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The Market Monitor

Trends of staple food prices in vulnerable countries

This bulletin covers 61 countries over the period October to December 2010 (Q4-2010).[1] In addition to looking at changes and trends in staple food prices and the cost of the food basket this issue also examines trends in fuel prices, terms of trade and consumer price index (CPI) at country level.

Highlights

Global cereal price trends

- **Global wheat and maize price** indices are about 50% higher than Q4-2009. Global cereal prices have increased substantially in Q4-2010 compared to Q3-2010. The increase ranges from 19% (wheat) to more than 30% (maize) compared to the previous quarter (Q3-2010). Rice price index decreased slightly from Q4-2009, though Q4-2010 shows a moderate increase from Q3-2010. Oil price index has also increased over the period. Severe natural disasters (flood and drought) in the main wheat and rice producing/exporting countries (Pakistan, Vietnam, Thailand and currently Australia) are key drivers of the recent global cereal price volatility.

Price Index Variation (%)

Commodity	Q4-2010/ Q3-2010	Q4-2010/ Q4-2009
Cereals	21,0	34,2
Wheat	19,3	48,8
Maize	32,6	52,5
Rice	9,2	-11,4
Crude oil	13,2	20,1

Source of data: IMF Primary Commodity Prices as of December 27, 2010

Staple food price trends at regional and country levels

The upward trend in global cereal prices is affecting domestic prices in many import dependent countries.

- **Asia:** Cereal prices have generally increased from Q3-2010 despite small production increases. Afghanistan and Pakistan require close monitoring due to multiple factors including political instability and natural disasters (flood in Pakistan and drought in Afghanistan) which have resulted in production shortfalls. Prices in South-East Asia are particularly sensitive to production shortfalls in Australia (wheat), Thailand and Vietnam (rice). Global rice prices are trending upward following floods in Thailand and Vietnam (the main exporter countries). This is affecting the rice import dependent countries of the region such as Nepal. Prices could further increase due to ongoing severe floods in Australia.
- **Central and Eastern Africa:** Maize price increased slightly in Q4-2010 despite substantial production increases. Prices are driven by regional dynamics (conflict and socio-political uncertainties in Sudan and Somalia) which have resulted in maize price increases in Congo DR, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda from Q3-2010. Regional and global price volatility will likely transmit to Djibouti (highly dependent on wheat and rice imports) in the near future. Compared with their long-term seasonal averages, prices remain significantly high in Somalia.
- **Southern Africa:** Maize prices are relatively stable due to increased production from last harvest, except in Mozambique (production shortfall) and Zimbabwe. Domestic rice price has increased in Madagascar from Q3-2010 due to the lean season. Rice price decline is expected in Q1-2011 following the harvest. Compared with their long-term seasonal averages, prices remain significantly high in Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

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

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- **West Africa:** Trends in staple food prices are showing a mixed picture. Prices have shown a downward trend in Chad and Niger which recorded significant production increase. However, substantial price increases are recorded in Benin (maize and rice), Cameroun (Maize), Ghana (cassava), Guinea (local rice and palm oil) and Liberia (palm oil). Benin faced significant production shortfall due to floods. Upward pressure on prices are expected in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia due to the political instability in Cote d'Ivoire. Compared with their long-term seasonal averages, prices remain significantly high in Benin, Ghana and Guinea.
- **Latin America and Caribbean:** High grain prices are observed in most of the countries in the region. This is most evident in Bolivia (wheat and maize), Costa Rica (rice and maize), El Salvador (maize and beans), Guatemala (maize) and Haiti (rice). Both Bolivia and Haiti have faced production shortfalls from last year. Political instability and natural disasters continue to undermine domestic production capacity in Haiti.
- **Middle East and Central Asia:** Staple food (mainly wheat) prices have increased significantly due to substantial production shortfalls in the Black Sea region. Continued price increases are expected in the region, especially in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Georgia and Yemen which are highly dependent on wheat imports. The severe flooding in Australia is likely to delay harvest and contribute further to the increase in wheat prices.
- **Stand-alone countries (the Sudan):** Substantial production increase in the six (6) northern Sudan states have led to price declines. Compared to Q3-2010, higher sorghum prices are observed in Upper Nile. Despite production increases, prices are increasing in South Sudan due to political uncertainties.

Fuel price trends at country level

Fuel prices have remained relatively stable compared to the previous quarter (Q3-2010), except in Afghanistan (due to export ban in Iran), Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mauritania and Zimbabwe where fuel prices have increased in the range of 5-10%. Recent global fuel price increases could trigger further inflation in fuel import dependent countries.

Impacts on purchasing power

- In 24 out of 61 (39%) countries monitored, the overall **cost of the basic food basket** is more than 20% above the 5-year average. Most of the countries in this category are located in Asia; Benin, Ghana and Guinea in West Africa; and Somalia, Sudan and Zimbabwe in East Africa.
- **Inflation rates** remained generally contained during the last quarter of 2010, except in Afghanistan (food driven inflation), Armenia (food driven inflation), Ethiopia, Pakistan, Palestine (oPt) and Zimbabwe. It is likely that the political crisis will lead to localized food inflation in Cote d'Ivoire. In Ethiopia, the Government has imposed price control on basic food commodities (effective as of January 2011) to contain the inflation driven by currency devaluation. In Bolivia, the government's attempt to contain inflation through export ban was undermined by the impacts of drought.
- The **terms of trade** of pastoralist communities has deteriorated in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Madagascar and Sudan (North Darfur and Upper Nile) due to cereal price increases. The purchasing power of unskilled wage labour has declined significantly in Cambodia and Pakistan due to rice and wheat price increases.

Appendices

The rest of the bulletin provides further details by country: **Table 1** summarizes the overview of price patterns; **Table 2** presents the changes in the terms of trade; **Table 3** shows trends in the consumer price index (CPI) and fuel prices; and **Table 4** provides more detailed figures on prices, by country and commodity. **Annex 1** summarizes the list of markets from which the price data were compiled. **Annex 2** presents the approach used to calculate price changes and changes in the cost of the basic food basket. The map provides a visual presentation of countries that require close monitoring.

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[2] – Asia	Sri Lanka	Laos Cambodia India Indonesia Philippines	Afghanistan Bangladesh Myanmar Nepal Pakistan			Afghanistan Bangladesh Nepal Cambodia India Indonesia Laos Pakistan Philippines Sri Lanka
ODC – Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe	Occupied Palestinian territory	Egypt	Armenia Azerbaijan Tajikistan Georgia Yemen		Georgia Occupied Palestinian territory	Azerbaijan Egypt Tajikistan
ODD – West Africa	Niger Chad	Côte d'Ivoire Gambia Mali Burkina Faso Guinea Bissau North Nigeria	Cameroon Cape Verde Guinea Ghana Benin Liberia Senegal Mauritania		Chad Côte d'Ivoire Mali Senegal	Cameroon Burkina Faso Guinea Bissau Gambia Benin Cape Verde Mauritania Guinea Ghana Niger North Nigeria
ODJ – Southern, Eastern and Central Africa	Congo DRC Zambia Djibouti Ethiopia	Lesotho Burundi Kenya Tanzania Rwanda Uganda	Madagascar Mozambique Zimbabwe Somalia		Kenya Madagascar Rwanda Uganda	Djibouti Burundi Ethiopia Lesotho Mozambique Somalia Tanzania Zambia Zimbabwe
ODP – Latin America and Caribbean	Peru	Colombia Nicaragua Dominican Republic Ecuador Honduras Panama	Bolivia Costa Rica El Salvador Haiti Guatemala		Bolivia Colombia Dominican Republic Peru	Ecuador Haiti Nicaragua El Salvador
ODS - Stand-Alone Countries	Blue Nile South Darfur White Nile	West Darfur North Darfur South Kordofan Central equatoria	Upper Nile			Blue Nile South Darfur South Kordofan West Darfur White Nile Upper Nile North Darfur Central equatoria
Number of countries	10	28	28	0	14	45[3]

2. The acronyms ODB, ODC, ODD, ODJ, ODP, ODS used throughout the bulletin refer to the names of the WFP regions.
3. Comparison are not done for Armenia, Yemen, Congo DRC, Costa Rica, Guatemala,, Honduras, Liberia, Myanmar, Panama where the data isn't available to calculate 5-years average.

Table 2. **Evolution of household purchasing power reported in country bulletins**[4]

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of Purchasing Power	**Main Reasons**
Afghanistan	The terms of trade between daily casual labour wage and wheat slightly deteriorated (3%) in November 2010 compared to October 2010; indeed casual labour salary could be exchanged in November for 18 Kg of wheat again 18.6Kg in October. Compared to November last year ToT improved by 13 percent on average.	Wheat price is on the rise mainly due to the post-flooding situation in Pakistan.
Benin	Terms of trade between maize and other agricultural products are still favouring those that produce cash crops due to the decreasing price of this cereal.	Price of maize has been decreasing significantly over the last trimester probably due to the flood that disrupted the harvest and delayed supply on markets.
Burkina Faso	The value of livestock has been generally increasing in the last quarter thus improving the ToT for pastoralists. The index has been on average above 1 compared to the alert level of 0.77 in 2009 (reference year).	While livestock is in good shape due to the good condition of the pasture, market supply has reduced as pastoralists are retaining livestock to reconstitute their stock. This is resulting in an increase in prices.
Cambodia	The terms of trade between unskilled wages and lowest quality rice has deteriorated by 5 percent in October 2010 compared to September 2010.	This is attributed to the continuing increase in the prices of rice in some major markets which is not matched by a corresponding increase in the prices of labour. Rice price increase is due to the lean season which lasts until November.
Ethiopia	The terms of trade between shoat and maize deteriorated for pastoralists in the market of Gode by 17% due to a drop in the price of shoat (8 percent) and an increase in the price of cereals. In the other two markets monitored (Dire Dawa and Jijiga) ToT improved for pastoralists by 5% due to an increase in the price of shoat.	The price of cereals is generally stable or declining at this time of the year due to the harvest. Nevertheless, the price of cereals has been on the rise in food deficit areas. This explains the deterioration of the ToT in Gode.
Georgia	The terms of trade between wheat and labor has increased by 20% in November compared to October 2010 and remained stable in December.	After an increasing trend which lasted until October the wheat flour prices remained relatively stable over the last quarter while the labour wages increased by 18 percent.
Ghana	Labour-to-maize terms of trade increased from October to November in all regions (5.8kg to 8.8kg in North region, 11 to 14 kg in East region, 4 to 17 Kg in West region).	The maize production has been particularly favourable, leading to a decrease in retail price which was also combined with an increase in the cost of labour over the reference period.
Liberia	The terms of trade between wage labour and butter rice have slightly deteriorated between September and October 2010.	The price of rice has been slightly rising in Liberia over the period observed.

Table 2. **Evolution of household purchasing power reported in country bulletins**[4]

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of Purchasing Power	**Main Reasons**
Madagascar	The terms of trade between livestock and cereals started to decrease in September adversely affecting pastoralists.	Prices of cereals and tubers started to increase in September due to the lean season. Cereals prices, in particular rice, are likely going down starting from December.
Pakistan	The ToT between wage rate and wheat flour and wage rate and rice significantly deteriorated in September/October 2010.	The monsoon induced flooding crisis resulted into a sharp increase in the price of wheat flour and rice in particular during the month of September. Concerns over the production of rice (Pakistan being one of the main world exporter) led to a steady increase in the prices but the situation should stabilize as the supply of both cereals satisfy national demand through April 2011.
Senegal	There has been deterioration in the terms of trade between peanut and rice affecting the cash crop producers.	The official opening of the marketing campaign for peanut in mid December led to a massive influx of this commodity on the markets thus leading to a decrease in its price.
Somalia	There has been deterioration in the term of trade between both sorghum and wage labour and sorghum and goat (favouring pastoralists) due to an increase in the price of sorghum over the observed period.	N/A
Sudan	The terms of trade (ToT) in North Sudan between sorghum and goat favoured livestock owners over the last quarter of 2010 with an improvement in the ToT between 6 and 16 percent with the exception of North Darfur where ToT deteriorated by 10%. In South Sudan there has been a 3% increase in favour of bull owners against sorghum in Central Equatoria, while in the Upper Nile grains owners gained 10 percent against the value of livestock over the last quarter.	Sorghum prices dropped over the last quarter of 2010 due to the harvest, except in Upper Nile.

Note: This table includes information from bulletins mainly prepared by WFP country offices.

4. Data reported by WFP Country Office and FAO/Giews report December 2010 unless specified differently.

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

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of the Consumer Price Index (CPI)	Evolution of Fuel Prices
Afghanistan	The upward trends in prices continued over the last trimester of 2010. The overall CPI increased by 3.4 points from the past month. Compared to November 2009, the general CPI increased by 12.1 points and the food index by 12.3 points.	On December 22nd Iran announced a fuel export ban to Afghanistan (probably due to internal energy problems) which led to an increase in the price of fuel.
Armenia	The general CPI increased by 1.8 percent in November compared to October and by 9.4 percent compared to the same month last year. Food prices in December increased on average by 26%.	From October to November 2010, petrol price has slightly increased by 1 percent.
Bangladesh	The general CPI and the food CPI showed a slight increase in October 2010 compared to September of 0.9 percent and 1.12 percent respectively. Compared to the same month last year CPI increased by 6.8 percent.	N/A
Bolivia	The general CPI in November 2010 compared to October 2010 increased by 1.12 percent and was above last year level by 5.5 percent. The Government has tried to contain the price increase restricting exports but despite these attempts the drought showed its impact on food prices.	Fuel prices are subsidized by the government and remained the same since 2007.
Burkina Faso	There has been a slight decrease in the general CPI in November 2010 compared to October 2010 by 0.1 percent and a decline of 1 percent compared to the same month last year. Decrease in CPI is mainly due to a reduction in the food index particularly in the price of cereals.	N/A
Cambodia	The general CPI and food CPI in November 2010 compared to October 2010 increased slightly by 1.0 percent and 1.4 percent, respectively. On a yearly basis the overall inflation rate was 3.6 percent while the food inflation rate was 4%.	Fuel prices in November 2010 compared to October 2010 decreased slightly by 0.7 percent but remained 12.5 percent above last year's level.
Djibouti	The general CPI decreased by 0.5 percent in November and by 1.8 in October compared to September. Food flows from Ethiopia contributed to stabilizing food inflation in the country.	Fuel prices have been stable in average across the country during the reporting period.
Domenican Republic	The general CPI increased by 0.31 percent in November while the food CPI decreased slightly by 0.2 percent. In comparison to November 2009, the overall CPI rose by 5.37 percent.	Fuel prices started to increase in November and by end of December they were 4 percent higher than the previous quarter.

Table 3. **Evolution of CPI and Fuel prices**		
Countries	**Country fact sheet**	
	Evolution of the Consumer Price Index (CPI)	**Evolution of Fuel Prices**
Ecuador	The general CPI increased slightly by 0.27 percent in November compared to October 2010. This is mainly due to a slight increase in the food prices in particular wheat flour and bread that increased by 1.5 and 2.1 percent respectively.	Fuel prices remained stable from September to November 2010.
Egypt	The general CPI and the food CPI decreased by 1 percent and 2.5 percent respectively in November compared to October 2010. Compared to the same month last year general CPI and food CPI decreased by 10 and 16 percent respectively.	Fuel prices are regulated by the Government.
Ethiopia	In November 2010, the general inflation and the food inflation calculated on a 12 month moving average stood at 7.5 percent and 0.8 percent respectively. However, in comparison to the same month last year, the general CPI increased by 10 percent and the food CPI by 5.8 percent. The GCPI increased due to a rise in all indices.	The Government of Ethiopia has adjusted retail prices of fuel following the increase of crude oil prices on the international market in the first dekad of December 2010. Prices have increased by 4.57 percent for benzene, 4.26 percent for kerosene and 4.33 percent for diesel.
Gambia	The overall Consumer Price Index for November 2010 registered a 0.25 percent increase over the October 2010. On an annual basis the overall index increased by 5.88 percent from November 2009 to November 2010.	Fuel price index increased slightly (0.32 percent) in November 2010 compared to previous month.
Haiti	In November, the general CPI increased slightly by 0.9 percent compared to October 2010 and by 3.8 compared to the same month last year. The food CPI increased by 1.5 percent: It is the highest monthly variation since January 2010.	Fuel prices are regulated and have remained stable.
Honduras	The general CPI in October 2010 increased slightly compared to September (0.9%) . Compared to previous year the CPI has increased by 5.8 percent.	N/A
Ivory Coast	In December 2010 prices, especially food prices, were on the rise in the capital city, mainly due to the political crisis.	N/A
Indonesia	The monthly inflation rate was stable at 0.06 percent in October 2010.	Kerosene price remained stable over the observed period.
Kenya	The general CPI in November 2010 was at 3.84 percent with a slight increase of 0.83 compared to October. The food CPI rose by 1.36 percent due to an increase in price in beef, milk, rice and bread. Compared to the previous year the food CPI rose by 6.7 percent	Fuel retail prices in November 2010 compared to October 2010 increased by 4 percent and are above previous year's level by 16 percent.

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

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of the Consumer Price Index (CPI)	Evolution of Fuel Prices
Lesotho	N/A	Fuel prices in December 2010 compared to November 2010 increased by 2.6 percent for petrol and 3 percent for diesel. Petrol and diesel prices are still lower than last year. Fuel prices are regulated at the retail level while paraffin is regulated at the wholesale level.
Madagascar	The general CPI increased slightly by 1 percent fom September to October 2010.	After a decreasing trend over the months (September to November) fuel price increased in December reaching August level.
Mauritania	In November 2010, the general CPI increased by 0.5 percent. On a yearly basis, the general inflation inflation rate was at 6.3 percent.	After three months of stability gasoil price started to increase in October and reached a 5 percent increase in November compared to September 2010.
oPt	The general CPI and food CPI in December 2010 compared to November 2010 slightly increased by 0.3 and 0.5 percent respectively. Compared to December 2009, the overall CPI increased in December by 3.5 percent and the food CPI by 3 percent. Food prices are on the rise due to wheat flour import restriction, a heat wave that affected the production of vegetables and the Tuta Pest that affected the tomato production. This trend is worrying particularly in Gaza.	The gasoline retail price decreased slightly in October by 0.2 percent compared to preceding month but should regain September level by the end of December.
Niger	Inflation rate increased slightly in November by 0.1 percent compared to October according to INS. Compared to the previous year inflation rate decreased by 0.3 percent. Cereal prices registered also a 9.5 percent decrease in November compared to previous month.	Fuel prices remained stable over the observed period.
Pakistan	The Consumer Price Index of November 2010 has increased by 1.5 percent over October 2010 and has been steadily on the rise since September.	Fuel (petrol and diesel) prices remained stable over the observed period.
Philippines	The annual inflation rate was at 2.9 percent in December 2010, reaching up to 3.7 percent in Caraga region. There has been a 0.5 percent increase compared to previous month.	N/A

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

Countries	Country fact sheet	
	Evolution of the Consumer Price Index (CPI)	**Evolution of Fuel Prices**
Senegal	The general CPI and the food CPI decreased slightly by 0.3 percent and 0.8 percent respectively in November compared to the previous month mainly due to a decrease in the food prices. Compared to the same month last year, the CPI increased by 2.8 percent.	Price of fuel was stable during the reporting period.
Somalia	N/A	From September to November, petrol price remained stable or had a slight decrease in all regions except Mogadishu where petrol decreased by 15 percent in October and then regained its September level in November. Diesel prices decreased slightly in every zone (between 0.5 and 2 percent).
Sri Lanka	The general CPI increased slightly by 1.1 percent in December. The overall CPI increased by 5.8 percent in December compared to the same month last year.	Fuel price remained stable over the last quarter of 2010.
Sudan	In all states, the cost of the food basket is higher compared with their long term averages. In the six northern states included in the monitoring, the overall cost of the food basket ranges from 18- 99 percent above the 5- year average while it ranges from 26- 57 percent above the 3- year averages for the two southern states. On the other side, prices of the main staple food commodities have reduced in many states during the reporting period October–December compared with the previous quarter. This is mainly due to the beginning of the harvest and good pasture conditions (reduction in demand for sorghum to feed animal).	N/A
Uganda	Food inflation recorded a decrease of 1.7 percent for the year ending November 2010 compared to a decrease of 5.5 percent registered for the year ended October 2010 due to a decrease in the price of vegetables and fish . The non-food prices inflation slightly dropped to 3.5 percent for the year ending November 2010 compared to a 3.6 percent recorded for the year ended October 2010.	Fuel price decreased by an average of 4 percent in November 2010 compared to the previous month.
Tanzania	Annual Headline Inflation Rate for the year ended November 2010 increased by 5.5 percent compared to 4.2 percent registered in the year ended October 2010. Food and non alcoholic beverages also rose to 7.1 percent for the year ended November.	Annual rate for housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuel rose significantly by 14.4 percent in November 2010 compared to a 10.2 percent increase for year ending October 2010.
Zimbabwe	Monthly inflation rose in November by 0.5 percent while annual inflation was at 4 percent.	Fuel prices increased by 8 percent as of end December 2010.

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

Impact of food price variations (quarterly) and undernourishment prevalence in total population

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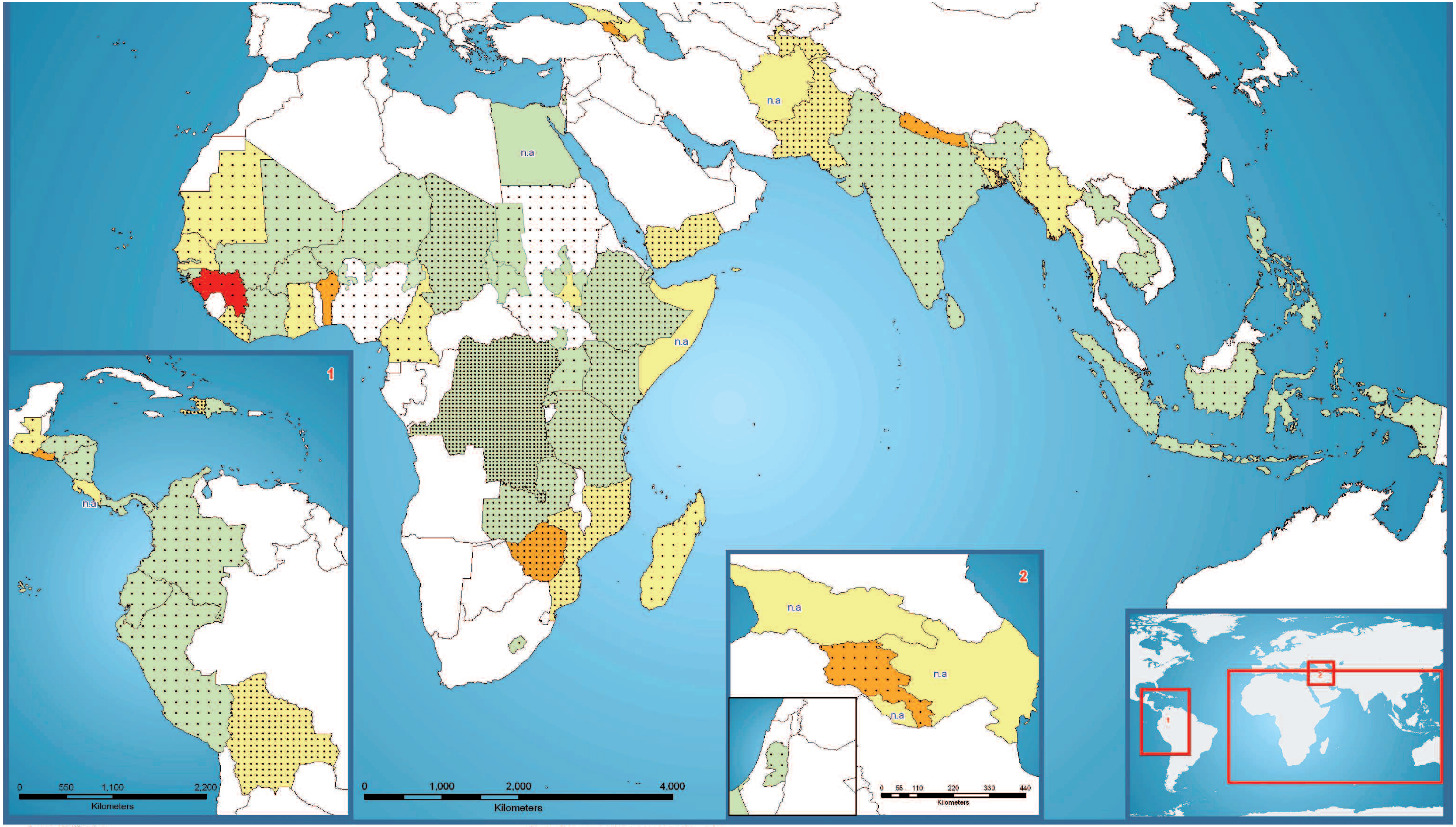

Impact Codes

- No data
- Downward or stable price trends with low impact on the cost of the food basket
- Upward price trends with low impact on the cost of the food basket
- Upward price trends with moderate impact on the cost of the food basket
- Upward price trends with very high impact on the cost of the food basket

Prevalence of undernourishment in total population (%)

- < 25
- 26 - 50
- >50

Note: Map based on Table 4 and from Fao Stat (prevalence of undernourishment)

Map produced by: VAM - Food Security Analysis (ODXF)
Data sources: WFP, Gaul & FAO Stat.

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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	4	11	7	50	0	28	↑	Low impact with moderate wheat price increase from last quarter.
		Rice	22	-10	-11	-11	-3				
	Bangladesh	Boro-HYV-Coarse	72	4	34	42	75	4	60	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of rice and wheat.
		Ata-Packet	9	15	44	48	69				
	Cambodia	Rice	66	0	4	6	52	0	35	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice.
	India	Rice	31	0	3	5	63	-1	28	→	Low impact with stable price trends of rice and wheat.
		Wheat	21	-3	-1	3	39				
	Indonesia	Rice	51	-2	29	28	81	-1	41	→	Low impact with slight rice price decrease compared to last quarter.
	Lao PDR	Rice	64	-1	46	52	107	-1	69	→	Low impact with high rice price increase from last year.
	Myanmar	Rice	57	2	23	24	N/A	1	N/A	↑	Low impact with upward rice price trends from last year.
	Nepal	Rice	37	13	21	18	109	5	60	↑	Moderate impact with high rice price increase from last quarter.
		Wheat flour	14	1	11	42	141				
	Pakistan	Wheat flour	37	2	6	6	99	1	44	↑	Low impact with price increase of all items.
		Rice	7	7	11	8	98				
	Philippines	Rice	46	1	0	1	50	1	23	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice.
	Sri Lanka	Rice	39	-15	-27	-24	25	-7	23	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of rice.
		Wheat flour	15	-4	17	15	91				

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 (%): Cumulative impact of the quarter	Contribution to the cost of the food basket (%): Cumulative impact from 5-year average	Price trend of the main staples	Remarks
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
ODD-West Africa	Benin	Maize	21	16	16	29	81	5	44	↑	Moderate impact with high price increase of maize.
		Cassava products	16	2	-20	-20	23				
		Rice	11	7	7	4	105				
		Sorghum	6	9	0	0	191				
	Burkina Faso	Sorghum	27	2	-8	-9	14	0	12	→	Low impact with stable price trend of all items.
		Millet	22	-2	-5	-3	21				
		Maize	15	3	-5	-6	22				
	Cameroon	Maize	14	26	12	11	56	4	11	↑	Low impact despite price increase of all products.
		Rice	9	7	4	6	39				
	Cape Verde	Rice	20	3	4	4	47	-2	11	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of rice.
		Wheat flour	15	-13	-4	-5	11				
		Maize	13	-6	15	15	N/A				
	Chad	Sorghum	18	-7	-34	-30	7	-5	3	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of all products.
		Millet	15	-14	-24	-21	15				
		Maize	5	-20	-25	-24	-6				
		Import rice	4	-21	-24	-17	-8				
	Côte d'Ivoire	Imported rice	17	1	18	-21	32	1	3	→	Low impact with high price increase of maize from the last quarter.
		Cassava	12	-5	2	15	-17				
		Maize	7	23	-10	-1	6				
	Gambia	Millet	21	-5	3	5	32	-1	10	→	Low impact with slight price decrease of millet from the last quarter.
		Rice	14	3	4	2	27				
	Ghana	Cassava	23	12	17	15	125	2	71	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of cassava.
		Maize	13	0	0	-2	114				
		Yams	11	2	8	9	147				
		Plantains	9	-14	-11	-9	56				
		Local rice	8	0	4	2	73				
	Guinea	Local rice	36	55	37	36	72	21	29	↑	High impact with high price increase for rice.
		Palm oil	6	16	57	46	54				
	Guinea Bissau	Imported rice	38	-8	7	16	29	-3	11	→	Low impact with downward price trend of imported rice compared to last quarter.
		Maize	8	0	0	0	0				
		Millet	6	-22	0	0	-38				
		Wheat	5	20	10	12	32				
	Liberia	Butter rice	25	0	-8	-7	N/A	3	N/A	↑	Low impact with high price increase of palm oil.
		Palm oil	15	19	25	21	N/A				
	Mali	Millet	20	-9	-11	-12	5	-2	8	→	Low impact with slight price decrease for most commodities.
		Import rice	20	2	20	8	25				
		Sorghum	14	-4	-12	-11	10				
		Maize	10	-4	8	6	10				
	Mauritania	Wheat	30	0	30	3	28	1	13	↑	Low impact with moderate price increase of imported rice.
		Import rice	11	9	11	15	43				
	Niger	Millet	41	-11	-16	-15	17	-6	13	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of all the basic food items.
		Sorghum	12	-9	-25	-16	18				
		Import rice	9	1	0	-3	34				
		Maize	2	-1	-6	-8	36				
	North Nigeria	Sorghum	13	4	-1	0	33	1	12	→	Low impact with stable price trend for all the basic food items.
		Millet	11	3	3	2	27				
		Rice	9	1	-4	-3	30				
		Maize	7	3	5	11	37				
	Senegal	Import rice	31	0	14	14	28	-2	8	↑	Low impact with high price increase of imported rice compared to last year.
		Maize	9	-14	2	-3	4				
		Millet	8	-8	-5	11	-9				

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-Easthern, Southern and Central Africa	Burundi	Sweet potatoes	18	2	-35	-23	70	0	29	→	Low impact with downward price trend of cassava flour.
		Beans	16	-2	-5	2	30				
		Cassava flour	16	-7	-25	-9	50				
		Maize	13	6	-24	-22	26				
	Congo DRC	Cassava products	55	-1	-23	-16	N/A	-1	N/A	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of cassava.
		Maize	13	2	8	-2	N/A				
	Djibouti	Wheat flour	36	-7	-2	-4	20	-4	18	↓	Low impact with moderate price decrease of all items from last quarter.
		Rice	15	-7	-8	-11	73				
	Ethiopia	Maize	21	-9	-14	-21	46	-2	25	↓	Low impact with moderate price decreases for maize and sorghum.
		Wheat	18	1	0	-9	56				
		Sorghum	10	-4	-13	-14	56				
	Kenya	Maize	36	3	-35	-37	16	1	6	→	Low impact with slight maize price increase from last quarter.
	Lesotho	Maize	57	-1	2	-2	28	-1	16	→	Low impact with stable price trend of maize from last quarter.
	Madagascar	Domestic rice	49	4	19	11	14	2	7	↑	Low impact with moderate rice price increase.
	Mozambique	Maize	22	-7	20	18	83	-1	29	↑	Low impact with imported rice price increase from last year.
		Import rice	8	3	27	25	134				
	Rwanda	Beans	10	-7	3	-1	40	1	4	→	Low impact with moderate price decrease of beans and high price increase of maize from last quarter.
		Maize	5	26	-35	-42	5				
	Somalia	Sorghum	29	5	50	33	214	2	126	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of sorghum and maize from last quarter.
		Maize	18	7	16	1	194				
		Wheat flour	10	-2	4	5	136				
		Import red rice	9	-5	-2	-3	168				
	Tanzania	Maize	33	1	-27	-26	54	0	21	→	Low impact with stable price trend of maize and rice from last quarter.
		Rice	8	0	-10	-13	41				
	Uganda	Maize flour	10	13	-32	-39	19	0	9	→	Low impact with moderate price increase of maize and decrease of cassava flour prices from last quarter.
		Cassava flour	12	-14	-18	-21	55				
	Zambia	Maize	56	-6	-19	-18	39	-4	22	↓	Low impact with moderate maize price decrease from last quarter.
	Zimbabwe	Maize	43	15	24	5	349	6	150	↑	Moderate impact with high maize price increase from last quarter.

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 (%): Cumulative impact of the quarter	Contribution to the cost of the food basket (%): Cumulative impact from 5-year average	Price trend of the main staples	Remarks
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
ODP-Latin America and Caribbean	Bolivia	Wheat flour	18	9	14	12	23	2	8	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of maize and wheat flour.
		Rice	11	-8	-4	2	32				
		Maize	11	8	52	74	N/A				
	Colombia	Rice	13	1	12	14	40	0	9	→	Low impact with stable price trend of all items from the last quarter.
		Maize	12	-3	33	28	29				
		Wheat flour	8	-2	-2	-5	-1				
	Costa Rica	Rice	17	8	37	27	N/A	2	N/A	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of rice and maize.
		Maize	5	4	17	19	N/A				
	Dominican Republic	Rice	17	-5	-2	-5	24	-1	4	→	Low impact with slight rice price decrease from last quarter.
	Ecuador	Rice	19	1	5	3	31	-1	12	→	Low impact with stable price trend of rice.
		Wheat flour	12	-7	-1	-1	51				
	El Salvador	Maize	32	17	19	13	19	7	12	↑	Moderate impact with high price increases of beans and maize.
		Sorghum	5	-4	0	-7	-10				
		Beans	5	38	149	159	96				
		Rice	4	-7	2	-2	25				
	Guatemala	Maize	40	7	17	15	N/A	3	N/A	↑	Low impact with moderate maize price increase from last quarter.
	Haiti	Import rice	23	9	11	5	46	0	15	↑	Low impact despite moderate price increase of imported rice from last quarter.
		Wheat flour	13	-4	4	0	16				
		Domestic maize	12	-11	-7	-12	20				
	Honduras	Maize	29	-7	-6	-9	N/A	-1	N/A	→	Low impact with slight maize price decrease from last quarter.
		Rice	6	11	9	-2	N/A				
	Nicaragua	Maize	23	5	-10	-11	50	1	31	↓	Low impact with slight maize price increase from last quarter.
		Rice	21	-2	-1	0	91				
	Panama	Rice	25	-1	2	-2	N/A	-1	N/A	→	Low impact with downward price trend of maize from last quarter.
		Maize	6	-11	18	9	N/A				
	Peru	Rice	20	0	-12	-16	-14	0	9	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of rice and maize.
		Wheat	11	-2	-1	-1	19				
		Potatoes	9	-1	24	25	50				
		Maize	11	0	-3	-4	48				

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
ODC-Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe	Armenia	Wheat flour	48	-3	8	6	N/A	5	N/A	↑	Moderate impact with wheat flour price increase from last quarter and last year.
	Azerbaijan	Wheat flour	50	-8	11	11	62	2	35	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of wheat flour.
	Egypt	Wheat	46	-14	32	9	-8	-3	11	→	Low impact with downward prices trends of rice and wheat from last quarter.
		Rice	8	-12	10	1	N/A				
	Georgia	Wheat flour	46	-14	32	9	-8	4	-1	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of all items.
		Maize flour	8	-12	10	1	N/A				
	Occupied Palestinian territory	Wheat flour	36	-13	-15	-16	21	-4	8	↓	Low impact with downward price trends of all items from last quarter.
		Rice	9	-13	-24	-23	48				
		Olive oil	5	-7	21	24	56				
	Tajikistan	Wheat	51	17	30	35	N/A	1	53	↑	Low impact with upward price trend of wheat.
	Yemen	Wheat	51	17	30	35	N/A	1	N/A	↑	Low impact with slight price increase of wheat from last quarter.
ODS-Sudan	Blue Nile	Sorghum	63	-33	-32	-18	50	-21	32	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of sorghum.
	North Darfur	Sorghum food aid	75	-5	48	69	132	-4	99	→	Low impact with downward price trend of food aid sorghum.
	South Darfur	Sorghum	75	-25	-2	23	110	-19	83	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of sorghum.
	South Kordofan	Sorghum	60	-1	-27	-21	27	1	21	→	Low impact with slight decrease in sorghum price.
		Millet	9	14	-4	12	56				
	West Darfur	Sorghum	75	-8	9	1	50	-6	37	→	Low impact with downward price trend of sorghum.
	White Nile	Sorghum	60	-24	-21	-19	24	-16	18	↓	Low impact with downward price trend of sorghum.
		Millet	9	-20	2	0	38				
	Central Equatoria	Maize	73	3	-14	-3	35	2	26	→	Low impact with slight increase in maize price.
	Upper Nile	Sorghum	71	6	57	26	80	4	57	↑	Low impact with increase in sorghum price.

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
	Chad	5	Abeche, Bol, Moundou, N'djamena, Sarh
	Côte d'Ivoire	4	Bouaké, Katiola, Odiénné, Man
	Ghana	13	Accra, Cape Coast, Sekondi Takoradi, Tema, Kumasi, Ejura, Obuasi, Sunyani, Tema, Ho, Tamale, Bolga, Wa
	Gambia	28	Banjul, Bakau, Serrekunda, Latrikunda, Lamin, Brikama, Gunjur, Sibanor, Kanlagi, Kwinella, Soma, Wellingara, Jareng, Brikamba, Bansang, Sare Bojo, Basse Santosu, Fatoto, Essau, Fass Njaga Choi, Ndugu Kebbeh, Kerewan, Kerr Pateh Koreh, Farafenni, Kaur Wharf Town, Kuntaur, Wassu, Sare Ngai
	Guinea	4	Kankan, Labe, N'Zerekore, Conakry
	Guinea Bissau	1	Bandim
	Liberia	10	Bo-Waterside, Buchanan, Foya, Gbanga, Pleebo, Red Light, Saclepea, Tubmanburg, Voinjaman, Zwedru
	Mali	9	Kayes, Koulikoro Ba, Sikasso, Segou, Mopti Digue, Tombouctou, Gao, Kidal, Bamako
	Mauritania	1	Nouakchott
	Niger		National average
	North Nigeria	5	Jibia, Illela, Mai Adua, Damassak, Mai Gatari
	Senegal	12	Dakar, Diourbel, Fatick, Kolda, Kaffrine, Koalak, Louga, Matam, Saint Louis, Tambacounda, Thiès, Ziguinchor
	Sierra Leone	13	Wellington, Dove Court, Krootown, Lumley, Barmoi, Port Loko, Kailahun, Makeni, Kabala, Koidu, Pujehun, Bo, Kenema
ODJ-Easthern, 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	25	AA, Ambo, Gonder, Jimma, Mekele, Nazareth, Shashemene, Baher Dar, Bale Robe, Desse, Hossana, Babile, Delo, Yabelo, Alamata, Korem, Abi Adi, Somali Gode, Jijiga, Wonago, Meskan, Sodo, S.Robit, Kobo, Bati

Regions	Countries	Number of markets	Names of markets included
ODJ-Easthern, Southern and Central Africa	Kenya	3	Nairobi, Kisumu, Eldoret
	Lesotho	All	All provinces central markets
	Madagascar		National average
	Mozambique	10	Maputo, Manica, Nampula, Angonia, Chokwe, Gorongosa, Maxixe, Milange, Montepuez, Ribaue
	Rwanda	1	Kigali
	Somalia	19	Baidoa, Bardera, Belet Weyne, Xudur, Luuq, Afgoye, Jowhar, Marka, Qoryoley, Mogadishu, Afmadow, Buale, Doble, Jamame, Kismayo, Hagar, Abudwaq, Dhusamareb, Galkayo
	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, Kapchorwa, Moroto, Mbarara, Gulu, Lira
	Zambia		National average
	Zimbabwe	1	Harare
	Zimbabwe	1	Harare
ODB-Asia	Afghanistan	10	Kabul, Kandahar, Jalalabad, Herat, Mazar, Faizabad, Bamian, Maimanan, Nili, Ghor
	Bangladesh		All provinces central markets except Rangpur
	Cambodia		National average
	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		All provinces central markets
	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

Regions	Countries	Number of markets	Names of markets included
ODC-Middle East, Central Asia and Eastern Europe	Armenia	2	Yerevan, Vanadzor
	Azerbaijan		National average
	Egypt	All	Markets in urban areas
	Georgia	1	Tbilisi
	Occupied Palestinian territory	11	Jenin, Tulkarm, Qalqiliya, Nablus, Ramallah & Al-Bireh, Jericho, Bethlehem, Hebron, North Gaza, Miedel Gaza, South Gaza
	Tajiskistan	5	Dushanbe, Gharm, Khorog, Kujand, Kurgan-Tyube
	Yemen	6	Aden, Hodieda, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Soqatra, Taiz
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	11	Ahuachapan, Santa Ana, Sonsonate, Chalatenango, Cojutepeque, San Vincente, Zacatecoluca, Sensuntepeque, Usulatan, San Miguel, San Fransisco Gotera, La Union, San salavador
	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 indices[5] 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.[6]

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[7], 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.

5. 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.

6. 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.

7. 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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