



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Global and Regional Food Security Outlook

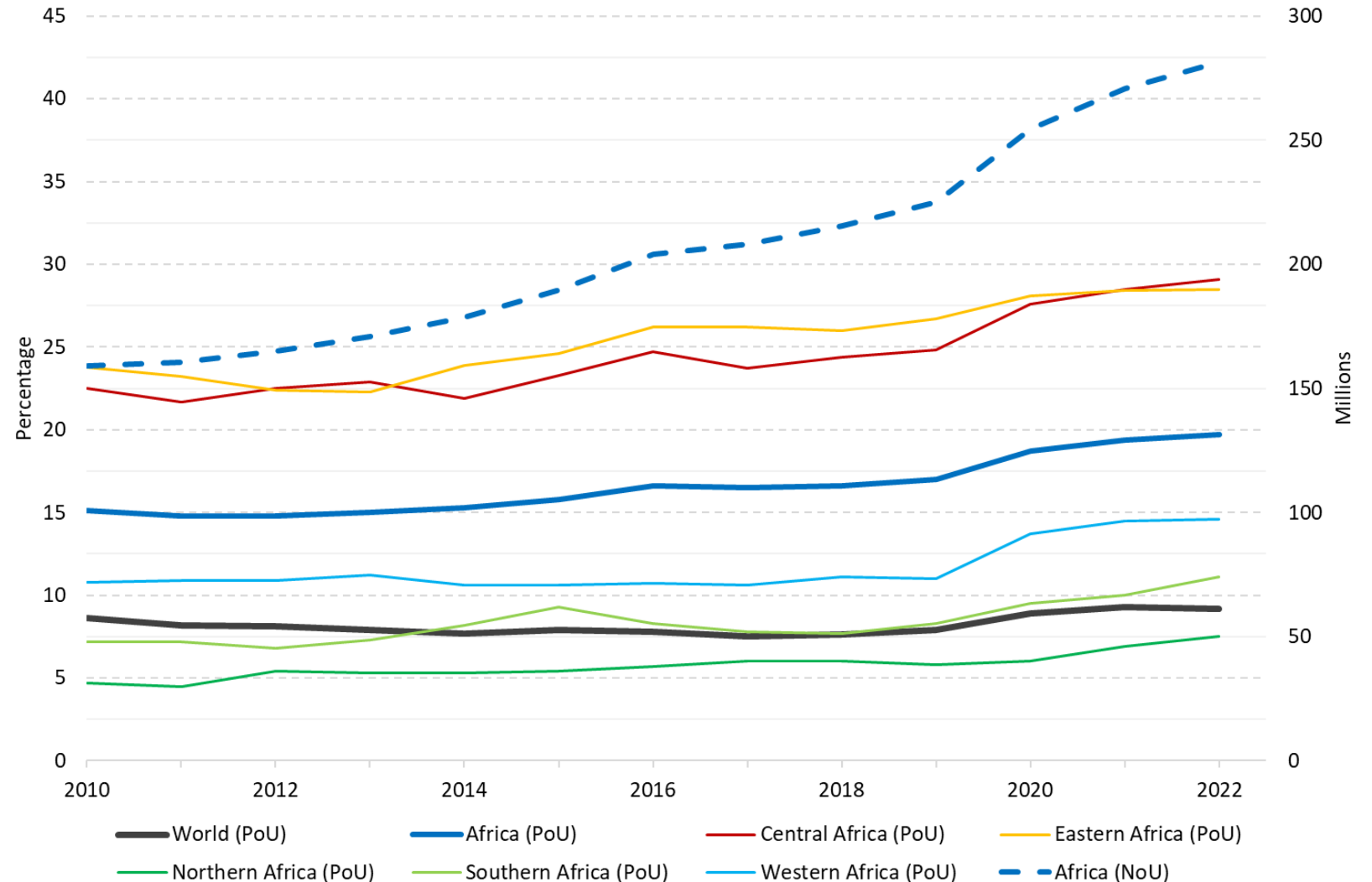
Senior Officials Meeting 26-28 March 2024

*Theme: Resilient agrifood systems and inclusive rural transformation*



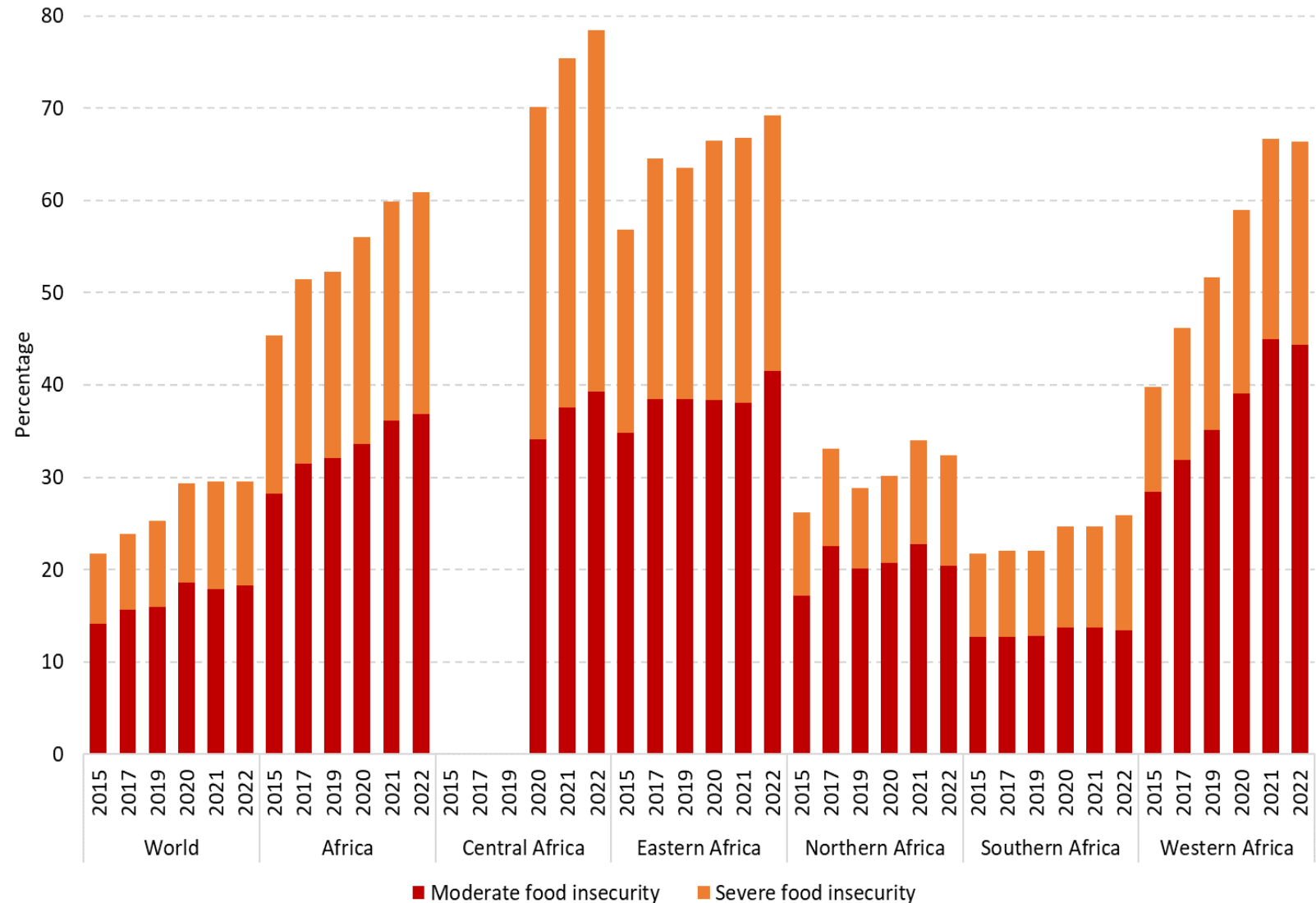
## Trends in chronic food insecurity: Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU)

- About **735 million people** globally (**9.2%**) faced hunger in 2022, up by 122 million from 2019.
- In Africa, hunger continued to rise in 2022, reaching **19.7%**, **well above** the global average, and equivalent to more than **280 million people**
- The **PoU** was **7.5%** in Northern Africa, **11.1%** in Southern Africa, **14.6%** in Western Africa, and about **29%** in Central and Eastern Africa.



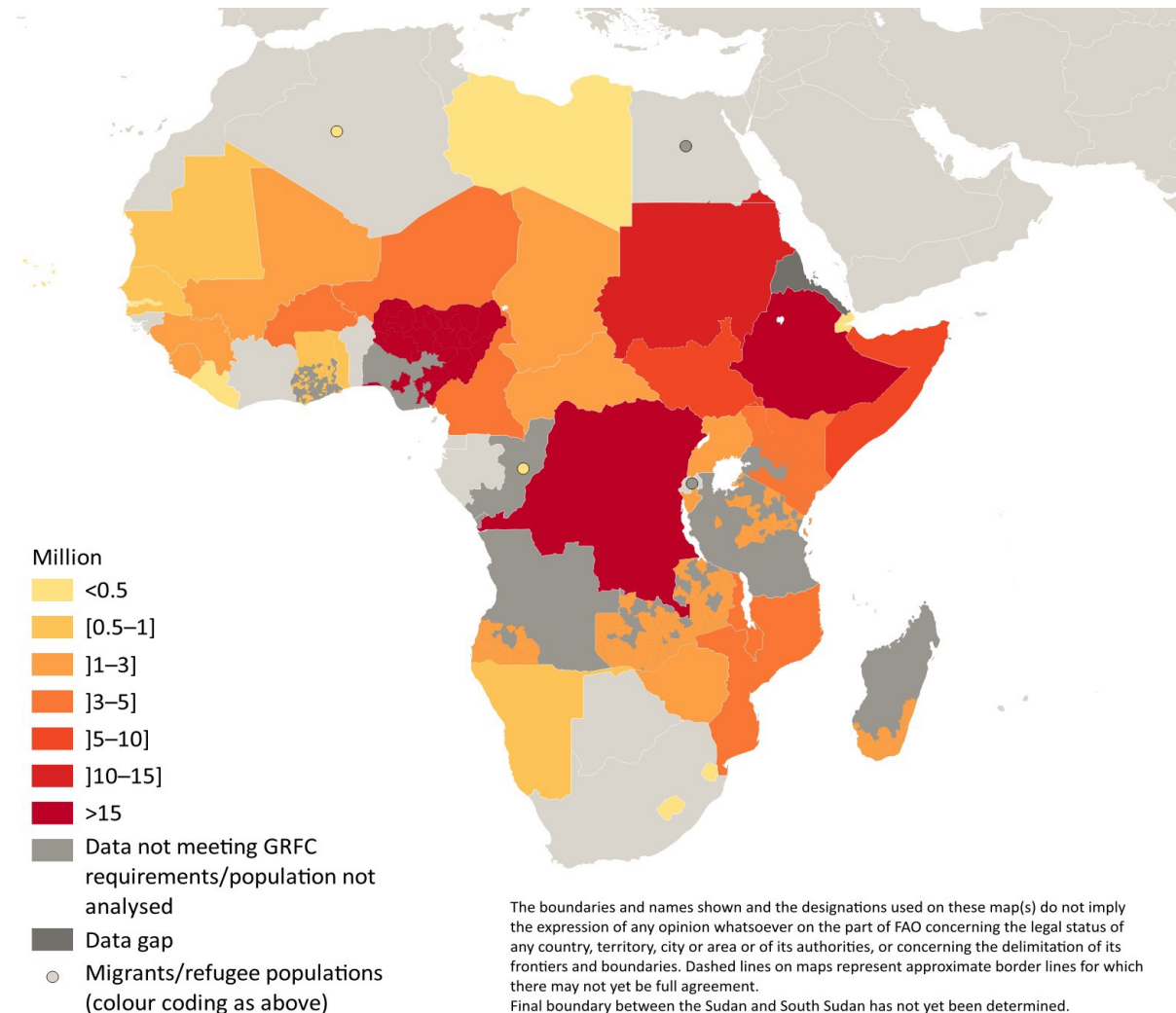
# Trends in chronic food insecurity: Food access

- The prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the region was **60.9%** in 2022 – double the global estimate of **29.6%**.
- This is an increase of one percentage point in one year, compared to 4 percentage points the previous year.
- The prevalence in 2022 ranged from **25.9%** in Southern Africa to **78.4%** in Central Africa.
- From 2021 to 2022, the prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity rose in Eastern Africa, Central Africa and Southern Africa by **2.4**, **3.0** and **1.2** percentage points, respectively.
- Of the **2.4 billion people** in the world facing either moderate or severe food insecurity in 2022, **868 million** live in Africa.



# Acute food insecurity situation in food-crisis countries

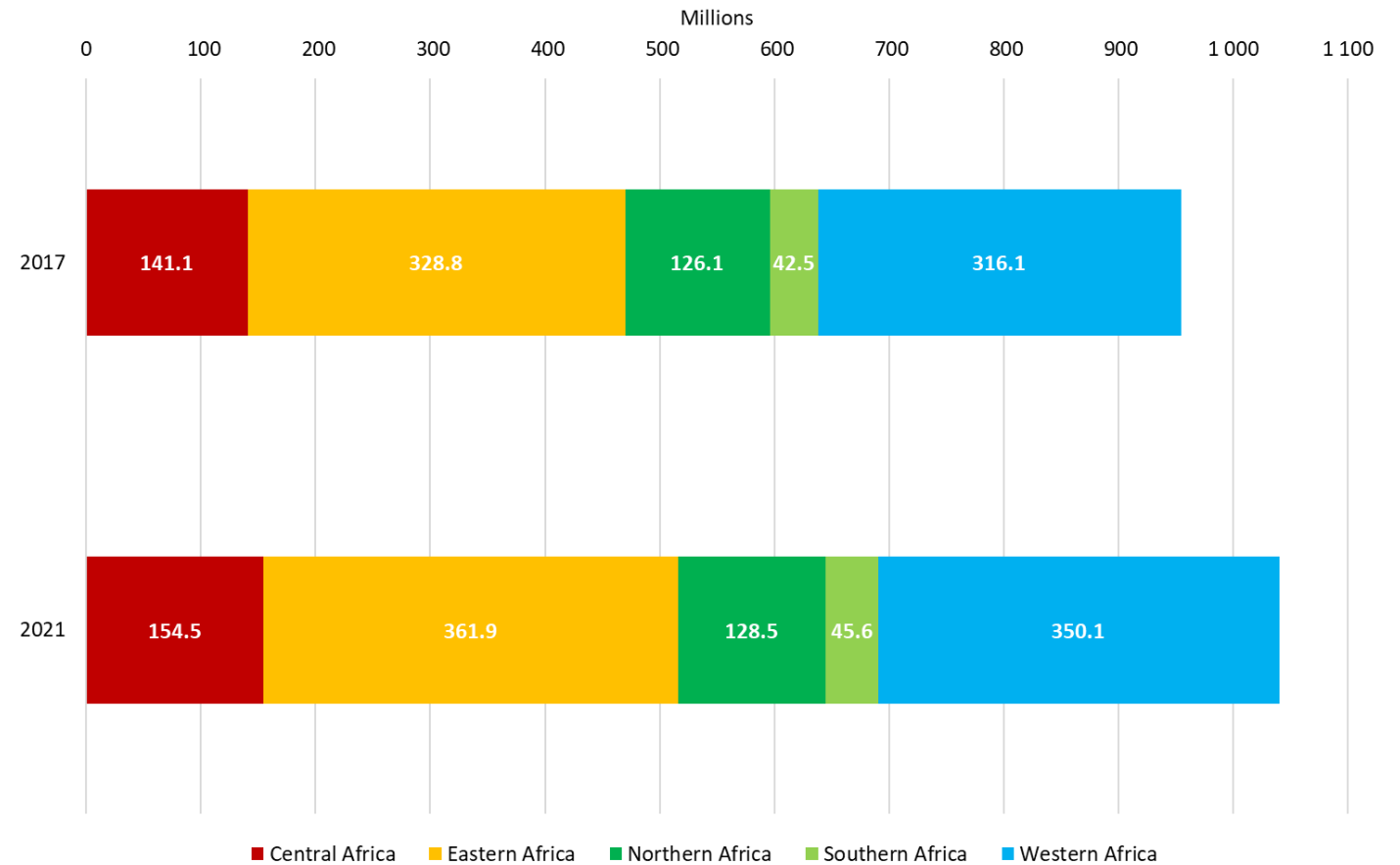
- Region-wide, about 146 million people may have faced acute food insecurity at severity levels that correspond to that of IPC Phase 3 (“crisis”) or worse, across 36 countries that were affected by food crises in 2022.
  - 47.4 million in 13 countries in Central and Southern Africa
  - 56.85 million in eight countries in Eastern Africa
  - 41.45 million in 15 countries in Western Africa and the Sahel (including Cameroon)
  - 0.3 million people in Northern Africa (assessment of IDPs, returnees, refugees and migrants in Libya)



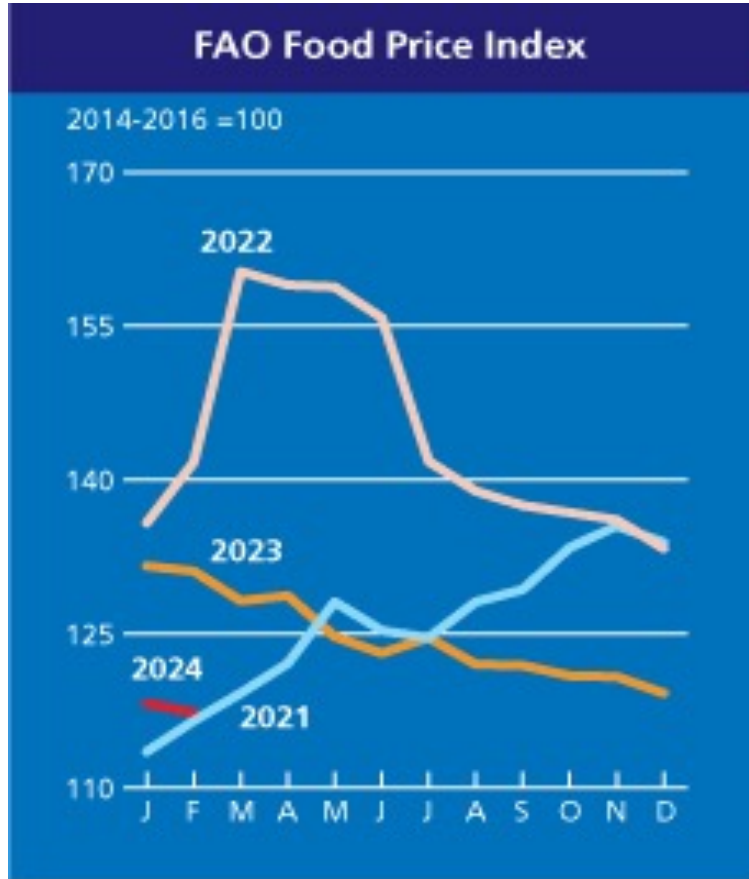
# Cost and affordability of a healthy diet

- Since 2017, the cost of a healthy diet in the region has steadily increased, with a notable 5.6% rise between 2020 and 2021, surpassing the global level increase of 4.3%. In 2021, the average cost of a healthy diet in Africa was 3.57 PPP dollars per person per day, just below the global estimate.
- In 2021, up to one billion people may have been unable to afford a healthy diet – equivalent to 3 out of 4 people in Africa.
- These series will be thoroughly revised soon, when new detailed information on the prices of nutritious food at the local level, and new estimates of purchasing power parity become available.

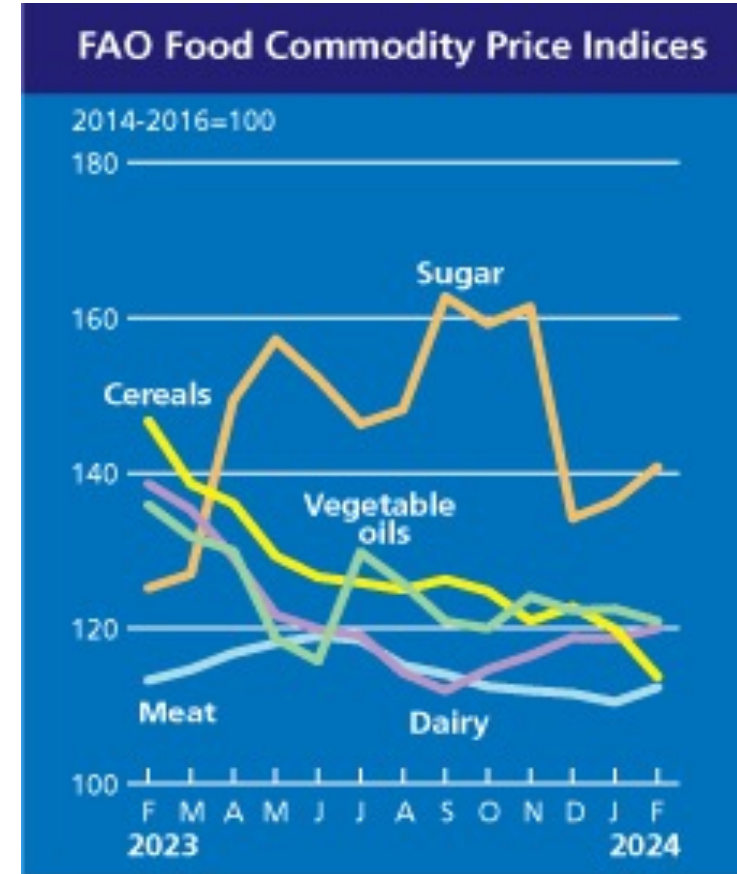
Number of people unable to afford a healthy diet



## Trends in international food commodity prices



Source: FAO

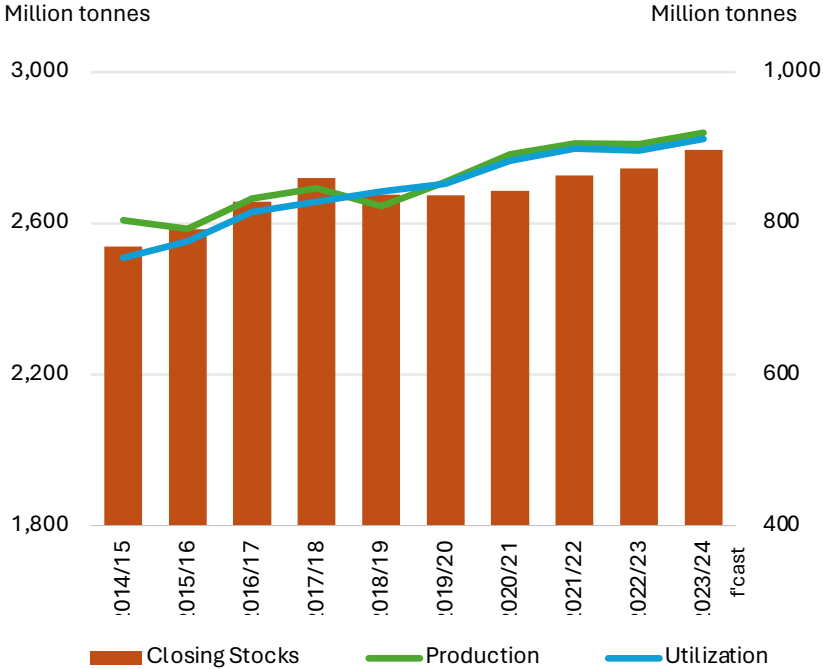


Source: FAO

- Overall, 2023 was characterized by a general decline in international prices (except for rice and sugar).
- While currently calmer, global food commodity markets continue to be subject to risks and uncertainties.

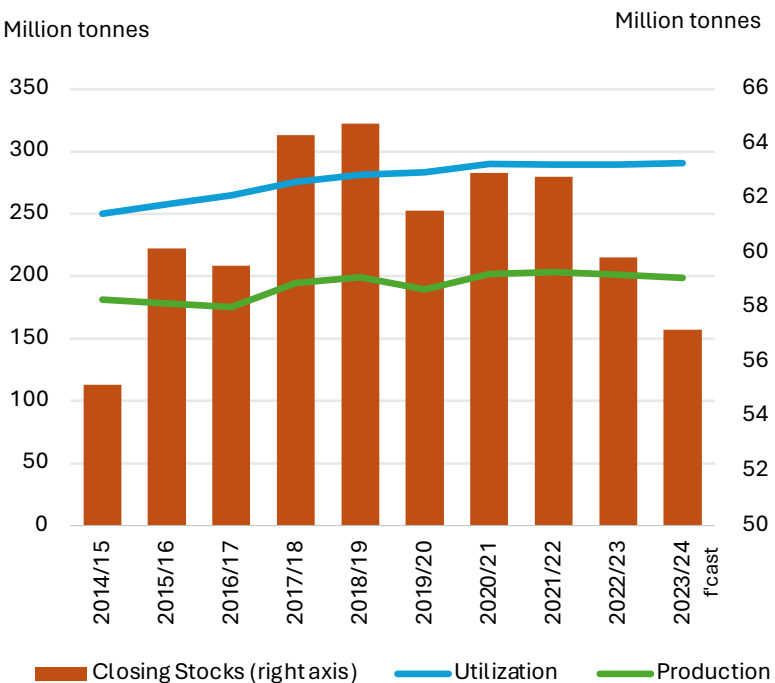
# Global and regional market situation and short-term outlook

**World cereal production, utilization and stocks**



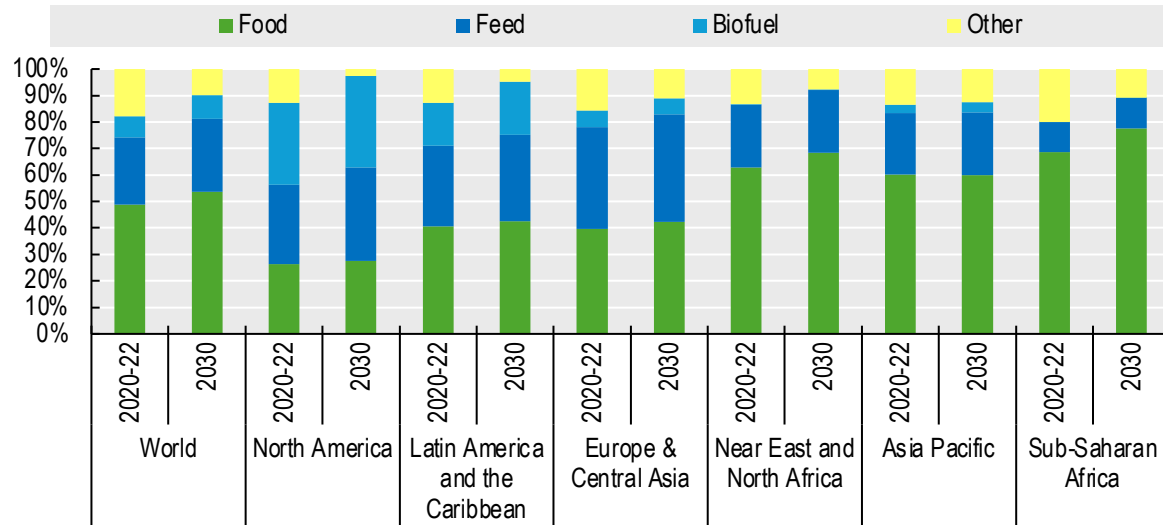
Source: FAO

**Africa cereal, production utilization and stocks**



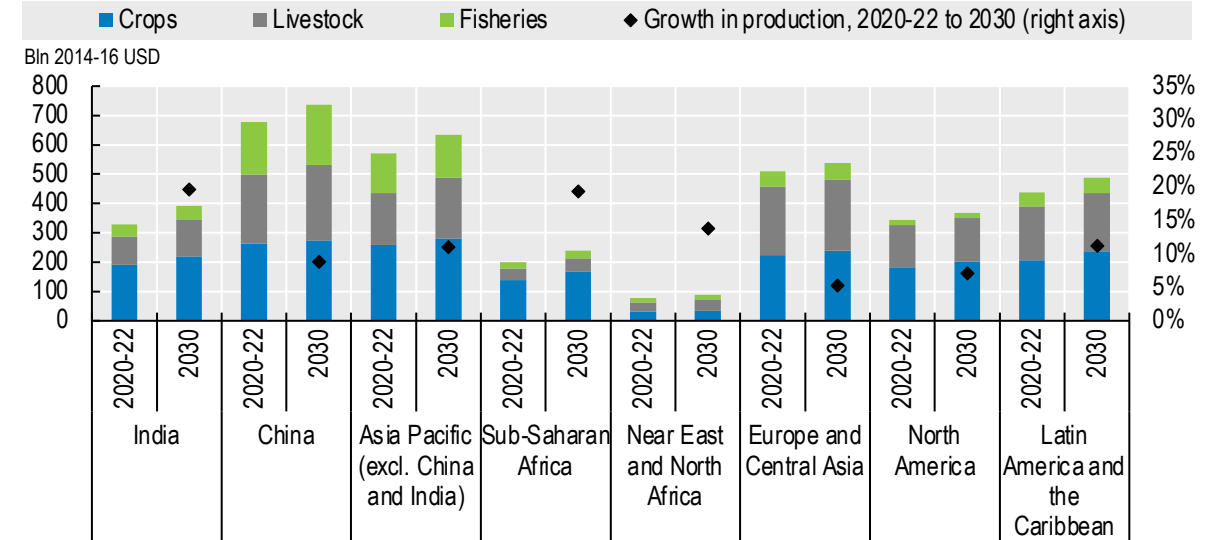
# Medium-term global agricultural outlook

## Use of agricultural commodities



- Global food consumption is projected to increase by 1.3% per year, with growth driven by rising and more affluent population.
- Staple foods are expected to remain the most significant source of calories.
- Growth in global consumption of animal products will require a higher feed use of crops.

## Trends in global agricultural production

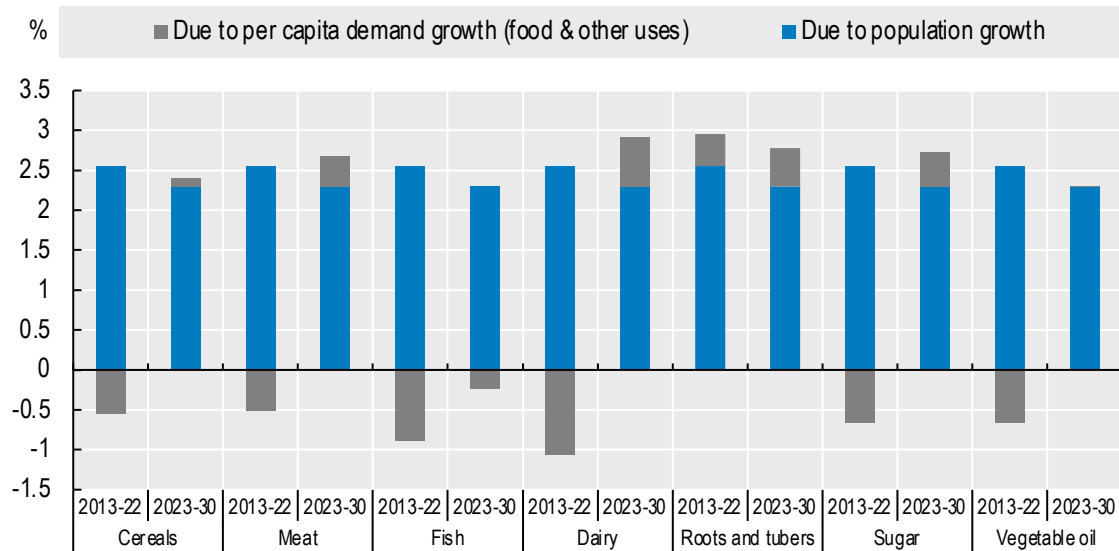


- Global agricultural and fish production is projected to grow by 1.1% per year.
- Middle- and low-income countries will continue to lead the growth in agricultural production.
- Production growth is foreseen to be mainly driven by increased land productivity, better her management and higher feed intensity.



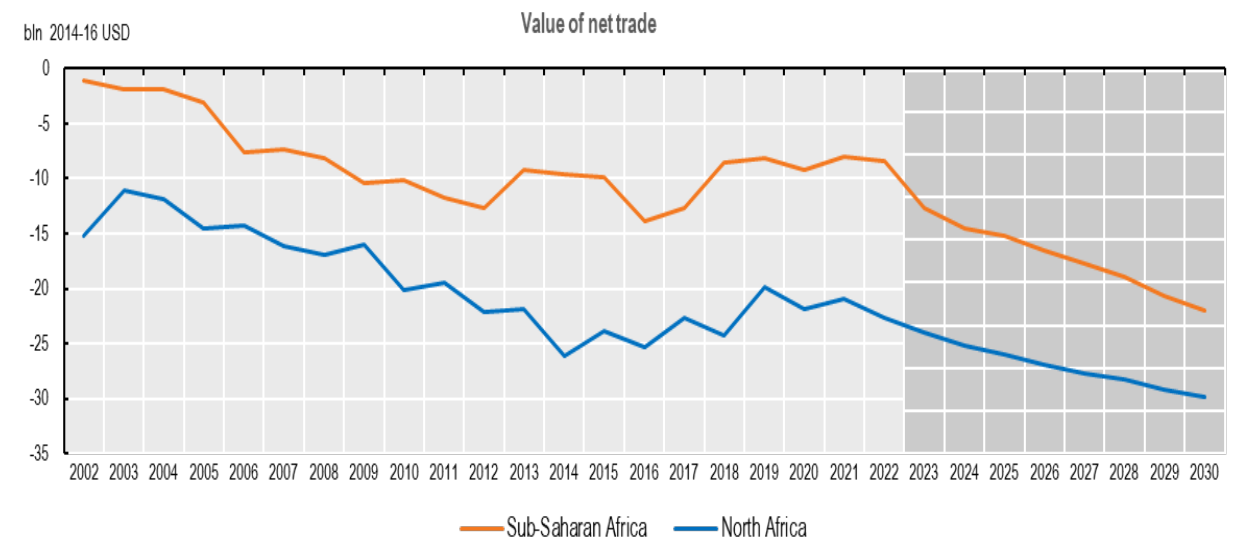
# Medium-term regional agricultural outlook

## Annual change in demand for key commodity groups in Africa



- Population growth will remain the major driver behind rising food consumption in Africa (with a slow expected recovery in incomes).
- Average calorie consumption is expected to reach nearly 2600 kcal/capita per day by year 2030.
- Per capita consumption of staples in Africa is projected to rise but composition will change (stability in roots and tubers contrasted by rising rice and maize intake).

## Agricultural trade balances in Sub Saharan Africa and North Africa



- Agricultural and fish production in Africa is expected to grow by 2.1% per year to 2030.
- Population is projected to grow faster, implying a further decline in per capita production.
- The region's trade deficit in major food items is projected to deepen, as imports are expected to grow faster than exports. By contrast to basic foods, Africa is a net exporter of high value products (cotton, F&V)

## Challenges

- A serious threat to agriculture is the economic context, which can increase uncertainty and affect investments (economic setbacks, high inflation rates, developments in oil markets...).
- While international food prices have fallen significantly, high retail food prices remain a serious concern.
- Adverse weather conditions, especially associated with the ongoing El Niño event, pose heightened risk to food production in various areas of the world.
- Conflicts and geopolitical tensions, which can have repercussions on food import demand and create disruptions to trade.

33

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Thank you

Merci

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Obrigado

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