

The Market Monitor

Trends of staple food prices in vulnerable countries

The bulletin covers 61 countries over the period April to June 2010.¹ In addition to looking at changes and trends in prices and the cost of the food basket, this issue also examines trends in fuel prices and CPI.

Highlights

• Overall Trends:

- **Prices** of the main staple food commodities remained stable or decreased in most of the countries compared to the last quarter. In about half of the countries monitored, **the cost of the basic food basket** is still high compared to the long-term averages, especially for Asian countries and for Southern, Eastern and Central Africa. This is most evident in Somalia, Sudan, Tajikistan and Zimbabwe.
- The **purchasing power** of pastoralist communities in Niger, Kenya and Sudan (South Darfur and South Kordofan) has substantially deteriorated due to decreased livestock prices in Niger and increased cereal prices in Kenya and Sudan.
- The **inflation rates** during April-May 2010 remained generally contained except for Central African Republic (CAR), Sudan, Niger, Pakistan and Haiti. CAR, Sudan and Niger experienced a 2-4 percent rise in inflation, mainly due to food inflation while annual inflation increased by 5 percent in Haiti and 14 percent in Pakistan when compared to 2009.
- Compared to last year **fuel prices** increased by as much as 10-30 percent in Armenia, DRC, Kenya, Cambodia, Tajikistan and Lesotho. Almost 5-12 percent higher fuel prices were also observed in Benin, Ethiopia, Liberia and Somalia when compared to the last quarter.
- **Asia:** With the exception of Nepal, rice and wheat prices either remained stable or declined during the last quarter. However, prices still remain significantly higher in comparison to their long-term averages.
- **West Africa:** The overall cost of the food basket remained stable or decreased compared to the last quarter, except in Guinea. However, significantly higher prices were observed in Benin for cassava (14 percent) and for maize (27 percent) in CAR. Although prices were stable in Niger during the last quarter, the country experienced a sharp drop (22 percent) in the purchasing power of the most vulnerable population (Table 2).
- **Southern, Eastern and Central Africa:** Prices remained stable or decreased in the region, except for Somalia and Malawi where prices increased respectively by about 13 percent (sorghum) and 9 percent (maize). Overall, prices have remained very high when compared to their long-term averages, except in Uganda, Rwanda and Swaziland.
- **Latin America and Caribbean:** Staple food prices remained stable or decreased in all the countries compared to last quarter. In Haiti and Nicaragua, prices remain very high compared to their long term averages.
- **Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe:** Price of rice increased in Armenia by 11 percent compared to last quarter. In the rest of the region, staple food prices were either stable or decreasing.
- **Stand-Alone Countries:** In Sudan's North Darfur State, sorghum prices are still experiencing significant increases—35 percent compared to last quarter. In terms of the cost of the food basket this translates into an increase of about 26 percent.

Table 1 summarizes the overview of price trends; **Table 2** presents the evolution of the purchasing power; **Table 3** shows the trends in CPI and Fuel prices; **Table 4** provides more detailed figures by country and commodity.

1. Data were collected and collated by WFP country offices.

Table 1. Price trends for main staple food commodities (change from last quarter)

	Change from last quarter			Change from 5-year average		
	Downward ↓	Stable ↔	Upward ↑	Downward ↓	Stable ↔	Upward ↑
ODB^a – Asia	Afghanistan Cambodia Sri Lanka	Bangladesh Laos Bhutan Myanmar India Pakistan Indonesia Philippines	Nepal			Afghanistan Laos Bangladesh Nepal Cambodia Pakistan India Philippines Indonesia Sri Lanka
ODC – Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe		Azerbaijan Georgia Occupied Palestinian territory Tajikistan Yemen	Armenia		Azerbaijan	Occupied Palestinian territory Tajikistan
ODD – West Africa	Burkina Faso Mali	Cameroon Cape Verde Central African Republic Chad Côte d'Ivoire Guinea Bissau Liberia Mauritania Niger North Nigeria Senegal Sierra Leone	Benin Guinea		Cameroon Chad Côte d'Ivoire Mauritania	Benin Burkina Faso Cape Verde Central African Republic Guinea Mali Niger North Nigeria Senegal
ODJ – Southern, Eastern and Central Africa	Burundi Congo DRC Ethiopia Kenya Lesotho Tanzania Zimbabwe	Djibouti Malawi Mozambique Zambia Rwanda Swaziland Uganda			Rwanda Swaziland Uganda	Burundi Djibouti Ethiopia Kenya Lesotho Zimbabwe Malawi
ODP – Latin America and Caribbean	Haiti Nicaragua	Bolivia Colombia Costa Rica Dominican Republic Ecuador El Salvador Guatemala Honduras Panama Peru			Colombia Dominican Republic Ecuador El Salvador Peru	Bolivia Haiti Nicaragua
ODS – Stand-Alone Countries	South Darfur South Kordofan	Blue Nile West Darfur White Nile Upper Nile Central equatoria	North Darfur			Blue Nile South Darfur South Kordofan West Darfur White Nile Upper Nile North Darfur Central equatoria
Number of countries	16	47	5		14	42*

^a The acronyms ODB, ODC, ODD, ODJ, ODP, ODS used throughout the bulletin refer to the names of the WFP regions.

* Comparison are not done for Armenia, Bhutan, Congo DRC, Costa Rica, Georgia, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Honduras, Liberia, Myanmar, Panama and Yemen where the data isn't available to calculate 5-years average.

Table 2. **Evolution of household purchasing power**

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of purchasing power	Main reasons
Afghanistan²	The terms of trade between casual labour daily salary and wheat improved by 7.5 percent on average in May compared to April 2010.	N/A
Ethiopia³	The terms of trade between wage labour/cereals have on average improved in April 2010 compared to March 2010.	The improvement in the terms of trade for wage labour to cereals was attributed to a decrease in staple food prices in the Amhara region and increase in wage rate in the case of Somali and Tigray regions.
Kenya⁴	Although livestock prices increased significantly in April 2010 compared to average, the high price of cereals which are up to 127 percent above average.	N/A
Liberia⁵	The terms of trade between rice and daily wage rate improved by 16.2 percent on average in April compared to March 2010.	N/A
Niger⁶	The terms of trade between livestock and millet decreased by 22 percent on average in May compared to April 2010. In some of markets like Mangaize, the terms of trade were below 2005 levels.	Decrease in livestock prices and slight increase of millet prices.
Somalia⁷	The terms of trade between maize and daily wage increased by 20-30 percent since December last year.	Significant increase (from 50,000SoSh/daily in Dec. 09 to 90,000SoSh/daily in May '10) in labour wage rate in the same period.
Sudan⁸	Terms of Trade between livestock and cereals in May compared to April 2010 were in favour of pastoralists in Blue Nil (4 percent of increase), Upper Nil (13 percent of increase) while they were either stable (in West Darfur, White Nil and Central Equatoria) or in favour of grain producers in North Darfur (3.7 percent of decrease), South Darfur (16 percent of decrease) and South Kordofan (7 percent of decrease).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Nile: Increase in livestock demand for export purposes. • North Darfur: Grain prices increased more rapidly than goat prices. • South Darfur: Security problems within the state. • South Kordofan: Increase in sorghum prices while goat prices remain stable. • West Darfur: Slight changes in the prices of Goat and sorghum. • White Nile: Stability in the prices of both sorghum and goat. • Central Equatorial: Slight changes in the prices of livestock and Maize. • Upper Nile: Stable price of cereal and increase in livestock prices.
Note: This table includes information from bulletins mainly prepared by WFP country offices.		

2. Source of data: WFP Country Office.

3. Ethiopia Monthly Market Watch, April 2010, WFP Country Office.

4. Kenya Food Security Update, June 2010, WFP, FEWS NET and Government.

5. Data received from WFP Country Office.

6. Albichir No 07, Mai 2010, WFP, Government and FEWSNET

7. Food Security & Nutrition Issued June 18, 2010, FSNAU – Somalia.

8. Trends in Staple Food Prices in Selected Vulnerable States in Sudan, Issue No 2, June 2010. WFP Country Office.

Table 3. **Evolution of CPI and Fuel prices**

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of CPI	Main reasons
Afghanistan	In May compared to April 2010, the food CPI increased slightly by 0.51 percent.	In June compared to May 2010, fuel prices (diesel) decreased by 14 percent.
Armenia	According to national statistics, 1.3 percent inflation was recorded in April 2010. Price of food products has risen by 0.7 percent. Inflation recorded in April has been determined primarily by increased fees of household gas.	Compared to June 2009, petrol and diesel prices in June 2010 increased by 7 percent and 23 percent, respectively.
Benin	The CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased slightly by 0.6 percent.	Between June 2010 and April 2010, prices for diesel increased by 5.5 percent while gasoline price remained stable.
Bolivia	The general CPI and food CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 decrease slightly by 0.09 percent and 0.56 percent, respectively.	Fuel prices are subsidized by the government and remain the same since 2007.
Cambodia	The general CPI and food CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased slightly by 0.22 percent and 0.33 percent, respectively. On a yearly basis the overall inflation rate was 4.48 percent while the food inflation rate was 3.88 percent.	Decrease in livestock prices and slight increase of millet prices.
CAR	The general CPI and food CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased by 3.17 percent and 4.33 percent, respectively.	Fuel prices in May 2010 compared to April 2010 remained stable.
Djibouti	The general CPI and food CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 decreased by 0.2 percent and 0.7 percent, respectively. Compared to April 2009, the general CPI increased by 4 percent.	Fuel prices (kerosene) in May 2010 compared to April 2010 slightly decreased by 0.79 percent.
DRC	N/A	Fuel prices in June 2010 compared to May 2010 increased by 2 percent while they were 24 percent above last year's prices.
Ethiopia	The food inflation rate continued to show a over for the last four months, reaching -5.7 percent in May 2010. The country level general inflation of May 2010 stood at 2.4 percent whilst the food price index stood at 181.3 percent.	Fuel price in May 2010 compared to April 2010 remained stable. Nevertheless, diesel prices increased by 5.5 percent between January 2010 and April 2010.
Georgia	Compared to April 2010, the overall CPI decreased by 0.4 percent.	Fuel prices (diesel) in May 2010 compared to April 2010 slightly increased by 1.34 percent.

Table 3. **Evolution of CPI and Fuel prices**

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of CPI	Main reasons
Haiti	The general CPI and the food CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased by 0.4 and 0.6 percent, respectively. Compared to March 2009, the general CPI increased by 6.3 percent and the food CPI by 4.9 percent.	N/A
Kenya	The general CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased slightly 0.19 percent. The annual inflation rate is 4 percent.	Fuel prices in May 2010 compared to April 2010 either remained stable (for gasoline) or slightly increased by 1.14 percent (diesel) but remain above last year's level by 19 percent for diesel and 18 percent for gasoline.
Liberia	N/A	Gasoline prices in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased by 5.6 percent.
Lesotho	The overall CPI for May 2010 increased by 0.5 percent from the index level estimated in April 2010. This increase was countered by a decrease of 0.1 percent in the price index of Bread and Cereals. The annual inflation rate is estimated at 3.8 percent and the food CPI increased by 3.3 percent over the same month last year.	Fuel prices in June 2010 compared to May 2010 decreased by 4 percent for petrol and 2 percent for diesel. Petrol and diesel prices are 11 and 16 percent above last year levels, respectively. Petrol and diesel prices are regulated at the retail level while paraffin is regulated at the wholesale level.
Niger	The general CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased by 2.5 percent. This overall inflation was mainly due to food inflation (6 percent). The annual inflation rate is 1.4 percent.	Fuel prices are regulated and have remained stable since February 2009.
oPt	The general CPI and food CPI in June 2010 compared to May 2010 remained stable while the annual overall CPI increased by 3.70 percent and food CPI by 2.63 percent.	N/A
Pakistan	The overall CPI and the food CPI of May 2010 have increased by 0.06 and 0.04 percent over April 2010, respectively; and by 13.7 and 14.81 percent compared to the same month last year.	N/A
Somalia	N/A	Compared to April 2010, petrol prices remained stable in May 2010 while diesel prices increased by 11.9 percent.
Sudan	The general CPI and food CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased by 1.77 percent and 2.41 percent, respectively.	N/A
Tajikistan	The general CPI and the food CPI in May 2010 compared to April 2010 decreased by 0.2 and 0.4 percent, respectively. The annual inflation rate is 4 percent.	Fuel prices in May 2010 compared to April 2010 increased by 10 percent for petrol and 16 percent for diesel. They are 30 percent and 22 percent above last year's levels for petrol and diesel, respectively.

Note: This table includes information from previous bulletins mainly prepared by Country Offices and also information from National Institute of Statistics and Central Banks.

Table 4. **Magnitude of quarterly price changes and contribution to the cost of the food basket, by country and commodity****Impact Codes**

	Low price impact on the cost of the food basket (< 5%)
	Moderate price impact on the cost of the food basket (5-10%)
	High price impact on the cost of the food basket (10-20%)
	Very high price impact on the cost of the food basket (> 20%)

Price Trend Codes

→	% Change from previous quarter (Column E) > -10% and < +10%
↑	% Change from previous quarter (Column E) > +10%
↓	% Change from previous quarter (Column E) < -10%

Regions	Countries	Main staple food	Caloric contribution (%)	Change from last quarter (% Change)	Monthly change from last year (% Change)	Quarterly change from last year (% Change)	Quarterly change from last 5 years (% Change)	Contribution to the cost of the food basket (%)		Price trend of the main staples	Remarks
								Cumulative impact of the quarter	Cumulative impact from 5-year average		
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
ODB-Asia	Afghanistan	Wheat	58	-9	-28	-32	30	-11	22	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of wheat and rice
		Rice	22	-26	-2	-6	22				
	Bangladesh	Boro-HYV-Coarse	72	-5	44	41	49	-4	39	→	Low impact with downward price trends of all items
		Ata-Packet	9	-5	61	60	39				
	Bhutan	Rice		-4	31	31	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Moderate price increase of maize and slight price increase of rice
		Wheat flour		-5	2	2	N/A				
		Maize		9	9	9	N/A				
	Cambodia	Rice	66	-11	14	16	70	-7	46	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of rice
	India	Rice	31	-3	10	10	65	-2	30	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice and wheat
		Wheat	21	-3	8	8	46				
	Indonesia	Rice	51	-2	16	15	70	-1	36	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice
	Laos	Rice	64	1	11	11	72	1	46	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice
	Myanmar	Rice	57	2	5	10	N/A	1	N/A	→	Low impact with stable price of rice
	Nepal	Rice	37	13	10	10	77	6	48	↑	Moderate impact with high price increase of rice and wheat flour
		Wheat flour	14	12	18	20	141				
	Pakistan	Wheat flour	37	-4	1	3	103	-2	45	→	Low impact with downward trends of all items
		Rice	7	-10	-1	1	92				
	Philippines	Rice	46	-3	-2	-1	54	-1	25	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice
	Sri Lanka	Rice	39	-10	-10	-10	79	-4	43	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of rice
		Wheat flour	15	-3	-12	-13	79				

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								Cumulative impact of the quarter	Cumulative impact from 5-year average		
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
ODD-West Africa	Benin	Maize	21	-4	-27	-30	50	1	40	↑	Low impact with high price increase of cassava products
		Cassava products	16	14	-20	-13	46				
		Rice	11	2	2	5	98				
		Sorghum	6	-11	0	-4	195				
	Burkina Faso	Sorghum	27	-12	-7	-4	23	-7	16	↓	Low impact with downward price trends of all items
		Millet	22	-10	-1	2	27				
		Maize	15	-10	-13	-9	26				
	Cameroon	Maize	14	4	-10	-8	31	0	7	→	Low impact with slight price increase of maize
		Rice	9	-1	-3	0	34				
	Cape Verde	Rice	20	-3	4	4	44	0	14	→	Low impact with slight price increase of maize and wheat flour
		Wheat flour	15	3	-2	-2	36				
		Maize	13	4	4	4	N/A				
	Central African Republic	Cassava	18	-1	-7	-7	-24	-2	-1	→	Low impact with very high price increase of maize
		Maize	12	27	-7	-13	-30				
		Groundnut Oil	10	-6	-7	-10	26				
		Yams	10	-8	-7	4	43				
	Chad	Sorghum	18	-18	-21	-21	7	-4	9	↓	Low impact with downward price trends of sorghum and millet
		Millet	15	-7	3	3	31				
		Maize	5	1	1	1	43				
		Import rice	4	-7	-7	-7	23				
	Côte d'Ivoire	Yams	20	-9	-2	-4	25	-2	4	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of imported rice
		Import rice	17	5	-5	-18	-30				
		Maize	7	-17	-23	-5	36				
	Guinea	Local rice	36	22	-3	-5	36	9	13	↑	Moderate impact with very high price increase of local rice and palm oil
		Palm oil	6	26	27	19	55				
	Guinea Bissau	Import rice	38	5	-18	-16	N/A	2	N/A	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of imported rice
		Maize	8	0	0	0	N/A				
		Millet	6	0	0	0	N/A				
		Wheat	5	-5	-14	-13	N/A				
	Liberia	Butter rice	25	-1	N/A	N/A	N/A	-1	N/A	→	Low impact with slight price increase of cassava
		Cassava	22	4	N/A	N/A	N/A				
		Palm Oil	15	13	N/A	N/A	N/A				
	Mali	Millet	20	-5	-2	2	17	-5	12	→	Low impact with downward price trends of all items
		Import rice	20	-8	-1	-1	24				
		Sorghum	14	-8	-6	-4	15				
		Maize	10	-11	-5	-7	14				
	Mauritania	Wheat	30	-5	-4	-6	23	-1	7	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of imported rice
		Import rice	11	9	-11	-8	N/A				
	Niger	Millet	41	-2	12	9	31	-1	21	→	Low impact with stable price trends of all items
		Sorghum	12	-3	11	8	32				
		Import rice	9	-3	-8	-8	37				
		Maize	2	-4	-5	-6	28				
	North Nigeria	Sorghum	13	2	19	16	30	1	13	→	Low impact with slight increase of sorghum, millet and rice
		Millet	11	0	16	14	26				
		Rice	9	4	25	15	44				
		Maize	7	2	6	3	29				
	Senegal	Import rice	31	0	-28	-30	23	1	10	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of maize
		Maize	9	8	0	-3	25				
		Millet	8	3	-18	-13	7				

Regions	Countries	Main staple food	Caloric contribution (%)	Change from last quarter (% Change)	Monthly change from last year (% Change)	Quarterly change from last year (% Change)	Quarterly change from last 5 years (% Change)	Contribution to the cost of the food basket (%)		Price trend of the main staples	Remarks
								Cumulative impact of the quarter	Cumulative impact from 5-year average		
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
ODJ-Eastern, Southern and Central Africa	Burundi	Sweet potatoes	18	-16	3	3	58	-11	30	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of all items
		Beans	16	-10	27	27	37				
		Cassava flour	16	-13	3	9	68				
		Maize	13	-31	-3	1	20				
	Congo DRC	Cassava products	55	-15	20	26	N/A	-7	N/A	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of cassava products
		Maize	13	6	50	26	N/A				
	Djibouti	Wheat flour	36	0	1	-17	39	0	28	→	Low impact with stable price trend of wheat flour
		Rice	15	-3	-16	-17	91				
	Ethiopia	Maize	21	-12	-14	-18	103	-5	43	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of all items
		Wheat	18	-8	-21	-15	60				
		Sorghum	10	-6	-10	-7	108				
	Kenya	Maize	36	-19	-41	-33	36	-7	13	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of maize
	Lesotho	Maize	57	-20	-2	-2	40	-11	23	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of maize
	Malawi	Maize	52	9	-9	-12	108	5	56	→	Moderate impact with moderate price increase of maize
	Mozambique	Maize	22	-4	-2	1	72	-1	23	→	Low impact with slight price increase of imported rice
		Import rice	8	2	56	28	91				
	Rwanda	Beans	10	-22	21	15	26	-3	2	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of all items
		Maize	5	-21	-35	-36	-9				
	Somalia	Sorghum	29	13	58	60	297	1	154	↑	Low impact with high price increase of sorghum
		Maize	18	-10	7	10	200				
		Wheat flour	10	-3	-1	-4	136				
		Import red rice	9	-5	-5	-7	200				
	Swaziland	Maize	26	-1	12	-2	8	0	0	→	Low impact with stable price trend of maize
		Wheat	14	1	N/A	N/A	-24				
		Rice	5	-6	-21	-13	16				
	Tanzania	Maize	33	-22	-26	-13	40	-9	16	↓	Low impact with downward price trends of maize and rice
		Rice	8	-19	-18	-14	37				
	Uganda	Maize	11	-20	-58	-57	-22	-2	0	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of maize and beans
		Beans	7	-2	-19	-3	27				
	Zambia	Maize	56	5	-11	-9	69	3	38	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of maize
	Zimbabwe	Maize	43	-39	-9	-6	503	-17	216	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of maize

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								Cumulative impact of the quarter	Cumulative impact from 5-year average		
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
ODP-Latin America and Caribbean	Bolivia	Wheat flour	18	-2	1	-1	27	-1	10	→	Low impact with downward price trend of all items
		Rice	11	-8	-15	-14	45				
		Maize	11	-1	66	42	N/A				
	Colombia	Rice	13	-7	-10	-12	46	-1	9	→	Low impact with slight price increase of wheat flour and maize
		Maize	12	2	-9	-12	13				
		Wheat flour	8	1	-22	-24	13				
	Costa Rica	Rice	17	6	26	26	N/A	1	N/A	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of rice and maize
		Maize	5	6	18	30	N/A				
	Dominican Republic	Rice	17	-2	0	2	35	0	6	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice
	Ecuador	Rice	19	0	-4	-4	30	0	6	→	Low impact with stable price trend of all items
		Wheat flour	12	0	-4	-3	66				
	El Salvador	Maize	32	-10	-13	-18	-5	-4	1	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of maize
		Sorghum	5	-3	-17	-17	23				
		Beans	5	-3	-14	-20	-1				
		Rice	4	-2	-12	-13	45				
	Guatemala	Maize	40	5	-8	-7	N/A	2	N/A	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of maize
	Haiti	Import rice	23	-11	10	8	60	-4	24	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of all items
		Wheat flour	13	-9	5	7	44				
		Domestic maize	12	-7	-2	-4	41				
	Honduras	Maize	29	3	-33	-33	N/A	1	N/A	→	Low impact with slight price increase of maize
		Rice	6	-3	-12	-14	N/A				
	Nicaragua	Maize	23	-12	-17	-16	69	-3	36	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of maize
		Rice	21	-4	-8	-8	99				
	Panama	Rice	25	0	0	0	N/A	0	N/A	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice
		Maize	6	-3	-8	-8	N/A				
	Peru	Rice	20	0	-24	-25	-15	0	3	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice
		Maize	11	-3	-4	-3	22				

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								Cumulative impact of the quarter	Cumulative impact from 5-year average		
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
ODC-Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe	Armenia	Wheat flour	48	11	1	13	N/A	5	N/A	↑	Moderate impact with high price increase of wheat flour
	Azerbaijan	Wheat flour	50	-1	16	20	-1	-1	-1	→	Low impact with stable price trend of wheat flour
	Georgia	Wheat flour	46	-1	-4	-4	N/A	0	N/A	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of maize flour
		Maize flour	8	5	9	7	N/A				
	Occupied Palestinian territory	Wheat flour	36	-2	-7	-8	44	-2	26	→	Low impact with downward price trend of all items
		Rice	9	-6	-10	-11	75				
		Olive oil	5	-3	37	35	66				
	Tajikistan	Wheat	58	-3	-15	-14	96	-2	55	→	Low impact with stable price trend of wheat
	Yemen	Wheat	51	0	14	12	N/A	0	N/A	→	Low impact with stable price trend of wheat

ODS-Sudan	Blue Nile	Sorghum	63	-2	28	28	114	-1	72	→	Low impact with slight decrease in sorghum price
	North Darfur	Sorghum food aid	75	35	113	88	176	26	132	↑	Very high impact with upward trend in food aid prices
	South Darfur	Sorghum	75	-11	73	63	138	-9	103	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of sorghum
	South Kordofan	Sorghum	60	-16	1	-5	46	-11	33	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of sorghum
		Millet	9	-14	40	22	60				
	West Darfur	Sorghum	75	-1	49	32	85	-1	64	→	Low impact with slight decrease in sorghum price
	White Nile	Sorghum	60	3	14	17	81	1	55	→	Low impact with slight increase in sorghum price
		Millet	9	-6	43	22	67				
	Central Equatoria	Maize	73	-5	-7	22	55	-4	40	→	Low impact with slight decrease in maize price
	Upper Nile	Sorghum	71	8	3	3	54	5	38	→	Moderate impact with upward price trend of sorghum

Annex: Names and number of markets covered by country

Regions	Countries	Number of markets	Names of markets included
ODD-West Africa	Benin	1	Dantokpa
	Burkina Faso		National average
	Cameroon		National average
	Cape Verde	3	S.Antanao, S.Vincente, Santiago
	Central African Republic		National average
	Chad	5	Abeche, Bol, Moundou, N'djamena, Sarh
	Côte d'Ivoire	4	Bouaké, Man, Katiola, Odiénné
	Guinea	5	Boke, Madina, Kankan, Labe, N'Zerekore
	Guinea Bissau	1	Bandim
	Liberia	10	Bo-Waterside, Buchanan, Foya, Gbanga, Pleebo, Red Light, Saclepea, Tubmanburg, Voinjaman, Zwedru
	Mali		National average
	Mauritania	1	Nouakchott
	Niger	48	Agadez Commune, Arlit, In'gall, Tchirozine, Diffa Commune, Goudoumaria, N'guigmi, Dogondoutchi, Dosso Commune, Fadama, Gaya, Loga, Mokko, Dioundiou, Aguié, Tchadoua, Dakoro, Sabon-Machi, El-Kolta, Dan-Issa, Maradi-Commune, Tessaoua, Mayahi, Abalack, Badaguichiri, Bouza, Konni, Tahoua Commune, Tounfafi, Tchintabaraden, Ballayara, Filingué, Gothèye, Tera, Kirtachi, Ouallam, Tillabéri commune, Torodi, Bakin-Birgi, Torodi, Dungass, Gouré, Koundoumawa, Matameye, Magaria, Zinder commune, Niamey
	North Nigeria	4	Jibia, Illela, Mai Adua, Damassak
	Senegal	12	Dakar, Diourbel, Fatick, Kolda, Kaffrine, Koalak, Louga, Matam, Saint Louis, Tambacounda, Thiès, Ziguinchor

Regions	Countries	Number of markets	Names of markets included
ODJ-Eastern, Southern and Central Africa	Burundi	14	Bujumbura, Bubanza, Bururi, Cankuzo, Cibitoke, Gitega, Karuzi, Kayanza, Kirundo, Makamba, Muramvya, Mwaro, Ngozi, Ruyigi
	Congo DRC	11	Kinshasa, Goma, Bukavu, Kabalo, Moba, Bunia, Kindu, Kalemie, Mbandaka, Lubumbashi, Uvira
	Djibouti	5	Arta, Ali Sabieh, Dikhil, Tadjourah, Obock
	Ethiopia	56	Babile, Gordamole, Merti, Wekro, Abi Adi, Sekota, Ebinat, D.Dawa, Karati, Turmi, Dangur, Addis Ababa, Gonder, Mekele, Desse, Ambo, Jimma, Nazareth, Shashemene, Baher Dar, Bale Robe, Hossana, Delo, Beddenno, Abomsa, Bedessa, Deder, Wolenchiti, Yabelo, Wekro, Alamata, Korem, May Tsebri, Gode, Jijiga, Wonago, Awassa zuriya, Gamo Gofa, Deberesina, Shoa Robit, Kobo, Bati, Dire Dawa, Harar ketema, Hirna, Sodo, Derashe, Aroresa, Amaro, Gololcha, Kersa, Ajeber, Mota, Ambo, Gonder, Assela
	Kenya	3	Nairobi, Kisumu, Eldoret
	Lesotho	All	All provinces central markets
	Malawi	72	Balaka, Bangula, Bembeke, Bowe, Bvumbwe, Chamama, Chatoloma, Chikwawa, Chilumba, Chimbiya, Chintheche, Chiradzulu, Chitipa, Dowa, Dwangwa, Embangweni, Hewe, Jali, Jenda, Karonga, Kasiya, Kasungu, Lilongwe, Limbe, Liwonde, Lizulu, Luchenza, Lunzu, Madisi, Malomo, Mangochi, Mayaka, Mchinji, Migowi, Misuku, Mitundu, Mkanda, Monkeybay, Mpamba, Mponela, Mtakataka, Muloza, Mwansambo, Mwanza, Mzimba, Mzulu, Nambuma, Namwera, Nanjiri, Nchalo, Neno, Ngabu, Nkhamenya, Nkhatabay, Nkhoma, Nkhotakota, Nsanje, Nsundwe, Ntaja, Ntcheu, Ntchisi, Nthalire, Ntonda, Phalombe, Rumphu, Salima, Santhe, Sharpevale, Thete, Thondwe, Tsangano Turn Off, Zomba
	Mozambique	3	Maputo, Manica, Nampula
	Rwanda	1	Kigali
	Somalia	27	Baidoa, Bardera, Belet Weyne, Xudur, Luuq, Afgoye, Jowhar, Marka, Qoryoley, Mogadishu, Afmadow, Buale, Doble, Jamame, Kismayo, Hagar, Bossaso, Erigavo, Garowe, Lasanod, Borama, Burao, Hargeisa, Abudwaq, Dhusamareb, Galkayo
	Swaziland		National average
	Tanzania	20	Arusha, Dar Es Salaam, Dodoma, Iringa, Songea, Mbeya, Morogoro, Moshi, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Singida, S'wanga, Tanga, Tabora, Mtwara, Lindi, Musoma, Bukoba, Kigoma, Babati
	Uganda	9	Kiboga, Kampala, Iganga, Jinja, Kapchora, Moroto, Mbarara, Gulu, Lira
	Zambia	39	Chingola, Chipata, Choma, Isoka, Kabwe Rural, Kabwe Urban, Kalomo, Kalulushi, Kaoma, Kasama, Kasempa, Katete, Kawambwa, Kitwe, Livingstone, Luangwa, Luangwa, Luanshya, Lundazi, Lusaka Rural, Lusaka Urban, Luwingu, Mansa, Mazabuka, Mbala, Mkushi, Mongu, Monze, Mpika, Mufulira, Mumbwa, Mwense, Mwinilunga, Nchelenge, Ndola Rural, Petauke, Samfya, Senanga, Serenje, Solwezi
	Zimbabwe	1	Harare

Regions	Countries	Number of markets	Names of markets included
ODB-Asia	Afghanistan	11	Kabul, Kandahar, Jalalabad, Herat, Mazar, Faizabad, Gerzet, Bamian, Maimanan, Nili, Ghor
	Bangladesh	30	Dhaka Sadar, Tangail Sadar, Faridpur Sadar, Jamalpur Sadar, Gopalganj Sadar, Manikgonj Sadar, Narsingdhi Sadar, Netrokona Sadar, Khulna Sadar, Jessore Sadar, Kushtia Sadar, Bagerhat Sadar, Sylhet Sadar, Maulavibazar Sadar, Barisal Sadar, Bogra Sadar, Pabna Sadar, Natore Sadar, Rangpur Sadar, Rajshahi Sadar, Gaibandha Sadar, Jaipurhat Sadar, Nawabgonj Sadar, Nilphamari Sadar, Panchagarh Sadar, Thakurgaon Sadar, Comilla Sadar, Chittagong Sadar
	Cambodia		National average
	Bhutan	2	Gelephu, Samtse
	India	18	Agartala, Ahmedabad, Aizwal, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneshwar, Chennai, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Patna, Shillong, Shimla, Trivandrum
	Indonesia		National average
	Laos		National average
	Myanmar	44	Kha MOUNG Zeik, Taung Pyo, Maungdaw, Kyein Chaung, Alel Than Kyaw, Myin Hlut, Kha Htee Hla, Buthidaung, Taung Bazaar, Nyaung Chaung, Zedi Pyin, Rathedaung, Mone Koe, Mone Baw, Lashio, Galen, Nansalatt, Pan Say, Tarmoenye, Man Tone, Man Pan, Taungyyi, Hsi Hsaing, Phe Kon, Pin Laung, Seik Kaung, Saung Byang, Moe Bye, Sebu, Bikin, Magway, Yenanchaung, Pakhangyi, Kamma, Myit Chae, Garayang, Dabakyang, Namsanyang, Namsanyang, Sadone, Wai Moe, Kyi Myin Daing, Tha Ke Ta, Mee Kywat
	Nepal	14	Auchham, Bajura, Banke, Dhankuta, Dolpa, Humla, Jumla, Kailali, Kaski, Kathmandu, Morang, Parsa, Rolpa, Rupandehi
	Pakistan	5	Lahore, Multan, Karachi, Peshawar, Quetta
	Philippines		National average
	Sri Lanka		National average
ODC-Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe	Armenia	2	Yerevan, Vanadzor
	Azerbaijan		National average
	Georgia	4	Gali, Sokhumi, Tbilisi, Zugdidi
	Occupied Palestinian territory	11	Jenin, Tulkarm, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Ramallah & Al-Bireh, Jericho, Bethlehem, Hebron, North Gaza, Miedel Gaza, South Gaza
	Tajikistan	5	Dushanbe, Gharm, Khorog, Kujand, Kurgan-Tyube
	Yemen	6	Aden, Hodieda, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Soqatra, Taiz

Regions	Countries	Number of markets	Names of markets included
ODP-Latin America and Caribbean	Bolivia	3	La Paz, Cochabamba & Santa Cruz
	Colombia	3	Barranquilla, Bogota, Cali
	Costa Rica		National average
	Dominican Republic	1	Santo Domingo
	Ecuador	8	Quito, Guayaquil, Manta, Esmeraldas, Machala, Ambato, Loja, Cuenca
	El Salvador	13	Ahuachapan, Santa Anna, Sonsonate, Chalatenango, Cojutepeque, San Vicente, Zacatecoluca, Sensuntepeque, Usulután, San Miguel, San Francisco Gotera, La Unión, San Salvador
	Guatemala		National average
	Haiti	9	Port-au-Prince, Cap- Haitien, Cayes, Jeremie, Gonaives, Jacmel, Hinche, Port de Paix, Ouanaminthe
	Honduras		National average
	Nicaragua	1	Managua
	Panama		National average
	Peru	1	Lima
ODS- Sudan	Northern Sudan	14	Diem_Arab, Gedaref, Kassala, Kosti, ElObeid, Kadugli, AlFashir, Elgenina, Nyala, Eddein, Damazine
	Southern Sudan	19	Aweil Town, Bor, Custom, Gokmachar, Hajar, Jau, Kapoeta, Konyokonyo, Mabior, Malakal, Malakia, Malualkon, Mayan Rual (Gogrial East), Gogrial West, Nyamlel, Pulmok, Rubkona, Rumbek, Wau

Approach

This bulletin provides information on price changes for the most commonly consumed staples and their potential impacts on the cost of the basic food basket. Staples contribute 40 – 80 percent of energy intake for the most vulnerable population groups in developing countries. Therefore, even a small increase in staple food prices has a high impact on overall food consumption, especially when the food basket is composed of very few food items. The analysis is based on quarterly price indices⁹ of the main caloric contributors to household food consumption. It uses:

- i)** The price change from last quarter calculated as a percentage change from the precedent quarter. Real prices are calculated by dividing each quarterly price by its 5-year (2003-2007) average. The 5-year average is called long-term seasonal average. The change between the two quarters is reported in column E (Table 2).
- ii)** The monthly (year-on-year) price change calculated as a percentage change from 12 months earlier. Column F (Table 2) reflects the percentage change of the most recent monthly price data available (e.g. November 2008) compared with the same month of the previous year (i.e. November 2007).
- iii)** The quarterly price change from the last quarter calculated as the quarterly percentage changes from the corresponding seasonal price of last year, (Column G). This average percentage change indicates whether the price has changed from the recent quarter compared to the same quarter of the previous year.
- iv)** The quarterly price change from the last 5-years calculated as the quarterly percentage change (say from September to November 2008) from the corresponding seasonal average prices of the last 5 years (Column H). This estimate indicates whether there is a structural shift of the current price from its long-term seasonal pattern.¹⁰

The percentage changes of these quarterly price indices indicate the extent to which recent price changes can be considered normal or abnormal as compared to the quarter before. Column D displays the caloric contribution of each food item to households' total energy intake.

Assuming that the caloric contribution is a proxy of the relative importance of the food item in the food basket,¹¹ the likely impact of the last quarter average price change on the cost of the food basket is captured in column I (i.e. the percentage price change in column E weighted by the caloric contribution of the food item in column D). The long-term likely impact is presented in column J (i.e. the percentage price change in column H weighted by the caloric contribution of the food item in column D). The likely impact of price changes is considered low when the estimated cumulative percentage impact on the cost of the food basket is below 5 percent (Column J). Between 5 percent and 10 percent it is considered moderate. Above 10 percent the likely impact on the cost of the food basket is considered high and very high above 20 percent. Households with diverse calorie sources are likely to be less affected by price rises than households with a single calorie source, unless significant price increases are witnessed for each major caloric contributor of the food basket.

While this approach can be used for early warning, results should be interpreted with caution as they do not capture the impact of the long-term trend in food prices. Furthermore, the approach measures only direct impacts while an indirect impact is not accounted for. For instance, substitution and income effects due to price changes are disregarded. Similarly, it does not provide insights into the causes of the price increases. Finally, this approach does not account for the severity of the likely impact which may differ between households due to different incomes and food baskets by wealth or livelihoods groups and coping capacity.

9. Prices are calculated as indices, using reference years, i.e. last year to capture 12-month percentage changes and last 5 years to capture percentage changes from the long term patterns.

10. Prices normally vary throughout a year due to seasonal patterns of the production cycle. Accounting for seasonality helps differentiating between normal seasonal price variations with additional changes which can be considered abnormal, depending on the magnitude of those changes.

11. Caloric contributions are based on FAO 2001-2003 estimates. Comparing FAO estimates of calorie contribution of each food item with a study by Reardon (1993) for selected countries in Africa, it appears in rural areas that the majority of households get most of their calorie intake from a few food items. The national patterns will likely reflect the rural patterns, assuming most of households leave in rural and semi-urban areas in the developing countries.

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The Spanish Government provides financial support for the preparation of The Market Monitor.