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MED-Amin

Réseau méditerranéen d'information sur les marchés agricoles
Mediterranean Agricultural Market Information Network

Global Food Crisis

Adapting WTO to the crisis / Page 2

Black Sea Conflict Impact

Food security issues in SEMED countries / Page 3

Edito

La campagne agricole pour les céréales d'hiver s'est terminée sur une note inquiétante : alors que la crise multifactorielle a fait flamber des prix déjà élevés (énergie, aliments, intrants agricoles) - certains prix sont retombés depuis - , la récolte 2022 de plusieurs pays méditerranéens a été mauvaise. MED-Amin l'avait anticipé dans ses Bulletins de prévision tout au long de la seconde moitié de la campagne 2021-2022. Dans la crainte d'une éventuelle crise mondiale de la sécurité alimentaire, les agriculteurs ont lutté pour sauver leurs cultures des phénomènes météorologiques extrêmes cette année. Alors qu'une grande partie de l'Europe a "cuit" sous la dernière vague de chaleur, les craintes sont de plus en plus vives concernant ce que certains experts nomment "heatflation", c'est-à-dire l'inflation de denrées alimentaires due à des pertes de récoltes engengrées par la sécheresse. En effet, l'absence de précipitations au printemps, combinée à la sécheresse et à des tempêtes violentes, a gâché les récoltes en Italie, en France et en Espagne. Comme le résument les dernières estimations au niveau européen, les rendements des cultures de céréales de cette année seront nettement inférieurs à la normale en Europe (en particulier en maïs). C'est aussi le cas au Portugal, et au Maroc qui essuie une sécheresse historique. Cette offre réduite en 2022 par rapport à la moyenne quinquennale dans ces pays jette une tension supplémentaire sur des marchés intérieurs déjà sous pression, soumettant les opérateurs des filières, les consommateurs et les décideurs à des choix difficiles.

C'est le constat qu'a partagé M. Mohammed Sadiki, Président du Conseil d'administration du CIHEAM, à l'occasion de la 150ème réunion de ce Conseil à Chania (Grèce), les 18 et 19 juillet 2022. Les participants ont rappelé les difficultés rencontrées par les filières agricoles et les populations les plus fragiles de la Méditerranée pour faire face à cette succession de crises (Covid-19, guerre russo-ukrainienne, graves sécheresses...). Faire face à ces menaces pour la sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle et les conditions de vies de cette région (dont les faiblesses structurelles avaient déjà été identifiées lors de la crise 2007-2008) appelle à une plus grande souveraineté alimentaire des pays, une solidarité méditerranéenne et au renforcement de la coopération pour des systèmes alimentaires plus durables, inclusifs et résilients aux chocs. Aux côtés de décisions politiques courageuses et de nouvelles stratégies multisectorielles ambitieuses, nul doute que des outils tels les systèmes d'information développés depuis plusieurs années comme AMIS animé par les Nations Unies (Agricultural Market Information System) auront leur rôle à jouer. Souhaitons que MED-Amin et son réseau dynamique puissent aussi jouer ce rôle à l'échelle de la région méditerranéenne ô combien prioritaire.

Dans ce contexte, outre la 9è réunion annuelle du réseau (22-23 novembre à Zaragoza, Espagne), plusieurs événements d'importance auront lieu cet automne. Le 16 septembre, le CIHEAM et le Centre pour l'intégration méditerranéenne (CIM) organisent une table ronde sur le thème suivant "Intégration Méditerranéenne : les enjeux d'une coopération renforcée pour la promotion de systèmes alimentaires durables et résilients". Pour célébrer le 60è anniversaire du CIHEAM, le CIHEAM Bari (Italie) organise les 28 au 30 septembre 2022 la 3è conférence mondiale sur la revitalisation de la diète méditerranéenne. Intitulée "Changement de cap vers des systèmes alimentaires plus durables et résilients dans les pays méditerranéens : la diète méditerranéenne comme ressource stratégique pour accélérer l'Agenda 2030 dans la région".

ITALY

State of emergency in 5 regions

(Trade Finance Global, 16/08)

water shortages and drought have led to a drop of as much as 45% in corn and animal feed yields, and a 30% reduction in wheat and rice production, according to the farmers' union, Coldiretti. A lack of rainfall, together with rising temperatures, has severely affected two of Italy's main rivers, the Po and the Tiber, which have virtually dried up, leading to the worst drought the country has faced in 70 years.

FRANCE

Drought hit hard

(Terre-net Media, 19/08, Trade Finance Global, 16/08)

A combination of unusual summer heat levels, together with freak hailstorms, strong winds and torrential rain, have affected fruit, cereal, and wine production in departments across the country. Europe's third-largest wheat exporter after Russia and Ukraine, it is expected that this year's crop yield will be down significantly from last year's. Corn production will be even more impacted as drought continues and harvest is expected to be 18.5% lower than 2021's according to the French agricultural ministry.

SPAIN, PORTUGAL

Water deficit worrying

(Trade Finance Global, 16/08)

On the Iberian peninsula, similar issues are reported since the beginning of May. Spain is still experiencing high temperatures worsening water shortages that are affecting its agricultural industry since late 2021. In Portugal, the worst drought this century has led to low dam levels, limiting the country's ability to generate renewable energy in places. Their capacity to generate hydroelectric energy has been half that of the average generated over the previous seven years, while Spain's reservoirs are operating at just 40.4% capacity.

WTO Ministerial Conference 12 (MC12) charts a new way forward

Feature Article of AMIS Market Monitor No.100, FAO, July 2022

At the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference (Geneva, 12-17 June 2022), trade ministers delivered a concrete package of results, demonstrating the capacity of the multilateral trading system to accommodate tailored responses and build resilience to enduring global challenges and to firmly engage in institutional reform. Risks on various fronts, including economic, geopolitical, health, environmental sustainability, and food security, have underpinned significant trade disruptions, inflationary pressures, and excessive food price volatility, all of which have unduly affected developing countries.

For example, targeting the global health crisis that paralyzed global supply chains and triggered consumer panic, protectionism, and unpredictable cross-border supply of essential goods, a Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Preparedness for Future Pandemics and a Ministerial Decision on the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights will ensure that current rules support the scaling-up of manufacturing capacity and exports of COVID-19 vaccines worldwide, while preserving incentives for investment, research and technology transfer.

Considering the many dimensions of food security, however, two ministerial outcomes stand out as being of specific relevance to the AMIS community.

The first one is WTO Members' pledge to exempt WFP humanitarian operations from export restrictions and prohibitions. Should countries face critical domestic food shortages, temporary export restrictions may still be imposed in accordance with existing disciplines. This decision represents a pivotal step by WTO Members in supporting the Sustainable Development Goal 2 on "Zero Hunger" and a firm commitment to ensure food supply chains are functioning properly for critical relief to reach those in need. Recognizing the challenges faced by vulnerable food importing developing countries, trade ministers underscored the importance of open, transparent, and wellfunctioning food, fertilizer and energy markets in a Declaration on the Emergency Response to Food Insecurity.

The Declaration requires emergency policies that are introduced to fulfill food security objectives to be notified and imposed with due regard to any possible impacts on other Members. At the same time, WTO-consistent releases of available surplus stocks on international markets are encouraged. A dedicated work programme will be established to initiate a more comprehensive debate on the concrete steps needed to facilitate trade and build resilient agri-food systems in Net Food-Importing Developing Countries (NFIDCs), which according to the list established by the WTO Committee on Agriculture, specifically includes all Least-developed Countries. Trade ministers stressed the positive role of AMIS in enhancing market transparency for food security crops and fostering the coordination of policy responses.

The scope and systemic significance of the WTO package is an important milestone. There is, however, much unfinished business. Coming on the heels of the pandemic and geopolitical tensions, export restrictions and prohibitions are imposed without prior notice nor consultation on seeds, food and fertilizers, heightening price volatility and fuelling inflation. Unpredictable access to such essential inputs disproportionately impacts NFIDCs. Constructive and sustained engagement is needed to bridge divergences on those issues that are topping a much broader trade reform portfolio, including export restrictions and prohibitions; market access facilitation; the surge of increasingly complex production- and trade-distorting subsidies; the release of stocks in a way that does not displace trade, particularly South-South trade, nor affects the food security concerns of recipient countries; better targeted and coordinated bilateral, regional and multilateral financial and technical assistance mechanisms as advocated by the WTO Marrakesh Decision on NFIDCs; as well as strengthened transparency, notification, and policy monitoring. ↪ **AMIS Market Monitor.**

Where does the CAP money go? Design and priorities of the draft CAP Strategic Plans 2023–2027

Thünen Working Paper 191a, 2022.

This paper examines the national strategic plans submitted for approval, analysing their financial priorities to identify commonalities, differences and overarching patterns of national CAP 2023–2027 implementation. The paper shows that the member states use the discretion granted in the Strategic Plan Regulation in various ways. Despite common goals and funding guidelines, the plans show great heterogeneity. Regarding the general design, the plans differ quite vastly mainly in the reallocation of funds between the first and the second pillar or the level of contribution rates.

In the first pillar, the plans not only vary in their shares of decoupled and coupled direct payments as well as the newly introduced eco-schemes; they also differ considerably in how these interventions are designed. Overall, the funds planned for eco-schemes are slightly above the prescribed minimum, while some member states are close to the maximum share of coupled direct payments. Interventions in specific sectors also vary. Some offerings are highly differentiated; however, most funds will flow into the fruit and vegetable and wine sectors. The second pillar is marked by overall continuity. Despite the eco-schemes in the first pillar, agri-environmentclimate measures also remain important in the second pillar. Support for organic farming and animal welfare measures even increase slightly in relative terms. Support for investments remains high, but becomes less important. More significant than the changes compared to the current funding period are national different importance to each of these interventions. Despite the heterogeneity, the strategic plans heavily focus on the agricultural sector; services of general interest and business development in rural areas as well as the forestry sector are only secondary. The goals primarily pertain to income, competitiveness and the environment. This pattern is also evident, albeit in a weakened form, if only the second pillar is considered. Nevertheless, the overall diversity of strategic plans is further evidence of the subsidiarity in the Common Agricultural Policy.

Implications of the war in Ukraine for agrifood trade and food security in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia

Rauschendorfer, J. & Krivonos, E. 2022. Rome, FAO.

Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia - part of the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean (SEMED) group of countries - are **net importers of calories**. These countries are among the largest grain, wheat, and foodstuff importers globally. The share of imports in domestic availability of calories ranges from a sizeable 37% (Morocco) to a staggering 84% (Jordan). Wheat plays a crucial role in these countries, contributing more than a third to overall food supply in each of them. Governments are heavily involved in imports of wheat and other cereals, with state agencies often the largest or the only legally permitted importer. Russia and Ukraine are key global suppliers of cereals and vegoils. As a result of the outbreak of the war in Ukraine on 24 February 2022, global food prices increased further from already high levels in 2021 and have been at record highs since March 2022.

Given their **reliance on internationally traded food commodities**, SEMED countries are generally exposed to global price surges, but additionally **Russia and Ukraine are important direct suppliers** of wheat, other cereals and sunflower oil. In 2021 Russia and Ukraine together accounted for about 75% of the total wheat and wheat flour imports of Egypt and Lebanon, close to 40% in Tunisia, more than 30% in Jordan and around 20% in Morocco. Russia and Ukraine are also key suppliers of sunflower oil and other cereals to these countries, as well as of fertilizers.

Gross food import bills in SEMED countries are high and are likely to increase further in 2022 and beyond. Food import bills in these countries largely consist of commodities whose global prices have recently peaked. After taking into consideration essential non-food imports, all SEMED countries run trade deficits. Further, the crisis **is hitting some countries at a time of economic hardship** driven by a severe drought (particularly in Morocco), sluggish economic growth (Tunisia), or a full economic crisis (Lebanon). Rising food import bills and insufficient foreign exchange earnings pose a challenge from the vantage point of financing crucial food imports. For the SEMED countries, the current crisis is mostly a supply side shock. In line with their status as net exporters of fertilizers, SEMED countries could benefit from surging global prices, but higher prices are also likely to be passed on to farmers.

Except for Morocco (hit by historical drought conducting to significantly higher import requirement than in past years), forecast production of wheat in the SEMED countries for 2022/23 – while negligible in some cases – is close to the five-year average. In terms of food stocks, estimates for wheat at the end of the 2021/22 marketing year range from just below 13.7% of domestic consumption in Lebanon to more than 33% in Jordan.

Government responses to the crisis so far have included food export bans, efforts to diversify sourcing relationships and negotiations with international financial institutions. All SEMED countries have implemented **export bans** on at least some food items, including cereals and their derivates, but also fruits and vegetables and other items in some cases. Tunisia and Lebanon have initiated or concluded negotiations with the World Bank or the IMF for loans or aid programmes.

To prevent significant increases in hunger arising from the crisis, SEMED governments should pursue policies that take into account their reliance on imported food. In general, SEMED governments should avoid ad hoc policy reactions, keep trade open and commit to comprehensive food security strategies. Considering that SEMED countries will continue to rely on food imports also in the future, a first priority is to mobilize funding for rising food import bills, for example through a dedicated Food Import Financing Facility as proposed in FAO (2022j), and diversify import sources. In the medium- to long-run, governments should consider comprehensive reforms of their sizable food subsidy programmes as well as import regimes, **build reasonable food stocks** and consider new agricultural technologies, with a view to produce increased volumes domestically in a sustainable way.

Read the full report here.

FAO Food Index ↘

(FAO, 02/09/2022)

L'indice FAO des prix des céréales s'est établi à 145,2 points en août, -1,4% vs juillet, mais toujours +11,4% vs août 2021. Les prix internationaux du blé ont chuté de 5,1%, marquant ainsi la **troisième baisse mensuelle consécutive**, sous l'effet de l'amélioration des perspectives de production, notamment au Canada, aux US et en Russie, et de l'augmentation des disponibilités saisonnières ainsi que de la reprise des exportations des ports ukrainiens pour la première fois depuis cinq mois d'interruption. Néanmoins, les prix mondiaux du blé sont restés 10,6% au-dessus des valeurs d'août 2021. Les prix mondiaux du maïs se sont légèrement raffermis (+1,5% vs juillet) influencés par la dégradation des perspectives de production dans l'UE et aux US (sécheresse) alors que la reprise des exportations ukrainiennes a empêché les prix d'augmenter davantage. En revanche, les prix mondiaux de l'orge ont diminué de 3,8%. Celui du riz est resté stable en août, de légères baisses des cotations des variétés Indica les plus commercialisées ayant compensé de légères hausses de prix dans d'autres segments du marché du riz.

CANADA

Good for global supplies

(Bloomberg, 29/08)

Output from the world's 7th-largest wheat exporter will rise 55% to 34.6 Mt this year as yields improve amid better moisture and more moderate temperatures, Statistics Canada said in a report on 29 August. "Even in the dry areas the wheat came through," said PI Financial adviser in Winnipeg. "It's going to add up to a big crop."

SCOOPS

Pour plus de news sur les marchés céréaliers, suivez le Scoop.It MED-Amin !

↪ www.scoop.it/t/med-amin

et le site web de MED -Amin :

↪ http://www.med-amin.org

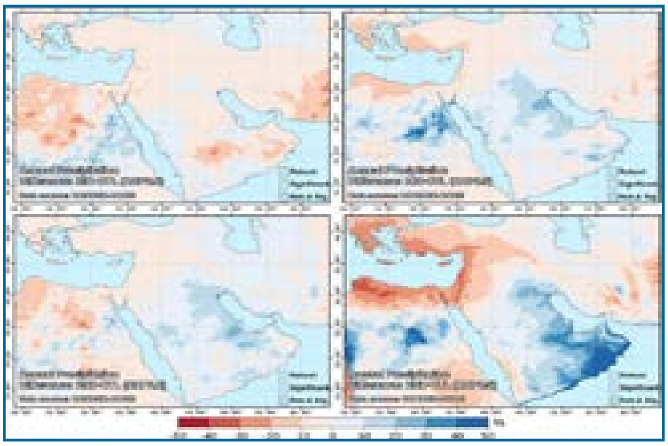
Climate Change and Weather Extremes in the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East (2022)

G. Zittis, et al.*, Reviews of Geophysics, Vol. 60, Issue 3, June 2022 .*

Observation-based and modeling studies have identified the Eastern Mediterranean and Middle East (EMME) region as a prominent climate change hotspot. While several initiatives have addressed the impacts of climate change in parts of the EMME, here we present an updated assessment, covering a wide range of timescales, phenomena and future pathways. Our assessment is based on a revised analysis of recent observations and projections and an extensive overview of the recent scientific literature on the causes and effects of regional climate change. Greenhouse gas emissions in the EMME are growing rapidly, surpassing those of the European Union, hence contributing significantly to climate change. Over the past half-century and especially during recent decades, the EMME has warmed significantly faster than other inhabited regions (see graph on next page top). At the same time, changes in the hydrological cycle have become evident. The observed recent temperature increase of about 0.45°C per decade is projected to continue, although strong global greenhouse gas emission reductions could moderate this trend. In addition to projected changes in mean climate conditions, we call attention to extreme weather events with potentially disruptive societal impacts. These include the strongly increasing severity and duration of heatwaves, droughts and dust storms, as well as torrential rain events that can trigger flash floods. Our review is complemented by a discussion of atmospheric pollution and land-use change in the region, including urbanization, desertification and forest fires. Finally, we identify sectors that may be critically affected and formulate adaptation and research recommendations toward greater resilience of the EMME region to climate change.

↪ Read the full article here.

Model-calculated future changes (in percent) of mean annual precipitation (with respect to the 1986–2005 reference period). Left panels show a low greenhouse gas emission scenario (RCP2.6) and right panels a business-as-usual scenario (RCP8.5), for the mid-twenty-first century (top panels) and the end-of-century (bottom panels). Credit: Zittis et al. [2022] (refer to article at bottom of previous page)



À nouveau en eaux troubles : Comment l'incapacité à réformer les systèmes alimentaires a permis à la guerre en Ukraine de déclencher une troisième crise mondiale des prix alimentaires en 15 ans, et comment éviter la prochaine

Ce rapport spécial de l'IPES Food (mai 2022) dresse un bilan des répercussions de la crise ukrainienne sur la sécurité alimentaire mondiale. Il identifie les vulnérabilités et rigidités sous-jacentes dans un contexte de solidarité internationale en déclin et de tensions systémiques de l'offre induites par le climat. Il identifie également la thésaurisation des céréales et la spéculation sur les produits de base comme des facteurs clés de la transformation des chocs actuels en une véritable crise des prix alimentaires. Certaines de ces faiblesses structurelles avaient déjà été identifiées à la suite de la crise alimentaire de 2007-2008, mais ont été pour l'essentiel négligées. Le rapport met en garde contre les réponses opportunistes et à courte vue à la crise, y compris les retours en arrière sur les engagements de réforme du système alimentaire. Il appelle plutôt à agir d'urgence pour soutenir les pays importateurs de denrées alimentaires (notamment par l'allègement de la dette), s'attaquer à la spéculation sur les produits de base, améliorer la transparence du marché, réduire la dépendance à l'égard des engrais et de l'énergie fossile dans la production alimentaire, accélérer le développement de réserves céréalières et de systèmes de réponse en matière de sécurité alimentaire régionale, diversifier la production alimentaire et restructurer les flux commerciaux.

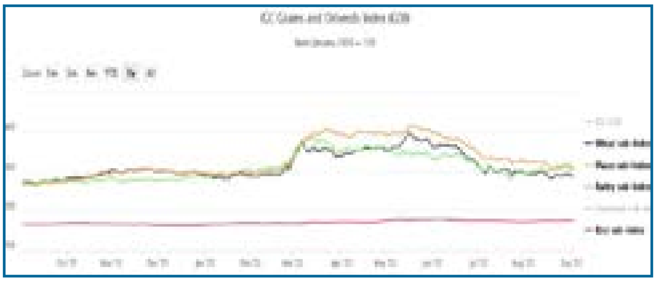
↪ Lire le [Rapport complet de l'IPES Food](#).

Global Markets: What is the Trend?

	Global Index [1] (Aug. 2022)	Supply & Demand in Aug. 22 [1]: From previous forecast (M/M)	Supply & Demand in Aug. 22 [1]: From previous season (Y/Y)
Blé/Wheat	293 ↘	▲	↔
Maïs/Maize	307 ↗	▼	▼
Riz/Rice	174 ↔	▼	▼
Orge/Barley	318 ↘	n/a	▼

[1]: *Monthly* average in USD, base 100=year 2000, ↗↘↔vs last month (▲ : Easing ; ▼ : Tightening ; ↔ : Neutral, n/a : not applicable)

Sources : AMIS Outlook - http://www.amis-outlook.org and [International Grains Council](#) (for the Barley) and the graph below.



Events

28-30 09 2022

3rd World Conference on Mediterranean Diet (CIHEAM Bari, Italy)

The 3rd World Conference entitled "Change of Course Towards More Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems in Mediterranean Countries: the Mediterranean Diet as a Strategic Resource to Accelerate the Agenda 2030 in the Region".

↪*More information [website](#)*

22-23 11 2022

9th MED-Amin Meeting (CIHEAM Zaragoza, Spain)

In hybrid format, the 9th plenary meeting will gather decision-makers of the Mediterranean. countries, international organizations and representatives of key operators of the grains market. Early Warning Systems and information required to tailor contingency measures vs food crisis will be at the center of the diuscussions.

↪More information [website](#)

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