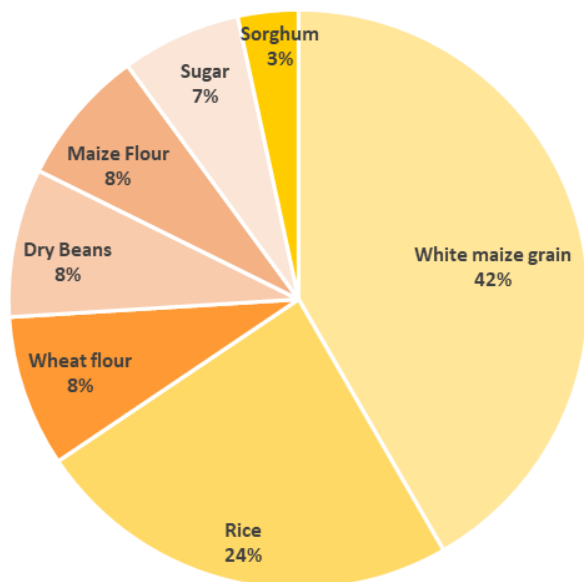


SUMMARY POINTS

Figure 1: Main Staple Food Commodities Informally Traded Across Selected Borders in Eastern Africa in the Second Quarter of 2024.

Source: FEWSNET and EAGC









- Above-average harvests in Tanzania and Uganda sustained maize as the most traded commodity in East Africa, increasing its share to 42 percent from 27 percent. Sugar and sorghum trade reduced from the first quarter, while bean trade increased due to increased Ugandan and Tanzanian supplies.
- Regional sorghum trade fell to 72 percent below the five-year average due to expected poor harvests, stockpiling by traders, and conflict-related disruptions in Sudan.
- Following the COVID-19 lockdown, expanding Middle East markets and improving herd sizes led to increased regional livestock trade for re-exports to the Middle East to above average.
- Tanzania is expected to remain the main source of maize and rice grains in East Africa through June 2025 despite increased demand in Southern Africa following El Niño related drought.
- Staple food prices were below to near average because of higher carryover stocks from the 2023 harvest. Livestock prices followed seasonal trends, remaining elevated due to high demand. Prices are expected to follow seasonal trends but below to near average levels in many markets, the lagging effect of high carryover stocks.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

The Market Analysis Sub-group of the Food Security and Nutrition Working Group (FSNWG) monitors informal cross-border trade of 88 food commodities and livestock in eastern Africa in order to quantify the impact on regional food security. This bulletin summarizes informal trade across selected borders of Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, and DRC. Cross-Border trade and price data is provided by the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET), the Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC), the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the National Bank of Rwanda (NBR), the World Food Program (WFP), Farmgain (Uganda), FAMIS (Sudan), FSNAU (Somalia), MoA (Kenya and Burundi), RATIN all of East Africa, and the Tanzania Trade Development Authority.

Informal trade represents commodity flows outside of the formal system, meaning that activity is not typically recorded in government statistics or inspected and taxed through official channels. These flows vary from very small quantities moved by bicycle to large volumes trucked over long distances. This report does not capture all informal cross-border trade in the region, just a representative sample.

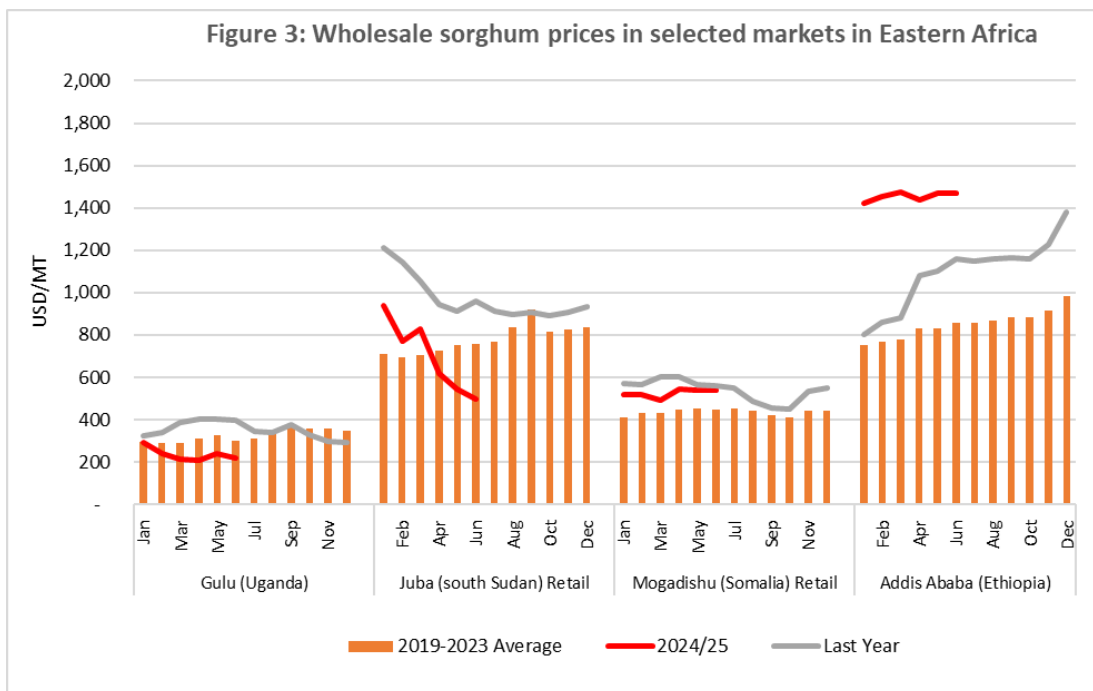
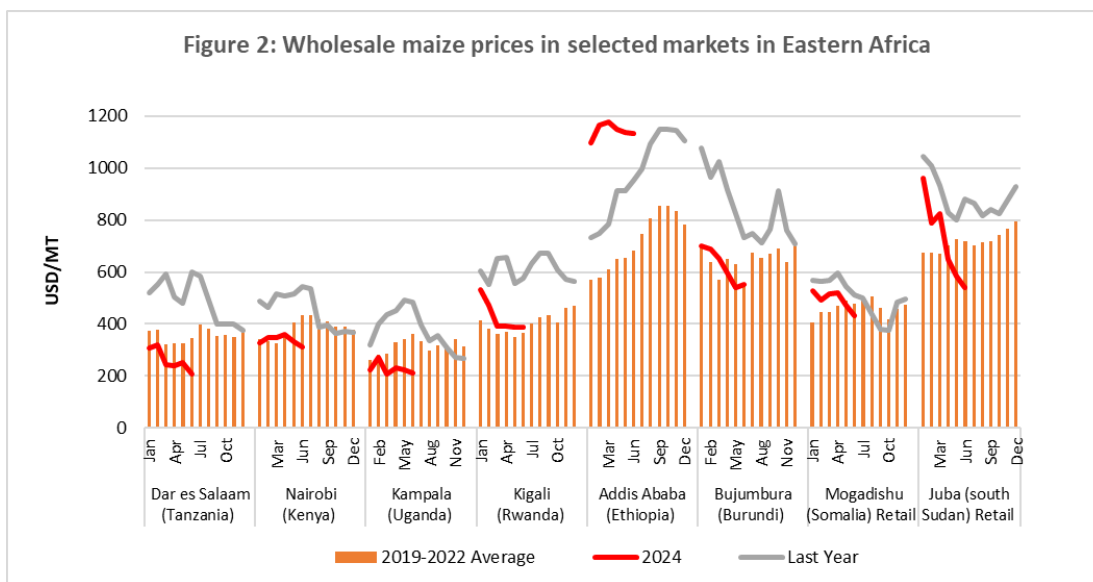
Key Commodities & Cash Crops by Country

	Maize & Maize Flour: Ethiopia, southern Somali, South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania
	Beans: Consumed throughout East Africa
	Wheat & Wheat Flour: Consumed throughout East Africa and is particularly important in urban areas
	Rice: Consumed throughout East Africa
	Sorghum & Sorghum Flour: Sudan, South Sudan, Northern Ethiopia, Central and Northern Somalia
	Sesame: An important cash crop for certain livelihoods in Ethiopia and Sudan

*Additional products may be covered in the annexes.

MAIZE AND SORGHUM PRICES IN EAST AFRICA JUNE 2024

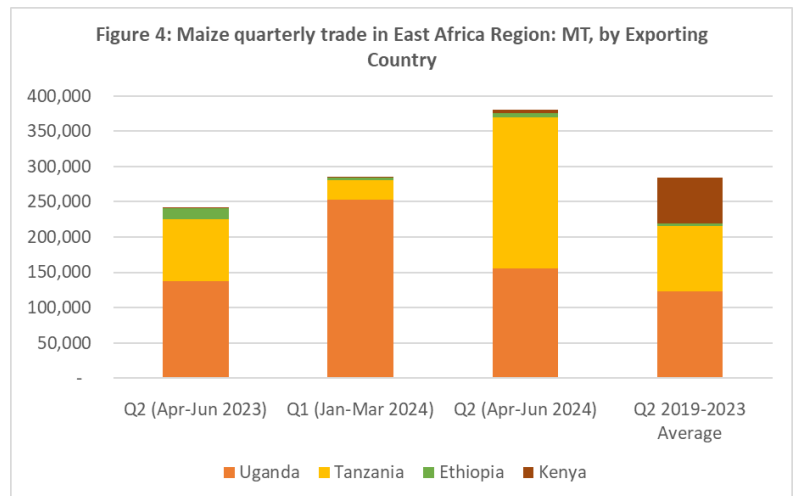
In the second quarter of 2024, maize and sorghum prices in East Africa followed seasonal trends (**Figures 2 and 3**). The increased supply from the harvests of 2023 and 2024 caused prices to decline in most markets in Tanzania, the main producing country. Additionally, the high carryover stocks from the 2023 above-average harvest kept prices below average in Uganda despite expectations for a below-average harvest in the second quarter of 2024. Consistent regional trade and reduced shortfalls due to the above-average 2023 harvest maintained prices below or near average in Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia, Burundi, and Rwanda, the main consuming markets, during the second quarter of 2024, with Ethiopia being the notable exception. In Ethiopia, persistently high inflation kept prices elevated.



CROSS BORDER TRADE BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE 2024

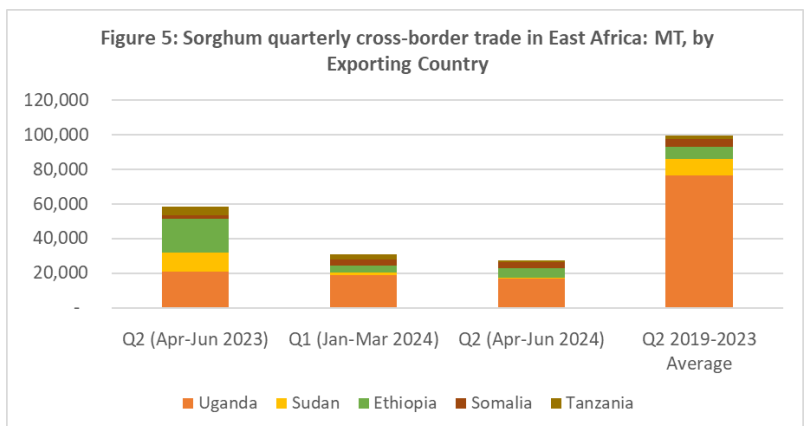
Maize

An above-average second consecutive maize harvest in Tanzania prompted traders to release old stocks onto the domestic and regional markets at relatively lower prices, which increased regional trade to 381,000 MT, 34, 56, and 120 percent above the previous quarter, the second quarter of 2023, and the five-year average, respectively. Tanzania and Uganda were responsible for 56 and 41 percent of the exports, respectively. In comparison, Kenya accounted for 91 percent of the imports when domestic stocks began to run low. As stocks from the 2023 above-average harvest began to decline in the structural deficit countries of Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, and Kenya, and below-average harvest in South Sudan, the main producing countries, Tanzania, Uganda, and Ethiopia, exported above-average amounts (Annex 1). The South Sudan Electronic Cargo Tracking Note (ECTN) and the associated USD 350 service charge continued obstructing cross-border trade from Uganda as traders adapted to the new import system incrementally. The purpose of the ECTN is to increase revenue as the government struggles with reduced oil exports by addressing undervaluation and cargo diversion. Incentivizing marketing margins continue to push maize flows into the East Africa region from Tanzania despite expecting a significant deficit in Southern Africa.



Sorghum

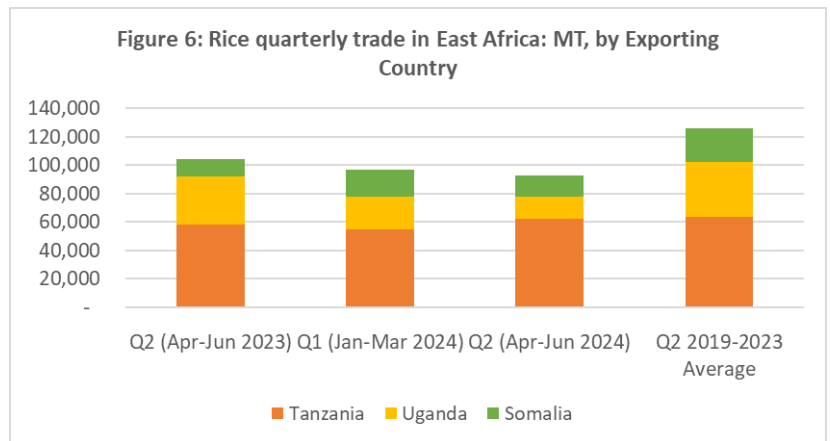
Expectations of a below-average sorghum harvest, along with traders holding back market placements to benefit from future higher prices and the conflict-related reduced production and exports from Sudan, have lowered regional trade to 27,000 MT. This is 12, 53, and 72 percent below the previous quarter, the second quarter of 2023, and the five-year average, respectively. Uganda, Ethiopia, and Somalia contributed to 62, 21, and 12 percent of the exports, whereas Rwanda, Kenya, South Sudan, and Djibouti constituted 37, 19, 17, and 12 percent of the imports. Uganda's sorghum exports to Rwanda for brewing stood out, just like Ethiopia's exports to Somalia and South Sudan did, in partially meeting the deficits from the below-average previous harvest. Furthermore, Tanzania exported above-average quantities to Kenya due to attractive marketing margins.



Rice

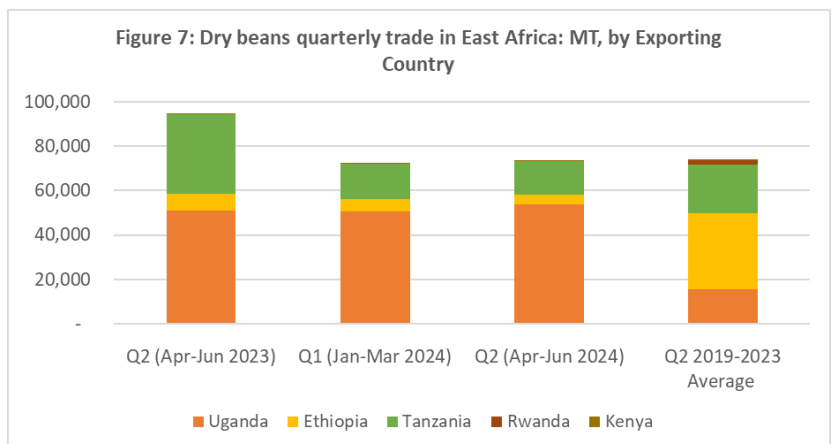
[On 1st June, Uganda implemented the Uganda Revenue Authority's new guidelines for labeling requirements on traders importing rice and produce from Tanzania.](#) These increased forward purchases and led the regional trade in rice, including re-exports of overseas rice, to 93,000 MT. This level is similar to the previous and average quarters but is 11 percent

lower than in the second quarter of 2023. Tanzania, Uganda, and Somalia were responsible for 67, 17, and 16 percent of the exports, respectively. Meanwhile, Uganda, South Sudan, Kenya, and Ethiopia contributed 30, 18, 16, and 13 percent of the imports. Above-average harvests led to Tanzania exporting more than usual to Uganda and Burundi to address their shortfalls. However, [the aftermath of subpar rice exports to Rwanda from Tanzania](#) decreased Tanzania's export figures while pushing Uganda's exports to Rwanda to 20 percent above the average. Meanwhile, the sluggish adaptation to the ECTN and USD 350 charges on imports into South Sudan constrained Uganda's ability to export and re-export rice.



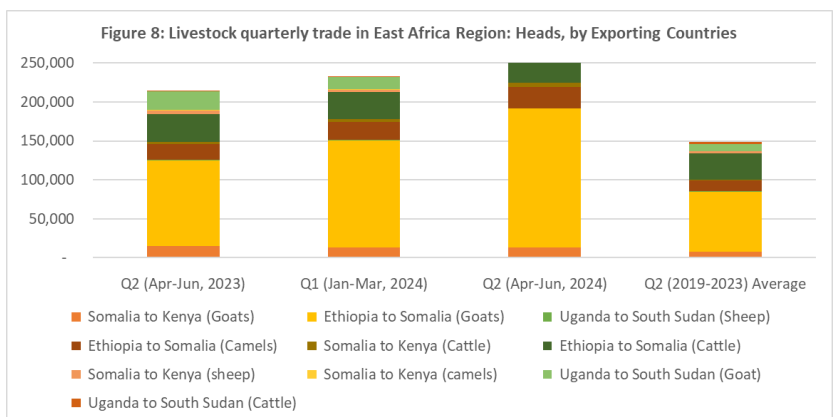
Dry beans

Above-average dry bean harvests in Uganda and Tanzania resulted in 73,000 MT regional trade in the second quarter of 2024. The amount traded was similar to the first quarter but 24 percent lower than the second quarter of 2023, which was exceptional, yet eight percent higher than average. Uganda, Tanzania, and Ethiopia accounted for 73, 21, and six percent of the exports, while Kenya and Tanzania constituted 82 and eight percent of the imports. Dry bean exports from Uganda to Kenya and Rwanda and Tanzania to Kenya were above average in meeting structural deficits. There were also trades in different bean varieties, like small exports from Rwanda to Uganda, which were above average. However, the conflict made bean exports from Ethiopia to Sudan almost nonexistent. Due to heavy production losses, the war has significantly reduced bean availability and disrupted commodity flows, especially in Greater Darfur, Greater Kordofan, and Al Jazirah. Insecurity, high costs, and numerous checkpoints are hindering food supply, while high prices and income losses from disrupted livelihoods have made it difficult for households to buy what is available.



Livestock

Since 2023, the [Middle East livestock market has continued its recovery after the COVID-19 lockdown](#). In East Africa, livestock [herd sizes continue to improve due to favorable pasture and water conditions](#) following droughts that ended in 2022. Consequently, regional traders traded 204,000 goats, 57,000 cattle, 28,000 camels, and 6,000 sheep. This total livestock trade marks an increase of 16, 21, and 106 percent higher than the first quarter of 2024, the second quarter of 2023, and the 5-year second

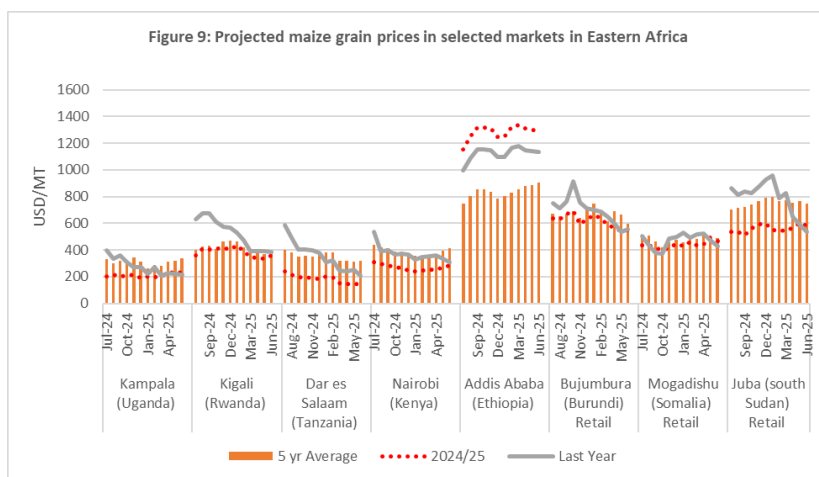


quarter average, respectively. Notably, the supply of goats, cattle, and camels from Ethiopia to Somalia for domestic use and re-exports exceeded the average, as were most livestock exports from Somalia to Kenya and Uganda to South Sudan.

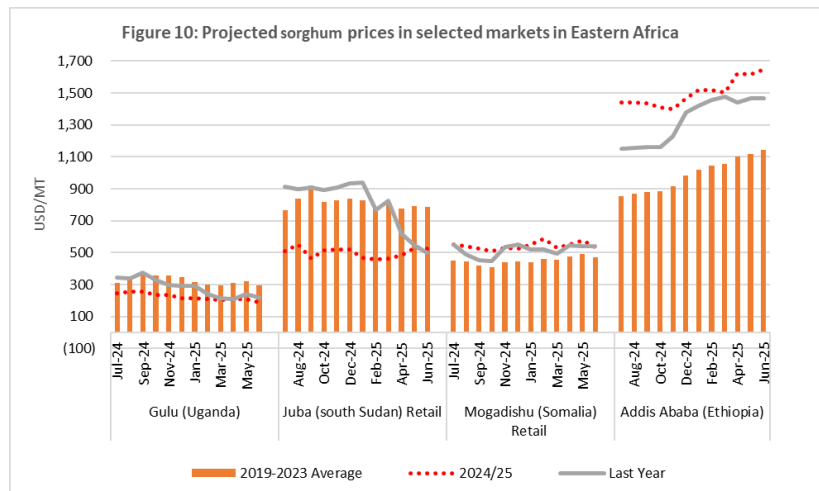
CROSS BORDER TRADE OUTLOOK JUNE 2024 TO JULY 2025

The analysis in this section utilizes trends in parity prices for staple food commodities (expressed in US dollars per metric ton), which may differ when examined in local currencies.

The deficit-producing countries of Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia, Rwanda, and Burundi are expected to import more **maize** from Uganda, Tanzania, and Ethiopia to meet their deficits as carryover stocks from the 2023 above-average harvest decline. Competition for the tradable surplus within the region will likely direct more flows to Kenya and the eastern parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where marketing margins are incentivizing, despite expectations of below-average harvest in southern Africa. Still, proximity to major producing areas will incentivize flows from western and southwestern Uganda to Rwanda, northern Uganda to South Sudan, and eastern Tanzania to Burundi. Maize prices are expected to follow seasonal trends across all countries. Due to higher carryover stocks from the above-average 2023 harvest and an anticipated above-average 2024 harvest in Tanzania, as well as a tradable surplus in Uganda despite the expectation of a below-average 2024 harvest, prices will likely remain at or below-average levels (**Figure 9**) in these main producing countries and the leading consuming countries of Kenya, South Sudan, Somalia, Rwanda, and Burundi. Persistent high inflation in Ethiopia will maintain prices at higher-than-average levels.



The regional sorghum trade is expected to continue to be lower than average due to low production in Uganda and reduced trade with Sudan because of ongoing conflict. Prices are expected to follow seasonal trends and are projected to remain below or near average in several markets (**Figure 10**). This includes Uganda, where there is a surplus, albeit lower than average, and South Sudan and Somalia due to higher carryover stocks from the 2023 harvests and reduced purchasing power.

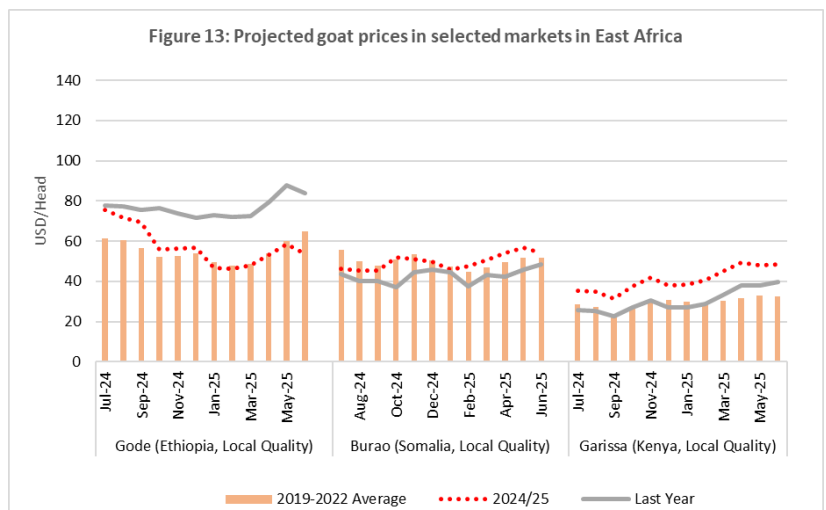
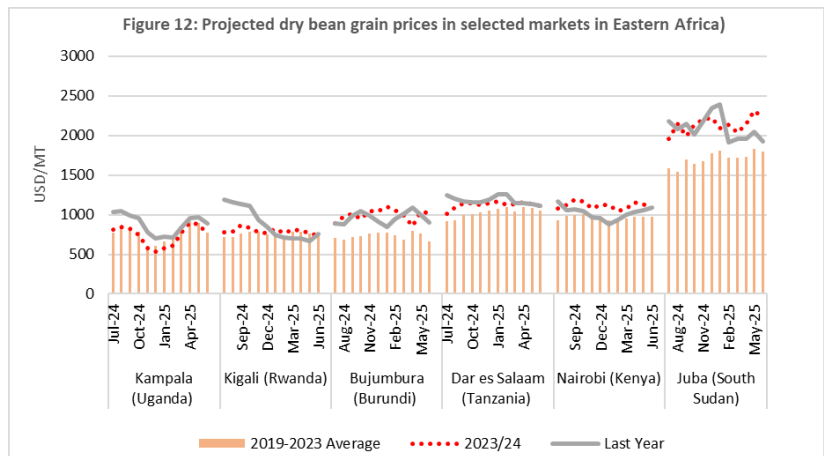
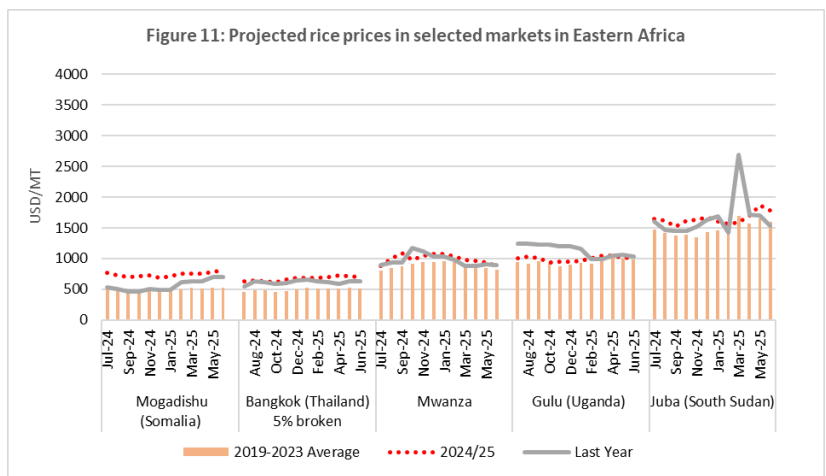


Tanzania is expected to continue being the main source of locally produced **rice** exports to Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, and Uganda due to a significant surplus,

well-established supply chain, and aromatic rice with high water absorption. In Uganda, locally produced rice is expected to be significantly below average due to the total ban on rice production in the wetlands in February 2022. Rice prices are expected to follow seasonal trends across most markets but remain average to slightly above average (**Figure 11**) due to the increased availability of substitute commodities, especially maize grain, and flour from carryover stocks of the above-average 2023 harvest.

Uganda and Tanzania will likely export significant dry beans to Kenya, Rwanda, Burundi, and South Sudan. Conflict-related damage in Sudan will keep constricting Ethiopian supply channels. Due to carryover stocks from the 2023 above-average harvest and the average 2024 harvest, prices are expected to stay near average (**Figure 12**). However, in South Sudan, dry bean prices will continue to be significantly higher than average due to enduring currency depreciation and high inflation.

Livestock trade in the East is expected to decline seasonally following the end of the religious festivities in the Middle East in early July 2023, which drove exports from Ethiopia to Somalia for re-exports to the Middle East. Generally, the prices are projected to be near average, except for Garissa in northeastern Kenya, where high domestic demand for domestic consumption amidst low herd size will likely sustain higher prices (**Figure 13**).



ANNEX

Table 1: Cross-border trade between April and June 2024 among selected country pairs:
Key staple food commodities.

Commodity	Trade Flow Corridors (source destination)	Trade Volumes in MT (Livestock in Heads)	% Change			Historical Comparison		
			Last Quarter	Last Year	5 Year Average	Last Quarter	Last Year	Average
Maize	Uganda - South Sudan	3,199	-21%	-41%	-92%	▼	▼	▼
	Uganda - Kenya	135,988	-40%	10%	49%	▼	▲	▲
	Tanzania - Kenya	211,464	804%	171%	787%	▲	▲	▲
	Tanzania - Rwanda	4	-97%	-100%	-100%	▼	▼	▼
	Ethiopia - Kenya	3	-98%	-3%	-99%	▼	▶	▼
	Ethiopia - Somalia	3,884	73%	-37%	130%	▲	▼	▲
	Kenya - Tanzania	4,882	12747%	162633%	33%	▲	▲	▲
Sorghum	Uganda - South Sudan	2,250	-34%	-46%	-94%	▼	▼	▼
	Uganda - Kenya	4,648	-21%	-35%	-61%	▼	▼	▼
	Uganda - Rwanda	9,821	3%	4%	468%	▶	▶	▲
	Ethiopia - Djibouti	3	0%	0%	-34%	▶	▶	▼
	Ethiopia - Somalia	3,725	86%	15%	286%	▲	▲	▲
	Somalia - Djibouti	3,155	-10%	86%	47%	▼	▲	▲
	Sudan - South Sudan	628	-62%	-94%	-89%	▼	▼	▼
	Sudan - Eritrea	3	0%	0%	-100%	▶	▶	▼
Rice	Uganda - South Sudan	16,008	-30%	-52%	-55%	▼	▼	▼
	Tanzania - Kenya	12,549	381%	1237%	-3%	▲	▲	▶
	Tanzania - Rwanda	1,470	236%	180%	-66%	▲	▲	▼
	Somalia - Kenya	1,962	-19%	91%	-9%	▼	▲	▼
	Somalia - Ethiopia	12,508	-25%	8%	-8%	▼	▲	▼
	Tanzania - Burundi	20,040	-23%	22%	288%	▼	▲	▲
Beans	Uganda - South Sudan	1,140	-18%	-43%	-95%	▼	▼	▼
	Uganda - Kenya	47,298	8%	9%	22%	▲	▲	▲
	Uganda - DRC	383	49%	28%	-50%	▲	▲	▼
	Tanzania - Kenya	9,155	-4%	-39%	70%	▶	▼	▲
	Ethiopia - Kenya	4,049	-27%	-46%	-24%	▼	▼	▼
	Ethiopia - Sudan	140	-13%	53%	-97%	▼	▲	▼
Camels	Somalia - Kenya	640	-4%	-7%	-29%	▶	▼	▼
	Ethiopia - Somalia	27,187	16%	35%	98%	▲	▲	▲
Cattle	Somalia - Kenya	5,499	45%	60%	165%	▲	▲	▲
	Ethiopia - Somalia	50,696	48%	44%	39%	▲	▲	▲
Goats	Somalia - Kenya	12,871	-4%	-13%	-23%	▶	▼	▼
	Ethiopia - Somalia	178,625	31%	62%	83%	▲	▲	▲
Sheep	Somalia - Kenya	4,412	38%	-6%	85%	▲	▼	▲
	Uganda - South Sudan	7,763	-26%	-35%	52%	▼	▼	▲

Figure 14: cross-borders points monitored by FEWS NET and East Africa Grain Council in Eastern Africa

