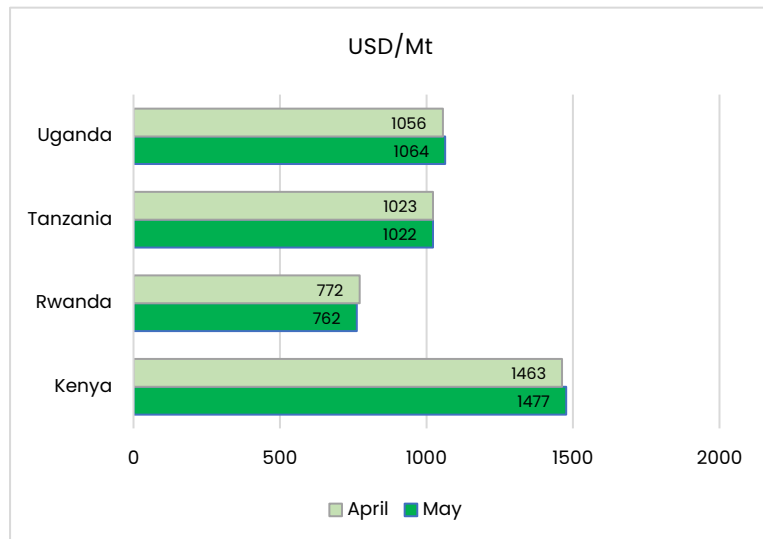


Figure 8 illustrates the price trends of beans in USD across four selected East African countries. Owing to favourable green harvests and effective stock maintenance earlier in the year, prices in Tanzania and Rwanda have remained stable or slightly lower by 0.1% and 1.3% respectively, with prices reaching USD 1,022/MT and USD 762/MT. In contrast, Uganda and Kenya recorded modest month-on-month increases in bean prices of 0.8% and 1%, reaching USD 1,064/MT and USD 1,477/MT, respectively. Kenya holds the highest bean prices in the region, largely driven by heightened export demand from East and Southern African markets. Despite this, Rwanda maintains the lowest price in the region, followed by Tanzania and Uganda.

In local currencies, as shown in **Table 6**, the price of beans in the region has experienced low to significant increases. The price of beans in Uganda is high compared to the past one to twelve months, ranging from 5.5% to 20.08%, attributed to seasonal shifts and constrained supply in the market¹⁸. Kenya's Yellow Bean price has also recorded low to moderate price increases compared to the past one to twelve months, ranging from 0.96% to 7.78%, respectively owing to its high demand due to its mild flavor profile, highly preferred by consumers. Conversely, Kenya's Red Beans (Haricot Wairimu) price has shown only a slight increase or, in many cases, a notable decrease over the past one to twelve months ranging from a 1.92% rise to a 29.16% drop. This trend is due to greater market availability, possibly driven by increased domestic production and higher import volumes. In Rwanda, prices down by 1.06% and 9.42% compared to the past one and twelve months, respectively, due to favourable green harvests and effective stock maintenance. Similarly, common bean prices in Tanzania have experienced a slight decrease compared to the past one and three months, ranging from 0.92% to 1.82%, though it remains 2.54% and 3.85% high compared to the past six and twelve months.

Table 6: Percentage changes in bean prices in East Africa¹⁹

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Beans (Yellow-Green)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	189.62	0.96 ▲	1.06 ▲	2.59 ▲	7.78 ↑
Kenya	Beans Red Haricot (Wairimu)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	138.90	-2.27 ▾	-1.41 ▾	1.92 ▲	-29.16 ↓
Rwanda	Beans	National Average, Retail, RWF/Kg	1,071.26	-1.06 ▾	10.25 ↑	-9.42 ↓	
Tanzania	Beans (Maharage)	National Average, Wholesale, TZS/100KG	270,000.00	-1.82 ▾	-0.92 ▾	2.54 ▲	3.85 ▲
Uganda	Beans	National Average, Retail, UGX/Kg*	4,098.17	6.62 ↑	13.05 ↑	5.50 ↑	20.08 ⊗

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

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

¹⁷ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

¹⁸ See <https://nilepost.co.ug/business/262147>

¹⁹ Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda & Uganda, 2) National MIS Kenya & Tanzania

Wheat

Figure 9: National average price spreads for wheat across select East African Countries

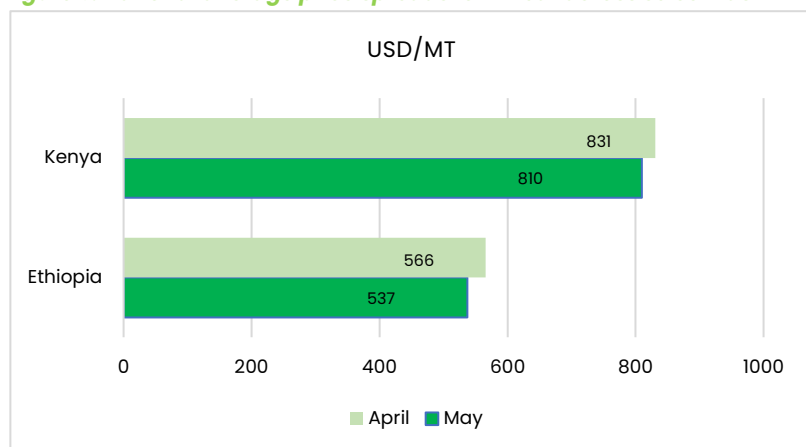


Figure 9 illustrates wheat prices in USD for two selected East African countries: Kenya and Ethiopia. In Kenya wheat prices increased by 3% price reaching USD 810/MT primarily driven by rising demand despite increased imports aimed at stabilising the market. In contrast Ethiopia recorded a 5% price decline with wheat prices falling to USD 537/MT largely due to currency depreciation. Kenya's price decrease is attributed to increased imports to meet the ever-increasing demand. Similar trends are observed in local currency prices (**Table 7**), where Kenya's wheat prices have decreased by

3.73% and 1.60% compared to the 1-month and 6-month levels. Despite wheat prices in Ethiopia dropping by 2.5% over the previous month, it remains generally elevated above what they were over the past 3-12 months. Rising demand and stock depletion in Ethiopia continue to drive upward pressure on price trends.

Table 7: Percentage changes in wheat prices in East Africa²⁰

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ethiopia	White Wheat (Quintal)	National average, Retail, ETB/100kg	7,249.83	-3.73 ↓	0.34 ▲	-1.60 ↓	0.00 ↓
Kenya	Wheat	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	104.00	-2.51 ↓	6.35 ↑	8.81 ↑	20.42 ✖

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

● = 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 show mixed trends across Kenya and Rwanda. In Kenya, the prices of all monitored fertilisers have increased over the past month, where Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN), Diammonium Phosphate (DAP), and NPK fertilisers have dropped by 2.96%, 13.81%, and 15.20%, respectively. Compared to the same period last year, CAN and DAP prices are lower by 65.02% and 0.51%, while NPK prices have increased by 5.47%. This downward trend is largely attributed to the release of one million bags of fertiliser, which helped ease supply shortages and drive prices down. In Rwanda, urea prices have shown a slight month-on-month decline of 0.08%, while NPK fertilisers have decreased by 2.43% month-on-month and 1.57% over the past three months. However, NPK prices remain 8.02% higher than six months ago. The decline in fertiliser prices in Rwanda is largely driven by government subsidies and a broader global trend of falling fertiliser costs.

Table 8: Percentage changes in fertiliser prices in East Africa²¹

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Kenya	Fertilizer (CAN)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	72.67	2.96 ▲	-10.52 ▼	-8.39 ▼	-65.02 ▼
Kenya	Fertilizer (DAP)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	114.74	13.81 ▲	5.40 ▲	10.23 ▲	-0.51 ▼
Kenya	Fertilizer (NPK)	National Average, Retail, KES/KG	104.67	15.20 ✖	9.57 ▲	21.40 ✖	5.47 ▲
Rwanda	NPK	National Average USD/50kg	729.24	-2.43 ▼	-1.57 ▼	8.02 ▲	
Rwanda	Urea	National Average USD/50kg	741.00	-0.08 ▼	0.02 ▲	12.27 ▲	

Note: Last price is for April 2025, * March 2025, and ** February 2025

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

²⁰ Author's construction based on 1) FAO data for Rwanda, South Sudan & Uganda, 2) National MIS Ethiopia, Kenya & Tanzania

²¹ Author's construction based on 1) AfricaFertiliser.org for Ethiopia & Rwanda, 2) National MIS for Kenya

Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions

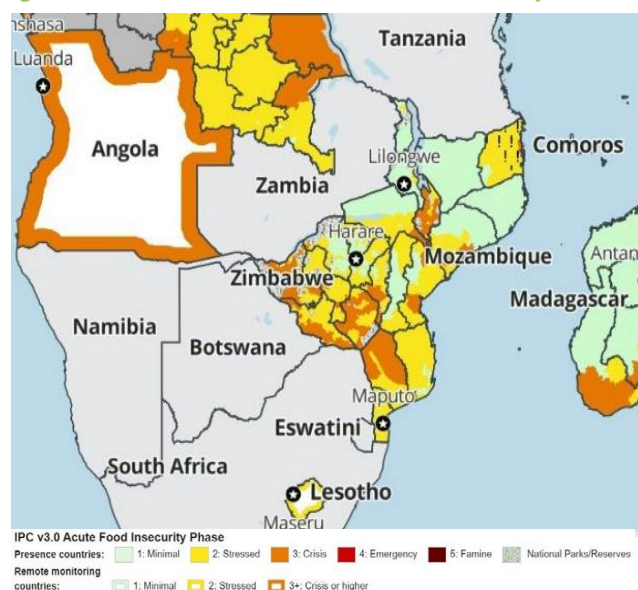
In **East Africa**, seasonal rainfall has been inconsistent in both spatial and temporal distribution, with certain areas experiencing heavy precipitation interspersed with dry periods. Crops across the region are at various stages of growth, ranging from vegetative to maturation. Forecasts for June to August indicate a northward and westward shift in rainfall patterns from the bimodal equatorial regions. In **Ethiopia**, the planting and development of main-season cereals are underway. However, dry conditions persisting since the season began in February, along with ongoing socio-economic challenges in the northern regions, are expected to lead to yield declines in parts of the minor-producing north and central areas. Conversely, favourable harvest outcomes are anticipated in the southern and western regions.

In **Kenya**, the harvesting of second-season rice has concluded in the central and western regions under favourable conditions, while the planting and development of long-rains cereals are currently in progress across the country. In **Uganda**, first-season cereals continue to develop and are expected to be harvested beginning in June. Meanwhile, the planting of second-season maize has commenced in the northwest. However, conditions remain mixed, as rainfall delays and deficits continue to impact northern and western regions.

In **Rwanda**, Season B maize is advancing towards harvest in June. However, concerns persist in the western areas due to insufficient rainfall, which may negatively affect final yields. Similarly, in **Burundi**, maize harvesting is set to begin in June, with Season B maize and rice in the vegetative to reproductive stage. Adequate rainfall received in April and May has contributed to improved yield prospects. In **Tanzania**, growing conditions remain largely favourable. The harvesting of Msimu season cereals is ongoing in unimodal regions, while Masika season cereals continue to develop in the bimodal northern and coastal areas.

Southern Africa Food Security Update

Figure 10: Southern Africa Countries Food Security Outlook, May 2025



Southern Africa presents a mixed food security outlook, shaped by both persistent challenges and recent improvements. On the one hand, the region continues to grapple with intensifying conflict and macroeconomic instability. On the other hand, the 2024/25 agricultural season brought relief following the severe El Niño-induced drought of 2023/24. The October 2024 to April 2025 rainy season delivered generally average to above-average rainfall across much of the region, significantly boosting crop development. As a result, the 2025 main harvest, typically completed by May, is expected to substantially enhance food availability, improve affordability, and increase income from agricultural labour and crop sales. Consequently, Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes are expected across most countries in the region.²² In **Malawi**, an estimated 3.0–3.49 million people are expected to face Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes, driven by the compounded effects of weather-related shocks and rising

inflation. The government's limited capacity to scale up social support further exacerbates the situation. In **Mozambique**, around 2.0–2.49 million people are projected to experience similar Crisis-level food insecurity, with ongoing conflict in Cabo Delgado and cyclone-related damages posing significant challenges. In **Zimbabwe**, economic instability and below-average harvests are the primary drivers of IPC Phase 3 outcomes affecting 1.0–1.49 million people.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

For the fourth consecutive month, there has been no change in the number of people facing insufficient food consumption across the four selected Southern African countries: Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe (**Table 9**). As of the end of May 2025, the total remains steady at 22.2 million people. This figure is largely consistent with levels reported in May 2024 for most countries in the region. The exception is Zimbabwe, which has recorded an 18% decline in the number of people experiencing insufficient food consumption over the past year.

Table 9: Prevalence of insufficient food consumption in selected Southern African Countries (May 2025)²³

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	44.68
Mozambique	29.50	7.60	7.60	25.76	0.00	0.00	-2.56
Zambia	17.40	3.30	3.30	18.97	0.00	0.00	-5.71
Zimbabwe	15.20	4.50	4.50	29.61	0.00	-18.18	18.42

*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%)

²² FEWS NET Global Food Security Update, May to September 2025

²³ Author's construction based on HungerMap

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.

Maize

Figure 11: National average price spreads for maize across select Southern African Countries²⁴

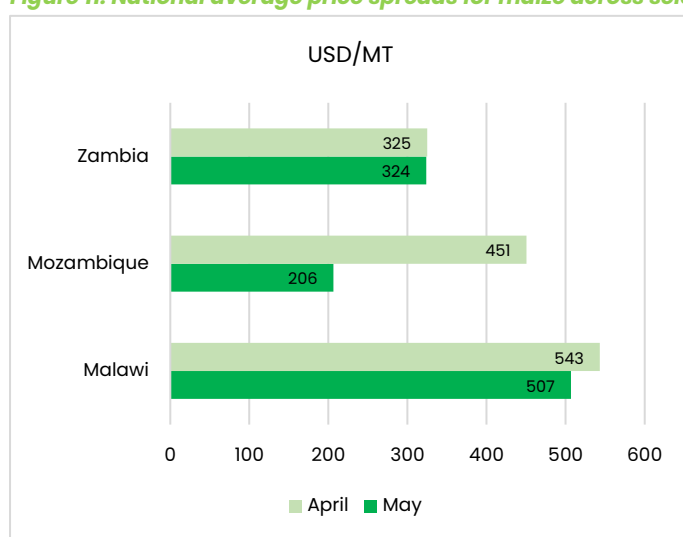


Figure 11 illustrates maize prices in USD across three Southern African countries. Malawi recorded the highest maize price at USD 507/MT, followed by Zambia at USD 324/MT, while Mozambique had the lowest at USD 206/MT. The sharp decline in Mozambique's maize price approximately 54% month-on-month is primarily attributed to increased supply from ongoing harvests. As shown in **Table 10**, local currency maize prices have generally declined over the past 1-3 months in Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia, and in Zimbabwe. Mozambique, in particular, experienced notable reductions of 54% and 49% compared to the previous month and three months ago respectively. Maize prices are however higher than they were a year ago in Malawi and in Zimbabwe by 45% and 47% respectively.

Table 10: Percentage changes in maize prices in Southern Africa²⁵

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Malawi	Maize	National Average, MWK/Kg	876.19	-6.51 ↓	-39.39 ↓	-7.26 ↓	45.52 ⓧ
Mozambique	Maize (white)	National Average, Maize (white), MZN/Kg	13.05	-54.18 ↓	-49.12 ↓		
Zambia	Maize (white)	National Average, Retail, Kwacha/KG	9.03	-0.36 ↘	4.48 ▲	3.58 ▲	0.78 ▲
Zimbabwe	Maize	Epworth, USD/kg*	0.97	-0.51 ↘	-9.35 ↓	1.78 ▲	47.19 ⓧ
Zimbabwe	Maize meal	Bulawayo, USD/kg*	0.87	-7.32 ↓	-15.15 ↓	-14.31 ↓	22.24 ⓧ

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

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

²⁴ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

²⁵ Author's construction based on AGRA MIS data for Malawi and Mozambique, and FAO data for Zambia and Zimbabwe

Rice

Figure 12: National average price spreads for Rice across select Southern African Countries

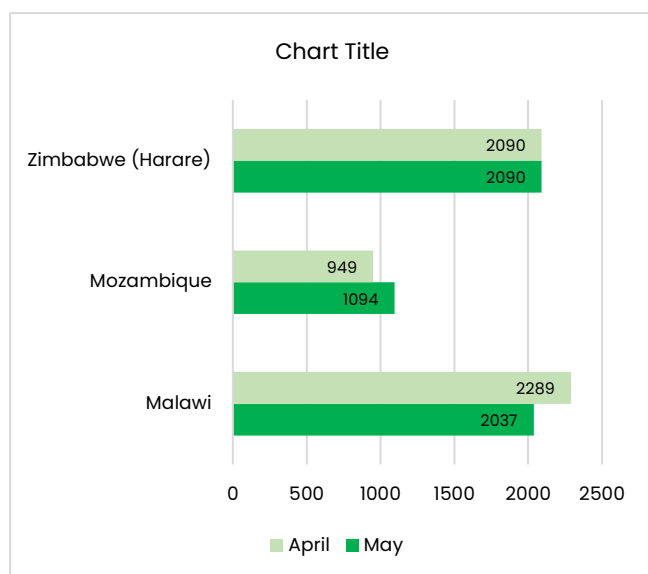


Figure 12 presents rice prices in USD for Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and Malawi. In May, Zimbabwe recorded the highest price at USD 2,090/MT, driven by increased demand and supply limitations. In contrast, Malawi experienced an 11% price drop from April, reaching USD 2,037/MT, attributed to improved supply from the ongoing harvest. Meanwhile, Mozambique saw a 15% price rise, climbing from USD 949/MT in April to USD 1,094/MT in May. These fluctuations reflect broader regional economic dynamics influencing food prices.

As detailed in **Table 11**, local rice prices declined over the past month in Malawi and Zimbabwe, while Mozambique experienced a low increase. Despite these recent changes, current rice prices remain significantly higher than levels observed over the past 3 to 12 months across all three countries.

Table 11: Percentage changes in rice prices in Southern Africa²⁶

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Malawi	Rice	National Average, MWK/Kg	3,523.89	-10.75 ↓	16.98 ✖	61.04 ✖	
Mozambique	Rice (imported)	National Average, MZN/Kg	69.17	1.38 ▲	118.42 ✖		
Zimbabwe	Rice	Epworth, USD/kg*	2.09	-0.48 ▾	9.42 ↑	17.42 ✖	65.22 ✖

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

● = 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 13: National average price spreads for beans across select Southern African Countries

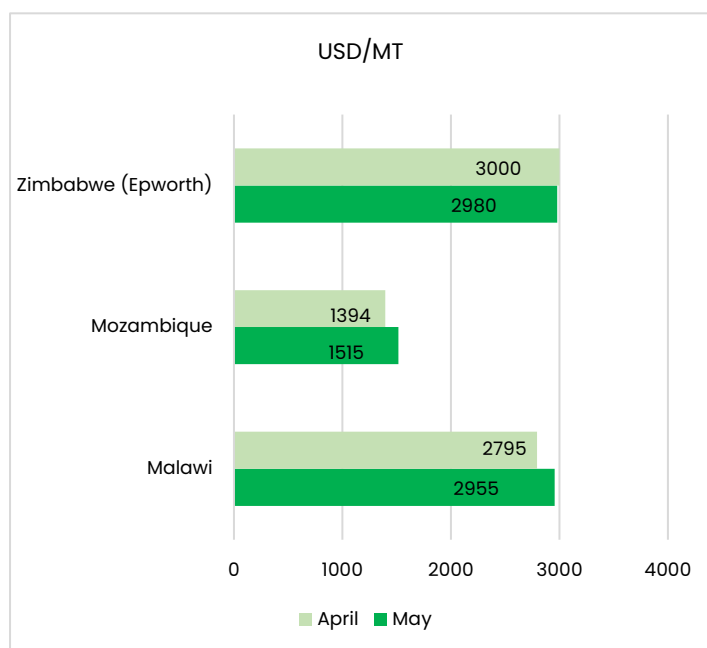


Figure 13 presents bean prices in USD across selected Southern African countries. In Malawi, prices increased by 6%, reaching USD 2,955/MT, driven by increased demand, seasonal supply variations, and external market influences affecting imports. Mozambique experienced an even sharper increase of 9%, likely due to supply chain disruptions, production constraints, or regional trade dynamics impacting costs. In contrast, Zimbabwe saw a 1% decline in prices, despite remaining the most expensive at USD 2,980/MT. These price movements reflect broader agricultural and economic trends influencing staple food costs across the region.

As shown in **Table 12**, local bean prices in Malawi remain moderately elevated, while Zimbabwe has seen a decline over the past 1 to 6 months. However, Zimbabwe's current price is still 47% higher than it was a year ago. In Malawi, soyabean prices are 16% higher than in April, but 18% lower compared to three months ago.

²⁶ Author's construction based on AGRA MIS data for Malawi and Mozambique, and FAO data for Zambia

Table 12: Percentage changes in bean prices in Southern Africa²⁷

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Malawi	Beans	National Average, MWK/Kg	5,111.11	6.04 ↑	9.33 ↑	14.51 ↑	
Malawi	Soyabeans	National Average, MWK/Kg	2,000.00	16.02 ×	-18.60 ↓	3.50 ▲	
Zimbabwe	Beans	Epworth, USD/kg*	2.98	-0.67 ▾	-2.61 ▾	-40.16 ↓	47.52 ×

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

● = 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 **Southern Africa**, the harvesting of main-season cereals has been completed or is nearing completion across all regions. Favourable rainfall conditions throughout the season have contributed to promising yield outcomes in most areas, supporting agricultural productivity and food security across the region²⁸.

In **Zambia**, seasonal rainfall patterns varied significantly, with mixed outcomes across different regions. The northern, eastern, and southern parts of the country experienced dry and hot conditions during the first half of the season, which affected crop development and water availability. Additionally, some areas in the north recorded historically low rainfall totals, further exacerbating the impact on agricultural yields and ecosystem stability. Despite these difficulties, Zambia anticipates a bumper maize harvest in 2025, with production projected to reach 3,700,000 metric tonnes (MT) of the country's staple crop²⁹. With an opening maize stock of 385,000 MT recorded as of May 1, 2025, the projected harvest will bring the total maize supply to well over 4,000,000 MT for the year, reinforcing food security and market stability.

In **Malawi**, rainfall patterns have been inconsistent this season, contributing to varied agricultural outcomes. Yield declines are anticipated in the southern regions due to the mixed rainfall distribution. Meanwhile, record-low rainfall totals in the northern and central areas have led to crop deficits. However, yield variations at the district level are expected to result in generally favourable production outcomes across the country³⁰.

On the other-hand, **Mozambique**, experienced drought conditions this season in Niassa, Cabo Delgado, and Nampula provinces, which are expected to negatively impact agricultural output in these northern regions. Additionally, the country is facing multiple challenges, including Cyclone Jude's passage in March, which damaged 1.5 million hectares of cropland in Nampula, as well as ongoing conflict, displacement, and post-electoral unrest. Despite these adversities, weather conditions in the southern half of the country have been favourable, supporting near-average national agricultural production³¹.

Finally, despite experiencing heavy rains and localized flooding earlier this year, agricultural yields in **Zimbabwe** are projected to be slightly above average across the country³². Favourable growing conditions in key farming regions have helped offset the earlier weather challenges, supporting overall crop productivity and expected positive outcomes for the season.

²⁷ Author's construction based on AGRA MIS data for Malawi and Mozambique, and FAO data for Zambia

²⁸ Crop monitor report No. 105 – June 2025 <https://www.cropmonitor.org/crop-monitor-for-early-warning>

²⁹ Lusaka Times <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2025/05/23/its-a-bumper-harvest-projected-3-7-million-tonnes-of-maize>

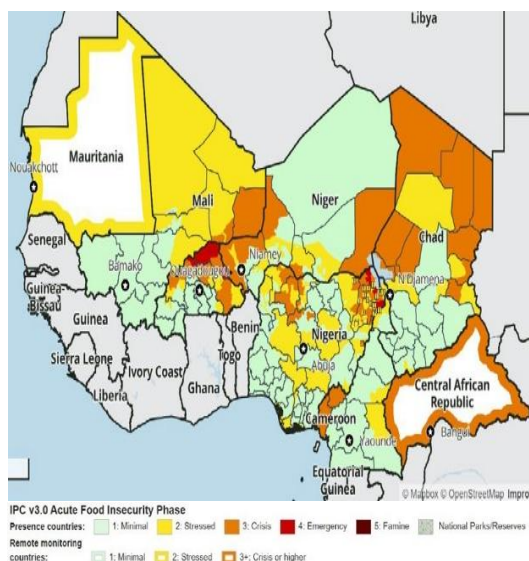
³⁰ Crop monitor report No. 105 – June 2025 <https://www.cropmonitor.org/crop-monitor-for-early-warning>

³¹ Ibid.

³² Ibid.

West Africa Food Security Update

Figure 14: West African Countries Food Security Outlook, May 2025



In **West Africa**, food insecurity is projected to worsen during the June–August lean season, particularly in northern areas where entrenched conflict and political instability continue to disrupt agricultural production, market access, and trade flows.³³ In the **Sahel**, violence remains a major driver of food insecurity, especially in northern and eastern **Burkina Faso**, northern and central **Mali**, and the border regions of **Niger**, where access to food and livelihoods is increasingly constrained. The spillover of violence into coastal countries such as **Togo** is also a growing concern, evidenced by the recent influx of thousands of refugees fleeing conflict-affected areas. Across much of West Africa, Emergency (IPC Phase 4) outcomes persist in Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Mali, while Crisis (IPC Phase 3) conditions continue in Niger and Togo. In Nigeria, an estimated 13.0–13.99 million people are facing IPC Phase 4 food insecurity, driven by ongoing conflict in the northeast and northwest, high inflation, and recurrent weather shocks.

In Burkina Faso, 1.4–1.99 million people are affected, with conflict and blockades severely restricting access to food and humanitarian assistance. In Mali, 750,000–1 million people are experiencing Emergency-level food insecurity, largely due to conflict and displacement. Meanwhile, Niger is grappling with Crisis (IPC Phase 3) outcomes for 2.0–2.49 million people, and Togo faces similar conditions for 250,000–500,000 people. In both countries, regional insecurity and economic shocks are key drivers of food access challenges.

Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption

Since October 2024, Nigeria has seen a substantial improvement in food security, with the number of people facing insufficient food consumption dropping from 108.4 million in September 2024 to 60.4 million in May 2025, representing a reduction of over 44%. This improvement in Nigeria has significantly influenced regional trends. Across the seven selected West African countries (**Table 13**), the total number of people experiencing insufficient food consumption stood at 122.4 million by the end of May 2025. This marks a decline from 158.3 million in May 2024 and 127 million in May 2023, with Nigeria's progress accounting for the bulk of the regional improvement. However, not all countries followed this positive trend. Ghana and Togo recorded the most significant year-on-year increases in food insecurity, rising by 61.5% and 50%, respectively. In contrast, Nigeria experienced a nearly 40% decline over the same period.

Table 13: Prevalence of Insufficient Food Consumption in selected West African countries (April 2025)³⁴

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	-0.88
Cote d'Ivoire	29.40	5.10	5.10	17.35	0.00	0.00	70.00
Ghana	29.80	8.40	8.40	28.19	0.00	61.54	16.67
Mali	19.10	13.20	13.20	69.11	0.00	0.00	0.76
Niger	25.90	21.40	21.40	82.63	0.00	0.00	18.89
Nigeria	202.80	60.40	79.20	39.05	-23.74	-39.84	-15.76
Togo	7.90	2.70	2.70	34.18	0.00	50.00	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%)

³³ FEWS NET Global Food Security Update, May to September 2025

³⁴ Author's construction based on WFP HungerMap Live

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.

Maize

Figure 15: Price spreads for maize across select West African Countries³⁵

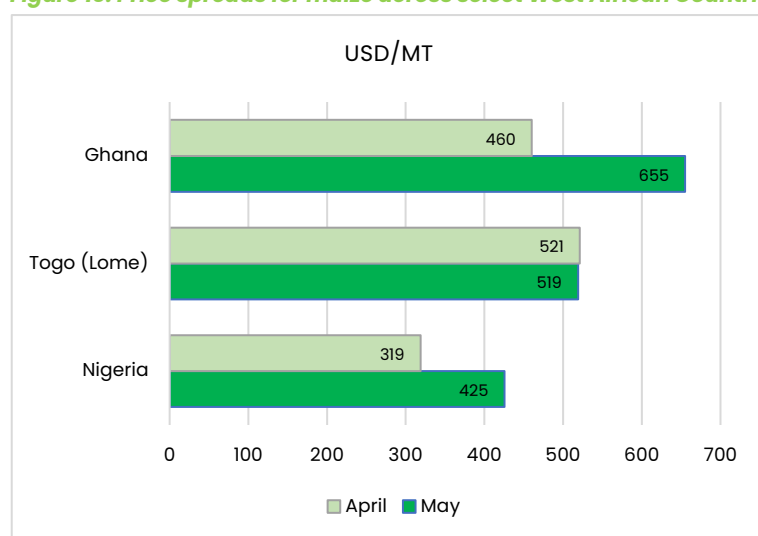


Figure 15 presents the distribution of maize prices in USD across three West African countries. Ghana recorded the highest price at USD 655/MT a 42% increase owing to the Ghanaian Cedis appreciation against the US dollar. Meanwhile, Nigeria reported the lowest at USD 425/MT, with Togo's price remaining stable.

Table 14 highlights local maize price trends, showing that prices have either remained stable or increased slightly in most markets over the past 1–3 months. However, Nigeria stands out, with maize prices rising sharply by 32% and 20% higher compared to one and three months ago, respectively. Togo's current maize price remains

above its level from a year ago, while Ghana and Nigeria continue to record prices above their six-month averages.

Table 14: Percentage changes in maize prices in West Africa³⁶

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Ghana	Maize (white)	National Average, (GHS/MT)	6,721.30	0.89 ▲	2.46 ▲	7.06 ↑	
Nigeria	Maize (white)	National Average, NGN/KG	675.52	32.20 ✖	20.16 ✖	14.39 ↑	
Togo	Maize (white)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg*	295.00	1.72 ▲	1.72 ▲	5.36 ↑	18.00 ✖
Togo	Maize (white)	Anie, XOF/Kg*	270.00	1.89 ▲	1.89 ▲	-3.57 ▬	8.00 ↑
Togo	Maize (white)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg*	270.00	1.89 ▲	1.89 ▲	-1.82 ▬	8.00 ↑
Togo	Maize (white)	Kara, XOF/Kg*	280.00	-1.75 ▬	0.00 ●	-3.45 ▬	7.69 ↑
Togo	Maize (white)	Kor bongou, XOF/Kg*	265.00	1.92 ▲	1.92 ▲	-1.85 ▬	8.16 ↑
Togo	Maize (white)	Lomé, XOF/Kg*	300.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	11.52 ↑

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

● = no change, ▲ = low increase (0–5%), ▲ = moderate increase (5–15%), ✖ = high increase (>15%),
 ▬ = low decrease (0–5%), ▬ = moderate decrease (5–15%), ▬ = high decrease (>15%)

³⁵ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

³⁶ Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Togo

Rice

Figure 16: Price spreads for rice across select West African Countries³⁷

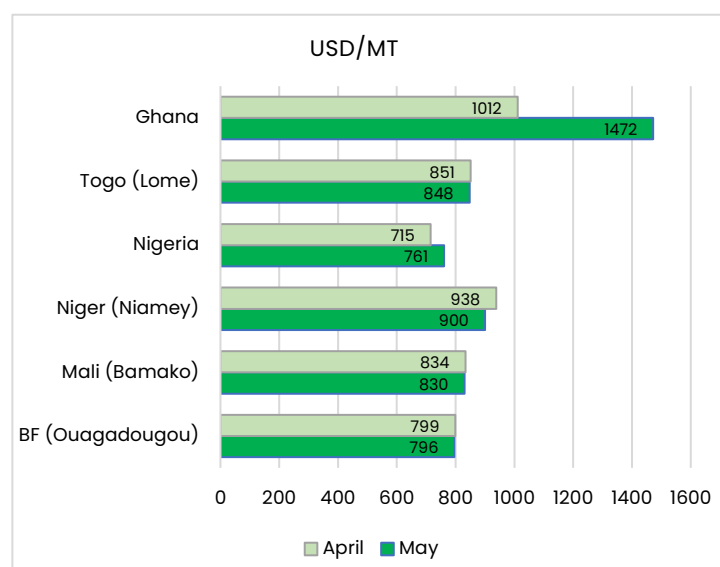


Figure 16 displays the spread of rice prices in USD across six West African markets. Ghana recorded the highest rice price, with the price surging from USD 1,012/MT to USD 1,472/MT, marking a significant increase due to the currency fluctuations. Nigeria, once again, reported the lowest price at USD 761/MT, mirroring the trend observed in maize prices.

Table 15 shows that, in local currency terms, rice prices have remained stable or declined across most monitored markets over the past 1–6 months. However, Côte d'Ivoire stands out, with rice prices currently 12–13% higher than they were over the past 1–12 months. More broadly, rice prices remain above their year-ago levels in several markets, particularly in Burkina Faso, Mali, and Togo.

Table 15: Percentage changes in rice prices in West Africa³⁸

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	37,000.00	-12.94 ↓	-12.94 ↓	-11.90 ↓	-11.90 ↓
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	56,000.00	0.00 ●	1.82 ▲	0.00 ●	-1.75 ▾
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	50,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	11.11 ↑	19.05 ✖
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	60,000.00	0.00 ●	9.09 ↑	50.00 ✖	20.00 ✖
Burkina Faso	Rice (imported)	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	46,000.00	0.00 ●	-3.16 ▾	-8.00 ↓	9.52 ↑
Cote d'Ivoire	Rice	Abidjan, Retail, XOF/Kg**	700.00	13.82 ↑	14.75 ↑	12.90 ↑	38.89 ✖
Ghana	Rice	National Average, (GHS/MT)	15,112.50	3.19 ▲	-2.95 ▾	-7.61 ↓	
Mali	Rice	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	48,000.00	0.00 ●	4.35 ▲	-14.29 ↓	6.67 ↑
Mali	Rice	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	65,000.00	0.00 ●	18.18 ✖	-7.14 ↓	18.18 ✖
Mali	Rice	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	54,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-10.00 ↓	3.85 ▲
Mali	Rice	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	49,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-6.67 ↓	13.95 ↑
Mali	Rice	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	46,000.00	-5.26 ↓	5.88 ↑	-18.18 ↓	-4.26 ▾
Mali	Rice (imported)	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	48,000.00	0.00 ●	9.09 ↑	-5.88 ↓	9.09 ↑
Mali	Rice (imported)	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	60,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-6.25 ↓	0.00 ●
Mali	Rice (imported)	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	38,000.00	-1.30 ▾	-3.80 ▾	-12.64 ↓	-15.56 ↓
Mali	Rice (imported)	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	50,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-4.76 ▾	11.11 ↑
Mali	Rice (imported)	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	48,000.00	-3.85 ▾	11.11 ↑	0.00 ●	4.17 ▲
Niger	Rice (imported)	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	600.00	-3.23 ▾	-7.69 ↓	-14.29 ↓	-6.25 ↓
Niger	Rice (imported)	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	540.00	-3.57 ▾	-10.00 ↓	-10.00 ↓	-15.63 ↓
Niger	Rice (imported)	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	480.00	-14.29 ↓	-17.24 ↓	-22.58 ↓	-20.00 ↓
Niger	Rice (imported)	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	520.00	-3.70 ▾	-10.34 ↓	-13.33 ↓	-13.33 ↓
Nigeria	Rice (milled)	National Average, NGN/KG	1,208.52	5.46 ↑	3.71 ▲	-3.13 ▾	
Togo	Rice (imported)	Amegnran, XOF/Kg*	500.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	2.04 ▲
Togo	Rice (imported)	Anie, XOF/Kg*	500.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	5.26 ↑
Togo	Rice (imported)	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg*	490.00	2.08 ▲	2.08 ▲	2.08 ▲	4.26 ▲
Togo	Rice (imported)	Lomé, XOF/Kg*	485.00	-1.02 ▾	-1.02 ▾	-1.02 ▾	1.04 ▲

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

● = no change, ▲ = low increase (0–5%), ↑ = moderate increase (5–15%), ✖ = high increase (>15%),
 ▾ = low decrease (0–5%), ↓ = moderate decrease (5–15%), ▼ = high decrease (>15%)

³⁷ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates on the last day of the month at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

³⁸ Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo

Millet

Figure 17: Price spreads for millet across select West African Countries³⁹

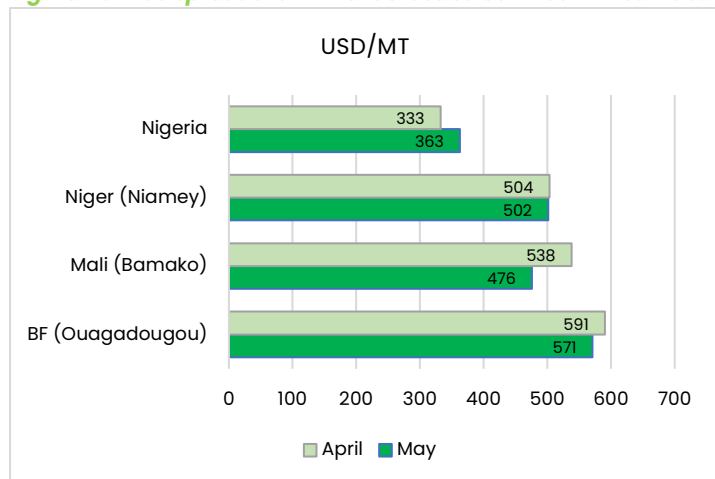


Figure 17 displays millet prices in USD across selected West African countries. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, recorded the highest price at USD 571/MT, followed by Niger at USD 502/MT. Nigeria once again reported the lowest price among the four countries, at USD 363/MT. Improved macroeconomic conditions and market supplies through import duty waivers on key staples as well as informal imports, have helped to stabilize prices.⁴⁰

Table 16 shows that millet prices in local currency have generally remained stable or declined over the past 1–6 months across most monitored markets. However, Burkina Faso and Mali have seen notable year-on-year

increase, with current millet prices ranging from 14% to 33% higher than a year ago. In contrast, Niger has experienced a consistent decline, with millet prices across all selected markets falling by 14% to 20% compared to the same period last year.

Table 16: Percentage changes in millet prices in select West African Countries⁴¹

Country	Crop	Market	Last Price	1 Month %	3 Months %	6 Months %	1 Year %
Burkina Faso	Millet	Bobo Dioulasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	38,000.00	0.00	2.70	0.00	16.92
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	32,500.00	0.00	8.33	-18.75	18.18
Burkina Faso	Millet	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	-11.11	14.29
Burkina Faso	Millet	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	33,000.00	0.00	-1.49	13.79	17.86
Burkina Faso	Millet	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,500.00	0.00	0.00	-6.59	30.77
Burkina Faso	Millet	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	32,500.00	-7.14	-7.14	-7.14	30.00
Burkina Faso	Millet	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	33,000.00	-2.94	0.00	-17.50	1.54
Burkina Faso	Millet	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	42,500.00	0.00	16.44	-3.95	30.77
Mali	Millet	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	27,500.00	-11.29	-11.29	-26.67	10.00
Mali	Millet	Gao, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	37,500.00	0.00	-12.79	-21.05	15.38
Mali	Millet	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	29,000.00	0.00	6.06	-12.50	29.63
Mali	Millet	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	31,500.00	3.13	26.92	-15.38	20.00
Mali	Millet	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	26,000.00	-13.33	4.00	-25.71	23.81
Mali	Millet	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	25,000.00	0.00	44.44	-18.75	30.00
Mali	Millet	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	33,000.00	0.00	8.57	-8.43	26.67
Niger	Millet	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	400.00	0.00	0.00	17.65	33.33
Niger	Millet	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	270.00	-5.26	-1.82	8.00	-20.59
Niger	Millet	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	250.00	-7.41	-9.09	0.00	-21.88
Niger	Millet	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	290.00	0.00	-6.45	3.57	-14.71
Niger	Millet	Tillabéri, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	310.00	0.00	3.33	3.33	-18.42
Niger	Millet	Zinder, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	300.00	-11.76	-9.09	0.00	-16.67
Nigeria	Millet	National Average, NGN/KG	576.08	8.08	-6.28	-14.32	

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

● = no change,
 ▲ = low increase (0–5%),
 ▲ = moderate increase (5–15%),
 ✖ = high increase (>15%),
▬ = low decrease (0–5%),
 ▬ = moderate decrease (5–15%),
 ▬ = high decrease (>15%)

³⁹ These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

⁴⁰ AFEX forecasts price stability for Nigeria's staple grains in 2025 - Milling Middle East & Africa Magazine - No.1 Grains Industry Magazine & Website for Africa & the Middle East

⁴¹ Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo

Sorghum

Figure 18: Price spreads for sorghum across select West African Countries⁴²

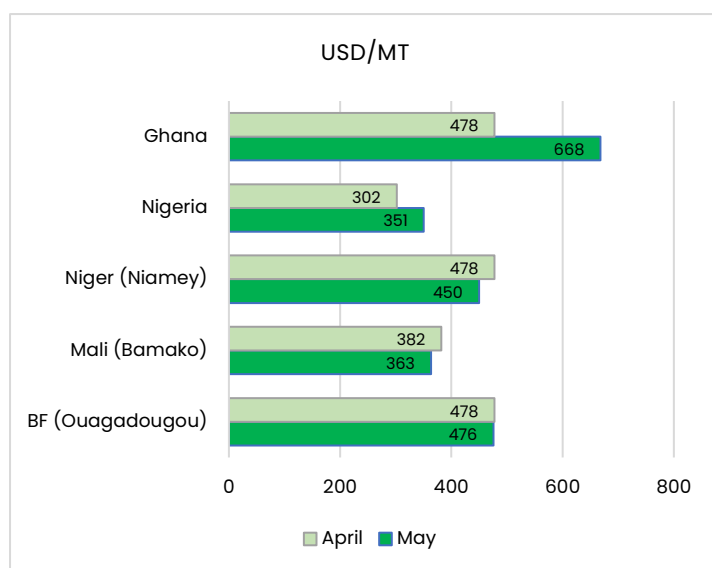


Figure 18 highlights the USD price spread of sorghum across five selected West African countries. Like most grain prices, Ghana again leads with the most expensive sorghum price at USD 668/MT in May from USD 478/MT due to the weakening of the United States dollar against the Cedi. Similar, Nigeria records the lowest price of sorghum at USD 351/MT, followed by Mali at USD 363/MT.

Table 17 shows that sorghum prices in local currency have generally remained stable or declined across most selected markets over the past 1–6 months. However, there are notable exceptions, Dedougou in Mali and Agadez in Niger, where prices have risen. Dedougou recorded a significant increase, with sorghum prices rising by 25% to 50% over the past 1–12 months.

Year-on-year, Burkina Faso has seen higher sorghum prices across nearly all monitored markets. In contrast, most markets in Niger have experienced price declines, except Agadez, where prices are 33% higher than a year ago.

Table 17: Percentage changes in sorghum prices in select West African countries⁴³

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	-4.26 ↘	-4.26 ↘	-4.26 ↘	0.00 ●
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Dédougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	37,500.00	36.36 ⬆	50.00 ⬆	25.00 ⬆	50.00 ⬆
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Dori, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	35,000.00	0.00 ●	-6.67 ↘	1.45 ▲	7.69 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Fada N'gourma, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	3.85 ▲
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Kongoussi, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,500.00	0.00 ●	10.00 ↑	-8.33 ↘	10.00 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Nouna, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	25,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-9.09 ↘	11.11 ↑
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Ouagadougou, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,500.00	0.00 ●	1.85 ▲	-1.79 ↘	22.22 ⬆
Burkina Faso	Sorghum	Tenkodogo, Wholesale, XOF/100 kg	27,000.00	-3.57 ↘	28.57 ⬆	-3.57 ↘	12.50 ↑
Ghana	Sorghum	National Average, (GHS/MT)	6,855.56	-0.88 ↘	-2.99 ↘	-20.59 ↘	
Mali	Sorghum	Bamako, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	21,000.00	-12.00 ↘	4.76 ▲	-32.31 ↘	-8.33 ↘
Mali	Sorghum	Kayes, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	25,000.00	0.00 ●	-1.96 ↘	-28.57 ↘	0.00 ●
Mali	Sorghum	Mopti, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	24,000.00	0.00 ●	4.35 ▲	-23.81 ↘	-4.00 ↘
Mali	Sorghum	Ségou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	22,000.00	0.00 ●	10.00 ↑	-37.14 ↘	4.76 ▲
Mali	Sorghum	Sikasso, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	21,000.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-25.00 ↘	7.14 ↑
Mali	Sorghum	Tombouctou, Wholesale, XOF/100 KG	32,000.00	0.00 ●	3.03 ▲	-2.86 ↘	4.62 ▲
Niger	Sorghum	Agadez, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	400.00	11.11 ↑	11.11 ↑	11.11 ↑	33.33 ⬆
Niger	Sorghum	Dosso, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	270.00	-1.82 ↘	3.85 ▲	-1.82 ↘	-20.59 ↘
Niger	Sorghum	Maradi, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	225.00	18.42 ⬆	-6.25 ↘	-22.41 ↘	-29.69 ↘
Niger	Sorghum	Niamey, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	260.00	-5.45 ↘	-7.14 ↘	-25.71 ↘	-13.33 ↘
Niger	Sorghum	Tillabéri, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	300.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	-3.23 ↘	-16.67 ↘
Niger	Sorghum	Zinder, Wholesale, XOF/Kg	220.00	-8.33 ↘	-8.33 ↘	-29.03 ↘	-35.29 ↘
Nigeria	Sorghum (white)	National Average, NGN/KG	556.54	14.99 ↑	4.95 ▲	-26.06 ↘	
Togo	Sorghum	Anie, XOF/Kg*	315.00	-1.56 ↘	-1.56 ↘	-1.56 ↘	5.00
Togo	Sorghum	Cinkassé, XOF/Kg*	295.00	3.51 ▲	3.51 ▲	-4.84 ↘	3.51 ▲
Togo	Sorghum	Kara, XOF/Kg*	325.00	0.00 ●	-33.67 ↘	0.00 ●	4.84 ▲
Togo	Sorghum	Kor bongou, XOF/Kg*	300.00	3.45 ▲	3.45 ▲	-4.76 ↘	3.45 ▲
Togo	Sorghum	Lomé, XOF/Kg*	365.00	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	0.00 ●	4.29 ▲

Note: Last price is for May 2025, * April 2025, and ** March 2025

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

⁴² These price spreads are calculated based on online rates at <https://www.oanda.com/currency-converter/en>

⁴³ Author's construction based on 1) AGRA MIS for Ghana & Nigeria; and 2) FAO data for Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo

Seasonal Monitor and Cropping Conditions

In **West Africa**, the planting of main-season cereals is steadily advancing across most regions, including the bimodal and Soudano-Guinean zones. In certain localized areas of **Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin** and **Nigeria**; crops have already advanced to the vegetative and reproductive stages, reflecting varied growth patterns influenced by regional climate conditions⁴⁴. As the season unfolds, weather patterns and rainfall distribution will be key factors in determining overall yield outcomes.

In **Nigeria**, heavy rainfall in late May led to localized flooding in central-western areas, affecting parts of Mokwa town, a critical trade hub connecting southern traders with northern food producers. While the current agricultural impact is confined to 88 plots of farmland, forecasts indicate that heavy rain will persist over central and southern regions, potentially posing further challenges to local infrastructure and crop production⁴⁵. In southern **Mali**, the sowing of 2025 cereal crops, including maize, millet, sorghum, and rice, is underway, supported by the timely onset of rains in mid-April and above-average precipitation through mid-May, ensuring strong crop establishment. Meanwhile, central and northern regions are still in the land preparation phase, as seasonal rains are expected to begin in June, with planting set to commence shortly⁴⁶.

⁴⁴ Crop Monitor Report No. 105 – June 2025 <https://www.cropmonitor.org/crop-monitor-for-early-warning>

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ FAO GIEWS Country Brief <https://www.fao.org/giews/countrybrief/>

Food Trade Updates

Continental

- The East African Community (EAC) has approved a new Cross-border Payment System Masterplan during the 28th Ordinary Meeting of the Monetary Affairs Committee (MAC), composed of central bank governors from EAC member states. This strategic initiative aims to enhance financial integration, support regional trade, and pave the way for a secure, efficient, and unified payment ecosystem. The Masterplan supports the EAC's goal of adopting a single currency by 2031 and focuses on four key pillars (i) Policy and Regulatory Harmonisation, (ii) Infrastructure Development and Modernisation, (iii) Financial Market Deepening, and (iv) Capacity Building. Its implementation is expected to lower the cost and time of cross-border transactions, making payments faster and more affordable. This will encourage intra-regional trade and investment by improving financial connectivity across member states.⁴⁷
- China has extended full zero-tariff treatment to 33 African countries and other Least Developed Countries (LDCs) with diplomatic ties, aiming to strengthen trade and economic cooperation. This initiative, announced by President Xi Jinping at the 2024 Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), reflects China's commitment to opening its market and sharing growth opportunities with LDCs. Since the implementation of the zero-tariff policy on December 1, 2023, China's imports from Africa's LDCs reached USD 21.42 billion by March 2024, marking a 15.2% year-on-year increase, according to the Ministry of Commerce. This policy shift is anticipated to further boost exports from LDCs and deepen economic cooperation between China and African nations ⁴⁸

East Africa

Figure 19 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 19: East Africa cross-border trade updates, May 2025



Kenya, South Sudan, & CAR

- Uganda, South Sudan, and the Central African Republic (CAR) have launched a transformative 1,800-kilometre regional road project, marking a major milestone in infrastructure development across East and Central Africa. This ambitious initiative aims to boost trade, improve connectivity, and foster deeper economic integration throughout the region. The project will be financed through a combination of national budgets, support from international development partners, and private-sector investments.
- To stabilise flour prices and prevent a potential shortage, the Government of Kenya has released 200,000 bags of maize from the National Strategic Grain Reserve (NSGR). The maize is being sold to licensed millers at a subsidized rate of KSh 4,250 per 90kg bag, with initial deliveries already underway through depots in the North and South Rift regions. This intervention comes amid rising maize prices, which threaten to drive up the cost of flour (unga) and strain household budgets.

⁴⁷ <https://www.eac.int/eadrip-news-updates/eadrip-press-releases/3383-eac-unveils-regional-payment-system-masterplan-to-drive-financial-integration-and-digital-trade>

⁴⁸ <https://www.bastillepost.com/global/article/4869703-china-extends-full-tariff-free-access-to-boost-trade-with-africa-ldcs>

West Africa

Figure 20 provides an update on the issues and events reported in West African countries that impact the region's food trade and food security.

Figure 20: West Africa Cross Border Trade Updates May 2025



Nigeria

- The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) and the Benin Republic Customs Administration have officially launched a digital cross-border trade system known as SIGMAT Connectivity. This initiative aims to streamline trade processes and help both countries leverage the USD 3.4 trillion African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). SIGMAT, which stands for System for Interconnected Management of Goods in Transit, enables real-time customs data exchange and efficient goods tracking. It now connects six West African nations: Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, and Burkina Faso, enhancing regional trade integration and transparency.
- The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has issued a new circular easing documentation requirement for transactions via the **Pan-African Payment and Settlement System (PAPSS)**. The policy aims to accelerate Nigeria's participation in the **African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)** by making cross-border payments faster, cheaper, and more accessible, especially for **SMEs**. Under the new rules:
 - o Only basic **KYC** and **AML** (Anti-Money Laundering) documents are needed for monthly payments below **USD 2,000 (individuals)** and **USD 5,000 (corporates)**.
 - o **Commercial banks** are now authorized to source foreign exchange for PAPSS transactions through Nigeria's Forex market.

With **16 countries, 14 payment switches**, and over **150 banks** (including **22 in Nigeria**) already connected to PAPSS, this move is expected to eliminate barriers and promote wider adoption of the instant, local currency-based platform.



Value	Unrealized P/L	%Unre
1000.00		
6,700.00	-14,930.33	-0.22
200.00	+5,309.28	+1.25
500.00	+13,022.92	+1.75

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.

For more information,
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