The Sustainable Development Goals Extended Report 2025

Inputs and information provided as of 30 April 2025

Note: This unedited 'Extended Report' includes all indicator storyline contents as provided by the SDG indicator custodian agencies as of 30 April 2025. For instances where the custodian agency has not submitted a storyline for an indicator, please see the custodian agency focal point information for further information. The 'Extended Report' aims to provide the public with additional information regarding the SDG indicators and is compiled by the Statistics Division (UNSD) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Storylines presented in this document may slightly differ from figures cited in the SDG Report 2025 text due to the timing of the submission and the subsequent updates received upon finalizing the Report.

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Target 2.1 By 2030, end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

Indicator 2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment

Indicator 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)

Custodian agency(ies): FAO

Target 2.2 By 2030, end all forms of malnutrition, including achieving, by 2025, the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons

Indicator 2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age

The global prevalence of stunting in children under the age of five declined from 2012 to 2024. However, progress has been stagnant since 2021 and recent data indicate a potential reverse in the trend in some countries

Chronic malnutrition, or stunting, is identified by low height-for-age. Stunting and other forms of undernutrition early in life undermine the physical and cognitive development of children and may also predispose children to overweight and non-communicable diseases later in life.[1]

The global prevalence of stunting in children under five years of age declined from 26.4% in 2012 to 23.2% in 2024. Since 2021, child stunting rates have plateaued and show early indications of a potential reverse in the trend while the number of children stunted has stagnated at 150 million. The number of stunted children is estimated to have increased between 2012 and 2024 in low income countries (13.7) percent) and in the Sub-Saharan Africa (7.6 percent).

Significant disparities in child stunting continue to exist across income groups and the SDG regions. Eighty-seven (86.8) percent of stunted children lived in low income and lower middle income countries in 2024. Over three quarters of all stunted children lived in Central & Southern Asia (38.0%) and Sub-Saharan Africa (39.7%).

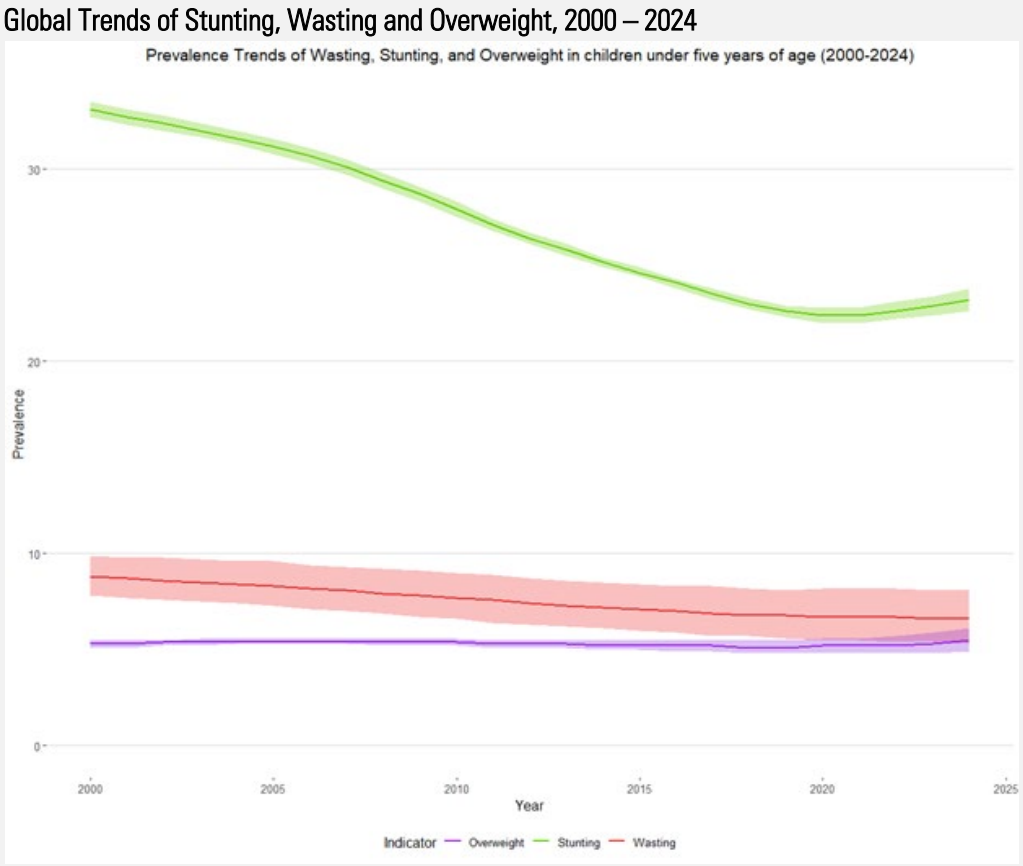
Globally, in 2024 boys had a higher prevalence of stunting (24.4%) than girls (21.9%). This pattern was found across all regions and income groups. The smallest absolute differences between the prevalence of stunting in girls and boys were found in the high income group, Europe and North America and Australia and New Zealand. The largest absolute differences between the prevalence of stunting in girls and boys were found in the d group and Sub Saharan Africa.

Globally, 79.0% (162 of 206) of countries contributed child anthropometry data i since 2000. However, data coverage decreased over the past ten years with only 62.6% of countries contributing data. All countries of Central and Southern Asia and 81.3% of countries of both Sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia contributed data to the JME since 2015. In Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand (44.4%) and Northern America and Europe (32.6%) significantly lower proportions of countries contributed data since 2015.

Lack of timely data undermines informed action and hampers national progress[2]. To achieve the 2030 goal of halving the global number of stunted children, sustained data collection to inform effective action and accelerated efforts by countries are essential, more than ever.

In May 2025, the Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition comprehensive plan extension will be considered by the World Health Assembly for endorsement and the 2030 SDG nutrition targets may be revised accordingly.

Global Trends of Stunting, Wasting and Overweight, 2000 – 2024



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Custodian agency(ies): UNICEF, WHO

[1] Bhutta, Z.A., Berkley, J.A., Bandsma, R.H.J., Kerac, M., Trehan, I. & Briend, A. 2017. Severe childhood malnutrition. Nature reviews. Disease primers, 3: 17067. https://doi.org/10.1038%2Fnrdp.2017.67

[2] A shock to the global nutrition system: Why nutrition scientists should challenge the dismantling of the US Agency for International Development and US withdrawal from the World Health Organization Locks, Lindsey M. et al. The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Publication History:
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DOI: 10.1016/j.ajcnut.2025.02.020

Indicator 2.2.2 Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)

Despite an increase in the prevalence of overweight in children under the age of five from 2012 to 2024, fewer children are overweight due to population decline.

Children who are overweight or obese face both immediate and potentially long-term health impacts. In the short term, they may face respiratory issues, a higher risk of fractures, hypertension, early signs of cardiovascular disease, insulin resistance, and psychological challenges. In the long term, they also have an increased risk of developing non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in adulthood.

Globally, the prevalence of overweight (high weight-for-height) among children under five years of age showed an increase from 5.3 percent in 2012 to 5.5 percent in 2024, while the number of overweight children declined from 36.3 to 35.5 million. This decline in number of overweight children is largely explained by a 5.6% decline in the under five year old population over that period. No region has achieved the SDG 2030 overweight target of 3% and some regions present upward trends.

In Northern America and Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Western Asia and Northern Africa regions, the average annual rate of reduction (AARR) in overweight from 2012 to 2024 was zero or positive, indicating that overweight prevalence remained stagnant or decreased in these regions. The regions with the greatest increase (a negative AARR) in overweight from 2012 to 2024 were Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand) and Australia and New Zealand with an increase of overweight by 3.8% per year or higher. It is important to note that these two regions represent only 2% of the global total of overweight children. The regions with the largest numbers of overweight children in 2024 were Eastern and South-Eastern Asia (8.3 million), Sub-Saharan Africa (7.2 million) and Central and Southern Asia (6.3 million).

Globally, in 2024 boys had a higher prevalence of overweight (5.8%) than girls (5.1%). The same pattern was found in all regions and income groups. The smallest absolute differences (0.5% difference or less) between the prevalence of overweight in girls and boys were found in the Central and Southern Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa regions.

The prevalence of child overweight is rising in lower middle income, upper middle income and high income countries, mainly driven by declining physical activity and increased access to highly processed foods and drinks, which are most often high in added sugars, salt and unhealthy fats.[3] The associated health and socioeconomic burdens are significant and continue to increase globally.[4] Greater policy and program efforts are needed to reverse the direction of the child overweight trend to meet the SDG target of 3% by 2030.

The prevalence of wasting in children under five declined slightly from 2012 to 2024, but 43 million children still suffer from wasting.

Child wasting is a life-threatening condition caused by insufficient nutrient intake, poor nutrient absorption, and/or frequent or prolonged illness. Children with wasting can become dangerously thin, experience weakened immunity and have a higher risk of mortality. [5]

The prevalence of wasting (low weight-for-height) among children under five years of age declined from 7.4 percent in 2012 to 6.6 percent in 2024. The prevalence of wasting is lower than the 3% SDG global target for 2030 in Australia and New Zealand, Latin America and the Caribbean and Northern America. The regions with the highest prevalence of wasting in 2024 were Central and Southern Asia (13.0%) and Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand (8.4%).

The number of children with wasting declined from 50.9 million in 2012 to 42.8 million children in 2024. it is important to note that the JME estimates of children under five affected by wasting are prone to underestimate the total annual burden of wasting, as they do not account for all cases that occur throughout the year. Wasting is a form of acute malnutrition that can fluctuate due to seasonal patterns, environmental shocks and conflict, all of which disrupt food security and access to care. This makes reliable national trends over time challenging to estimate and interpret.

The number of children with wasting has declined in Central and Southern Asia by 16% and in Sub Saharan Africa by 5% between 2012 to 2024. However, the largest percent of the global total number of children affected by wasting still live in Central and Southern Asia (57.5%) and Sub Saharan Africa (23.8%).

As support for early warning systems detecting nutrition emergencies and regular surveys declines, lack of timely data will decrease the capacity for humanitarian efforts to identify and respond to malnutrition crises. Sustained prevention and treatment programs for child wasting are crucial to mitigate the risks of acute malnutrition and reduce child illnesses and mortality. Greater efforts are needed to improve national capacities to prevent, identify and treat child wasting to ensure that the SDG 2030 wasting target of 3% is met.

In May 2025, the Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition comprehensive plan extension will be considered for endorsement by the World Health Assembly and the 2030 SDG nutrition targets may be revised accordingly.

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Custodian agency(ies): UNICEF, WHO

[3] WHO. 2020. Healthy diet. In: WHO. [Cited 10 May 2023]. www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/healthy-diet

[4] Okunogbe, A., Nugent, R., Spencer, G., Powis, J., Ralston, J. & Wilding, J. 2022. Economic impacts of overweight and obesity: current and future estimates for 161 countries. BMJ Global Health, 7(9): e009773. http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2022-009773

[5] Bhutta, Z.A., Berkley, J.A., Bandsma, R.H.J., Kerac, M., Trehan, I. & Briend, A. 2017. Severe childhood malnutrition. Nature reviews. Disease primers, 3: 17067. https://doi.org/10.1038%2Fnrdp.2017.67

Indicator 2.2.3 Prevalence of anaemia in women aged 15 to 49 years, by pregnancy status (percentage)

Globally the prevalence of anaemia in women of reproductive age is stagnating. Greater efforts are needed to accelerate change if we are to achieve the global anaemia target of a 50% reduction.

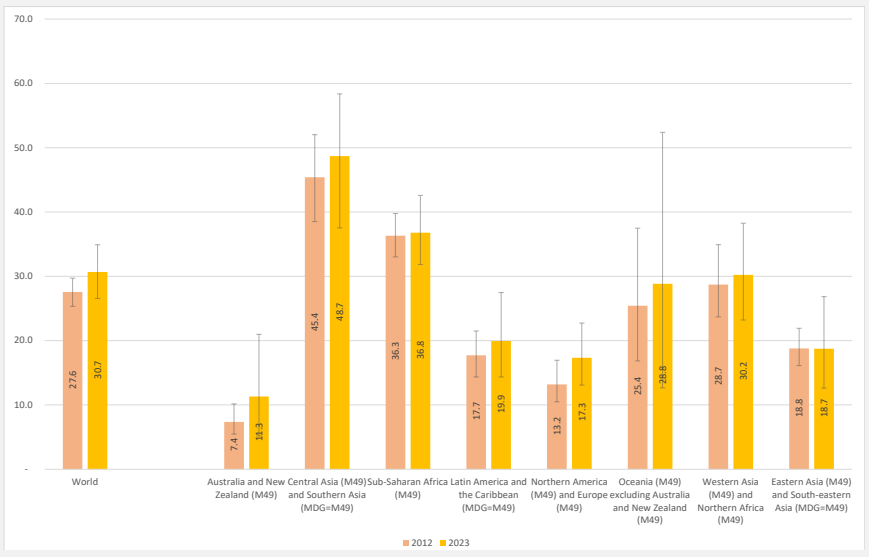
Latest WHO estimates show that anaemia remains a major public concern and that the world is currently off track to achieve the global anaemia target of a 50% reduction by 2030. Since the launch of the Global Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition targets in 2012, the prevalence of anaemia in women of reproductive age has stagnated from 27.6% [UI 25.3-29.7] to 30.7% [UI 26.6-34.9] in 2023. This trend is similar for pregnant women as global prevalence has remained steady from 35.3% [UI 33.3-37.3] in 2012 to 35.5% [UI 32.1-39.1] in 2023. Anaemia in non-pregnant women has slighly increased from 27.1% [UI 24.9-29.4] in 2012 to 30.5% [UI 26.2-34.8] in 2023.

Almost half of women of reproductive age in Central and Southern Asia had anaemia in 2023, and the lowest prevalence was observed in Australia and New Zealand where 1 out of 5 women had anaemia. Regarding pregnant women, global prevalence has remained stagnant since 2012, with around 3 out of 10 women having anaemia, however there was a slight reduction in regions such as the Central and Southern Asia region and in the Eastern and Southern-Eastern Asia. Anaemia in non-pregnant women has slightly increased in most of the regions.

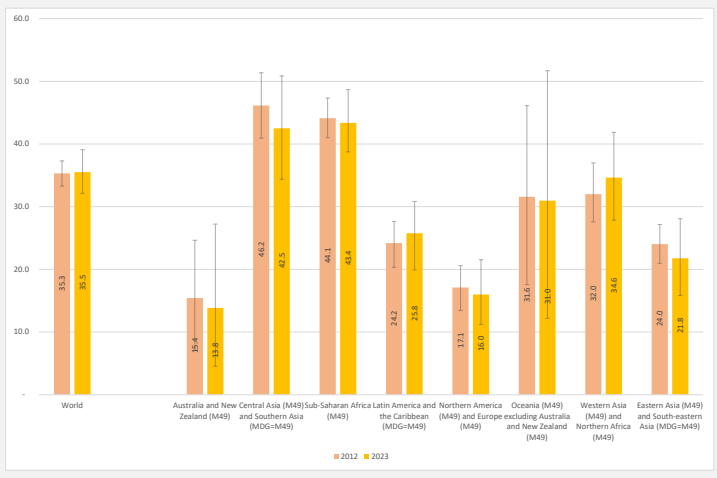
Anaemia is associated with poor cognitive and motor development, and work capacity. Among pregnant women, anaemia is also associated with adverse reproductive outcomes such as preterm delivery, low-birth-weight infants, and decreased iron stores for the baby, which may lead to impaired development. The current stagnation in progress calls for action and stresses the need for greater multisectoral efforts in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of anaemia in women.

Based on current trends (data from 2012 to 2023), it is projected that in 2030, a similar pattern will persist where- 1 in 3 women of reproductive age will be living with anaemia.

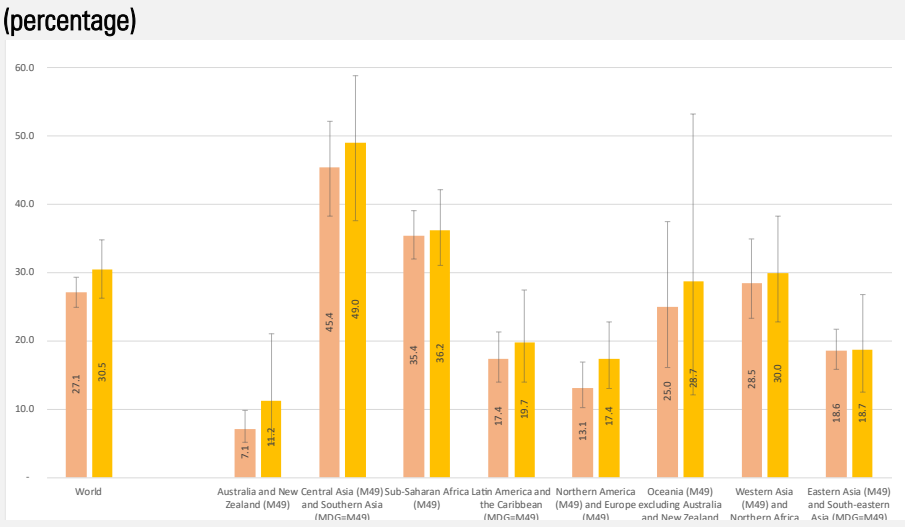
Prevalence of anaemia in women aged 15 to 49 years, 2012, and 2023 (percentage)



Prevalence of anaemia in pregnant women aged 15 to 49 years, 2012 and 2023 (percentage)



Prevalence of anaemia in non-pregnant women aged 15 to 49 years, 2012 and 2023 (percentage)



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

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- Global anaemia reduction efforts among women of reproductive age: impact, achievement of targets and the way forward for optimizing efforts. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2020. Licence: CC BY-NCSA 3.0 IGO. (Available at https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240012202)
- Nutritional anaemias: tools for effective prevention and control. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2017. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO (Available at http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/259425/9789241513067-eng.pdf)

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Custodian agency(ies): WHO

Indicator 2.2.4 Prevalence of minimum dietary diversity, by population group (children aged 6 to 23.9 months and non-pregnant women aged 15 to 49 years)

Custodian agency(ies): FAO

Target 2.3 By 2030, double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers, in particular women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through secure and equal access to land, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment

Indicator 2.3.1 Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming/pastoral/forestry enterprise size

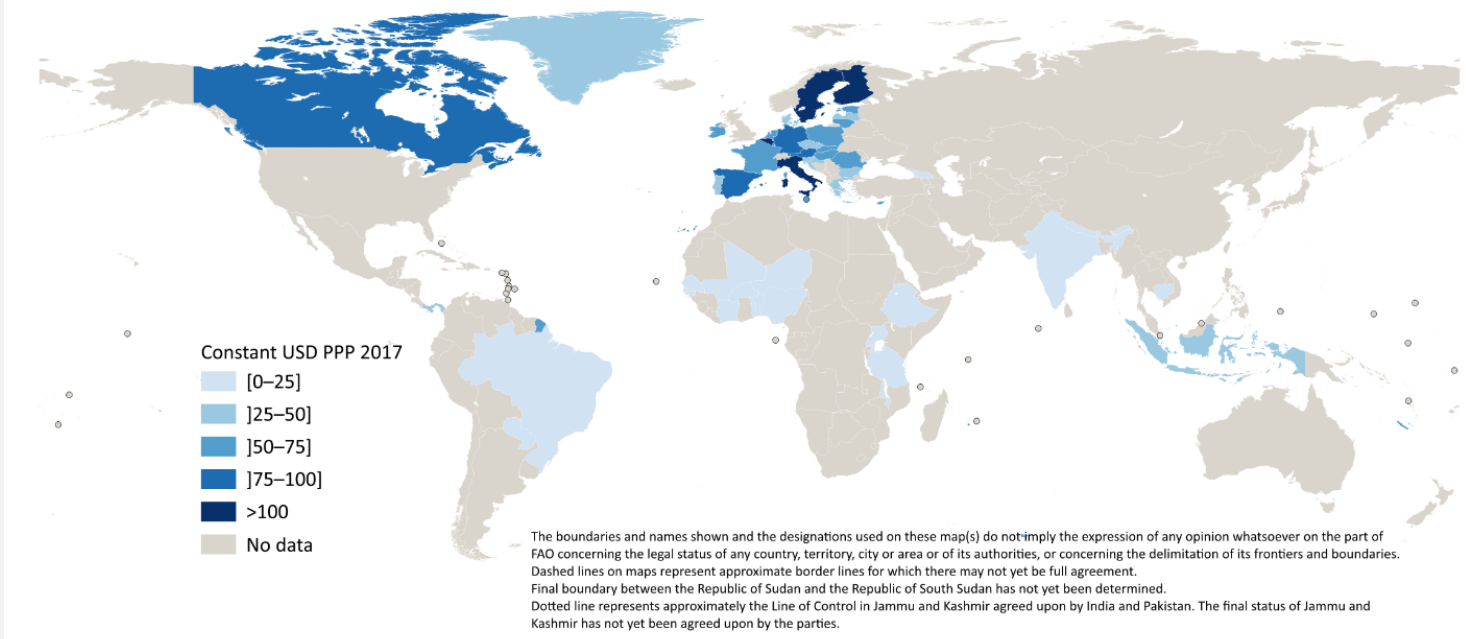
Labor productivity and gender disparities among food producers

Small-scale food producers are essential for resilient agriculture, food security, and the fight against hunger. Despite their significant contributions to food production globally, they often face substantial vulnerability within rural areas and the broader agri-food system. Available data shows that labor productivity for most small-scale food producers in low- and middle-income countries is below 25 USD (Constant PPP 2017) per day (Map 1). In several European countries, including Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and Sweden, labour productivity among small-scale food producers exceeds 100 USD per day.

Globally, labour productivity among small-scale food producers is lower than that of non-small-scale producers. The ratio of labour productivity between small-scale and non-small-scale food producers reveals significant disparities in developed countries, with small-scale producers' productivity 0accounting for less than 25 percent of that of large-scale producers. These gaps are less pronounced in low- and middle-income countries (Map 2). In addition, the data shows that in many African countries, including Malawi, Niger, Ethiopia, Uganda, and Tanzania, labor productivity remains generally low for both small- and non small-scale producers.

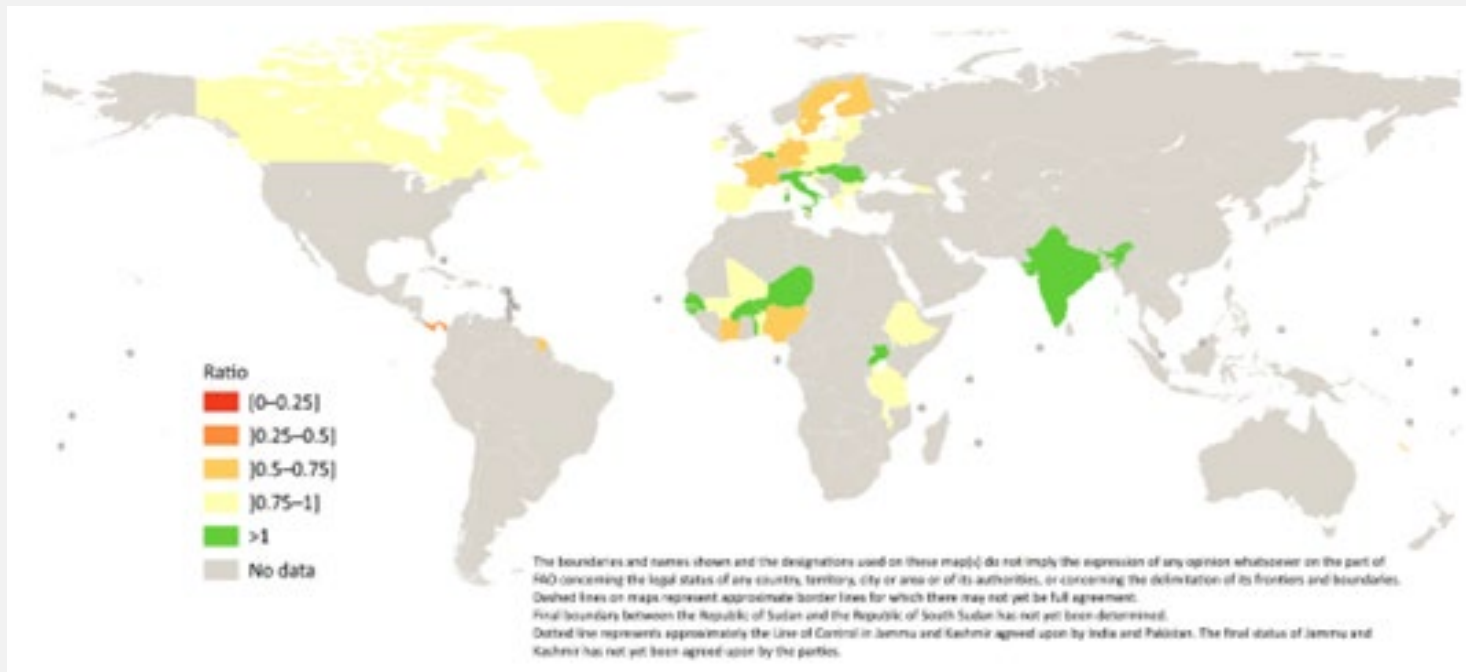
When analyzing the average labour productivity of small-scale food producers by sex, it is evident that the gender gap varies across countries. In all countries except Panama, the labour productivity of female-headed households is at least 50 percent of that of male-headed households, and in many instances, the difference is nearly nonexistent and in some countries like Guinea-Bissau, India, Senegal, Togo and Uganda, production units headed by women have higher labour productivity than those headed by men. However, in few European countries, as well as in some countries in Africa and Latin America where data is available, the gender gap appears to be slightly larger (Map 3).

Map 1: Small-scale food producers' average labour productivity (2017 PPP). Countries' last year reported.



Map 2: Ratio of small-scale over non-small-scale food producers of average labour productivity. Countries' last year reported

Map 3: Ratio of female-headed over male-headed holdings of average labour productivity. Countries' last year reported



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Custodian agency(ies): FAO

Indicator 2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status

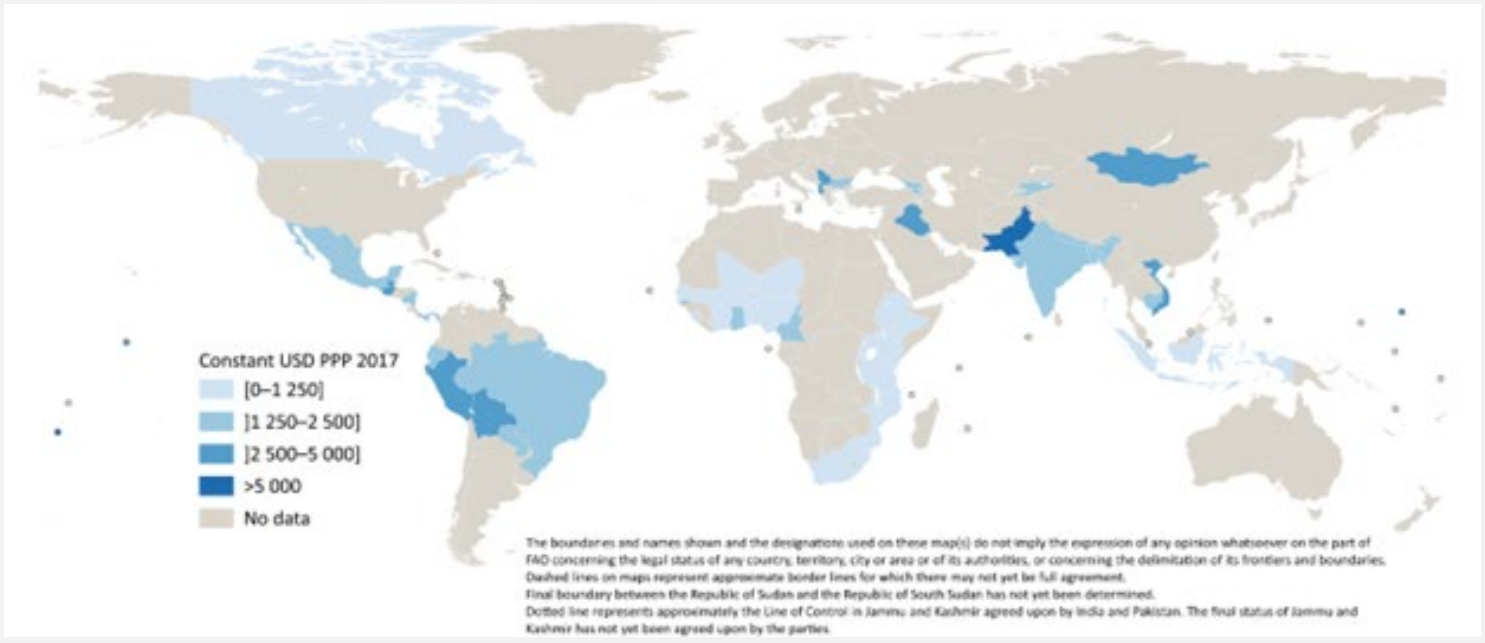
Income gap among food producers

Small-scale food producers play an essential role in strengthening the resilience of agricultural and food production systems and are vital in the fight against hunger. However, despite their significant contributions, they remain among the most vulnerable groups within rural areas and the broader agri-food system.

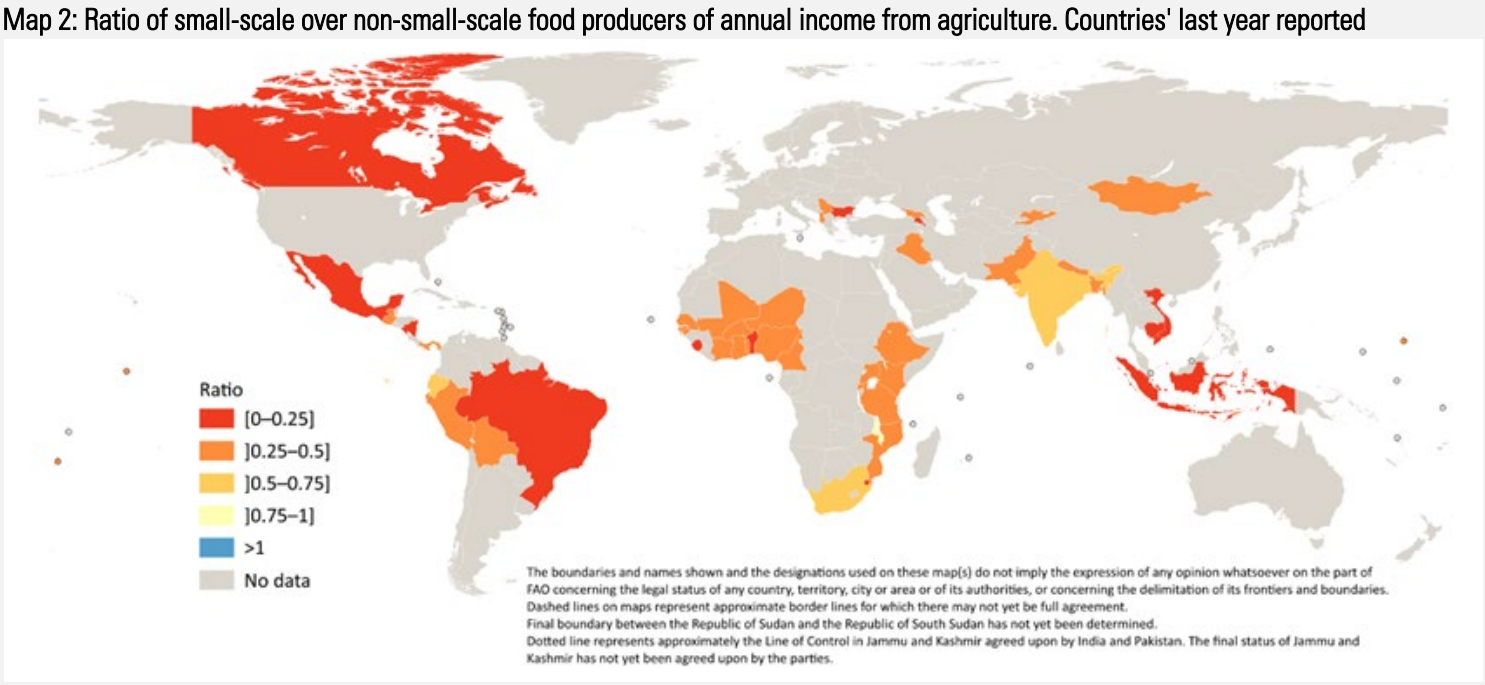
In all reported countries, small-scale producers have lower annual agricultural incomes as compared to non-small scale food producers, often below 1,500 USD (constant PPP 2017) (Map 1). Country data reveals that the income of small-scale producers is between 1 and 82 percent that of their non-small-scale counterparts (Map 2).

When we look at the ratio of small-scale female headed production units' income over those headed by males, we see that in most countries with available data, there is a gender gap in favour of male headed production units which sometimes is more pronounced like in Bangladesh and Benin, with men earning more than twice as compared to the women headed production units. The gender gap is almost non existing in Canada and Cambodia and smaller in Iraq, Tonga, Cameroon and Bolivia South Africa, and Marshall Islands women-headed production units were earning slightly higher than their male counterparts. Only in South Africa, and Marshall Islands women-headed production units were earning slightly higher than their male counterparts. (Map 3).

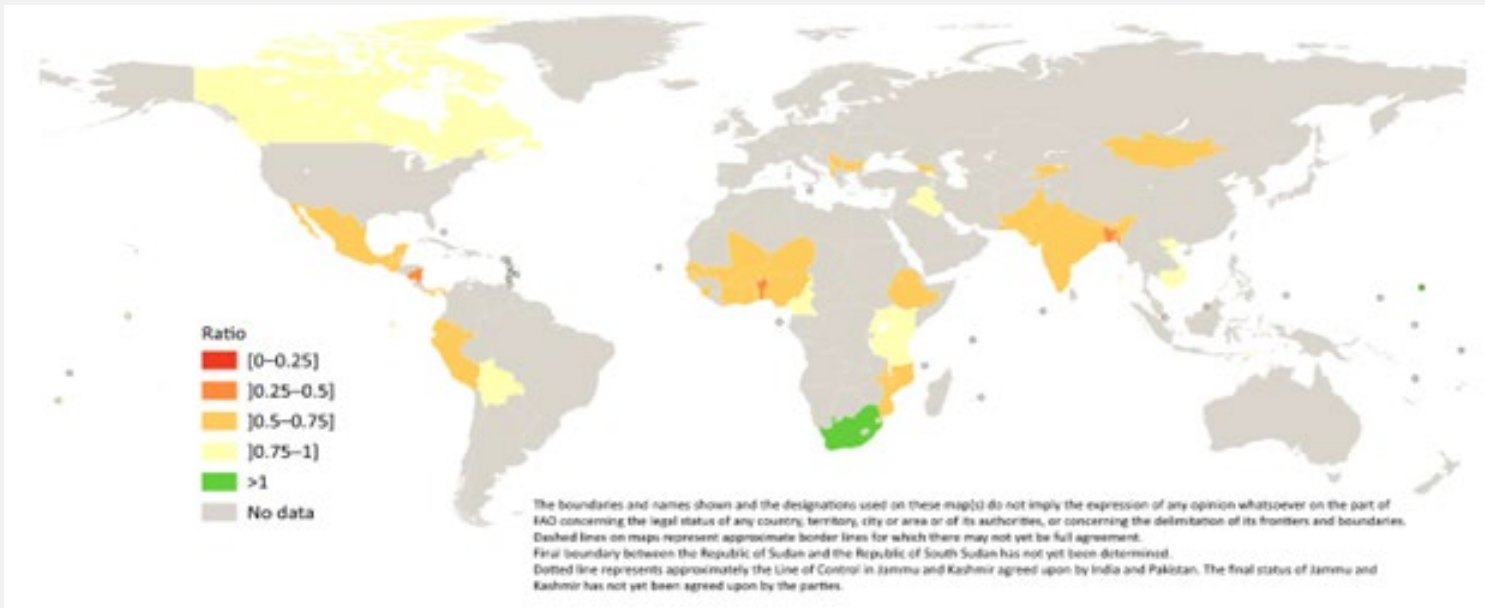
Map1: Average annual income from agriculture of small-scale food producers in constant PPP 2017 USD



Map 2: Ratio of small-scale over non-small-scale food producers of annual income from agriculture. Countries' last year reported



Map 3: Ratio of small-scale female headed over small-scale men headed production units. Last reported country values



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Custodian agency(ies): FAO

Target 2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality

Indicator 2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture

The world is at a moderate distance to achieving productive and sustainable agriculture

Data derived from a combination of key economic, social and environmental indicators, suggests that the current status of the world is **at a moderate distance to** achieving productive and sustainable agriculture (score 3.3 out of 5), while also having registered **slight improvement** in the trend towards achieving productive and sustainable agriculture (score 4.0 out of 5) since 2015.

At the regional level, Northern America and Europe (4.1), Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia (3.7), Oceania (3.7), and Latin America and the Caribbean (3.6), are **close** to achieving productive and sustainable agriculture. Central Asia and Southern Asia (2.8), Western Asia and Northern Africa (2.7), and Sub-Saharan Africa (2.7) are **at a moderate distance** to achieving productive and sustainable agriculture. LDCs and LLDCs are likewise **at a moderate distance** to achieving productive and sustainable agriculture lowest scores (2.5 and 2.6 out of 5, respectively). Over the period 2015-2022, Oceania showed **improvement** (4.8 out of 5) towards productive and sustainable agriculture. All other regions achieved a **slight improvement** towards productive and sustainable agriculture, with scores ranging from 3.5 to 4.3. Similarly, SIDS (3.5), LDCs (3.9) and LLDCs (3.7) showed **slight improvement**.

The overall picture is therefore one of slight improvement with respect to achieving the SDG Target 2.4 of ensuring sustainable and productive agriculture. Most regions are close to achieving the goal, while others are very close. Although more detailed analysis is required to investigate the root causes, the evidence suggests that all regions of the world urgently need sustained, concerted actions geared towards improving productive and sustainable agriculture by 2030, or otherwise risk missing the target.

Figure 1: SDG 2.4.1 Proxy - 2021 Current status score and assessment to achieve productive and sustainable agriculture

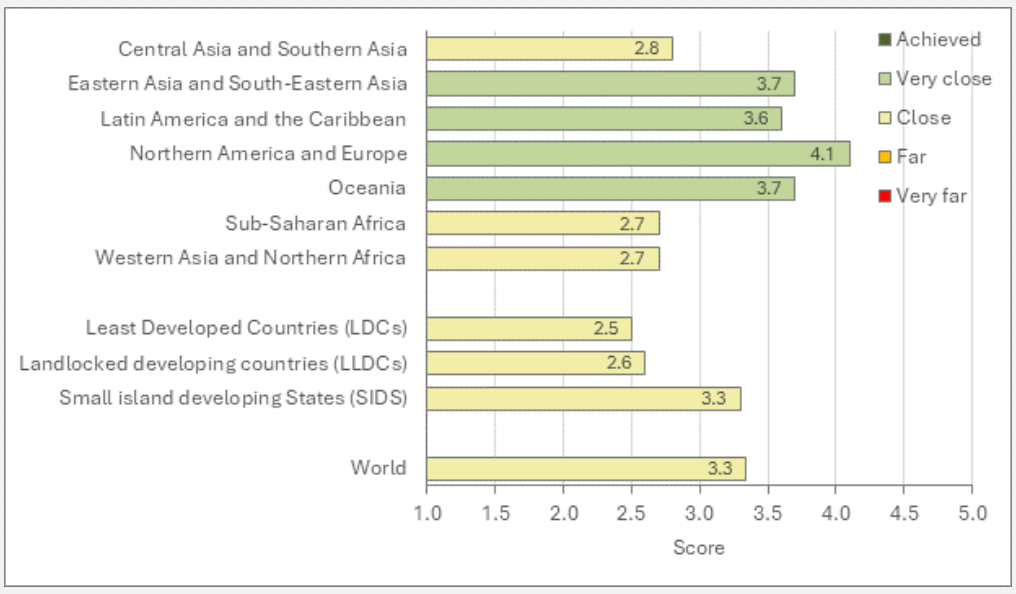
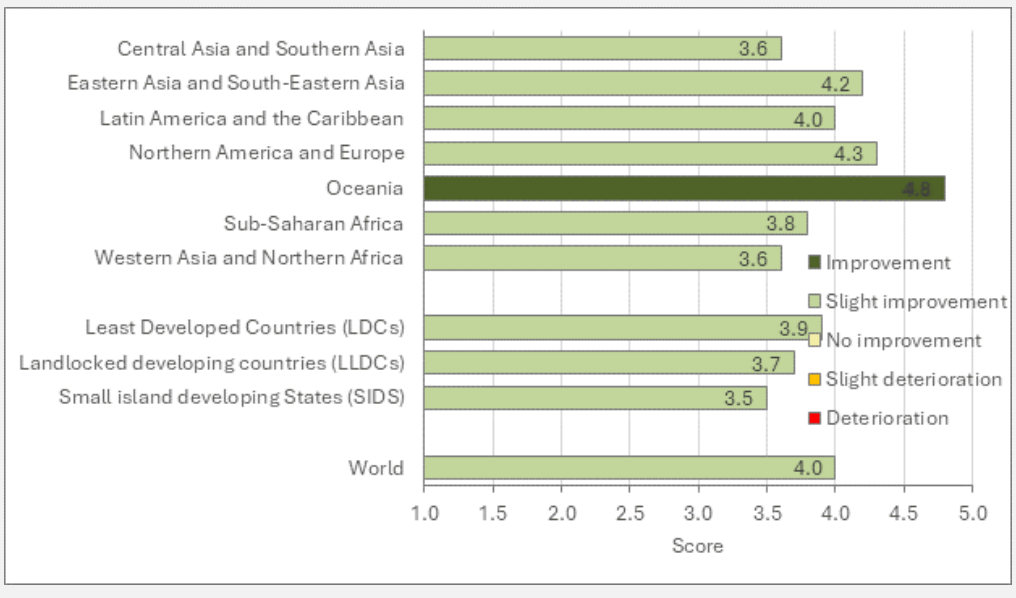


Figure 2: SDG 2.4.1 Proxy – 2015 to 2022 Trend score and assessment to achieve productive and sustainable agriculture.



Custodian agency(ies): FAO

Target 2.5 By 2020, maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed and diversified seed and plant banks at the national, regional and international levels, and promote access to and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as internationally agreed

Indicator 2.5.1 Number of (a) plant and (b) animal genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in either medium- or long-term conservation facilities

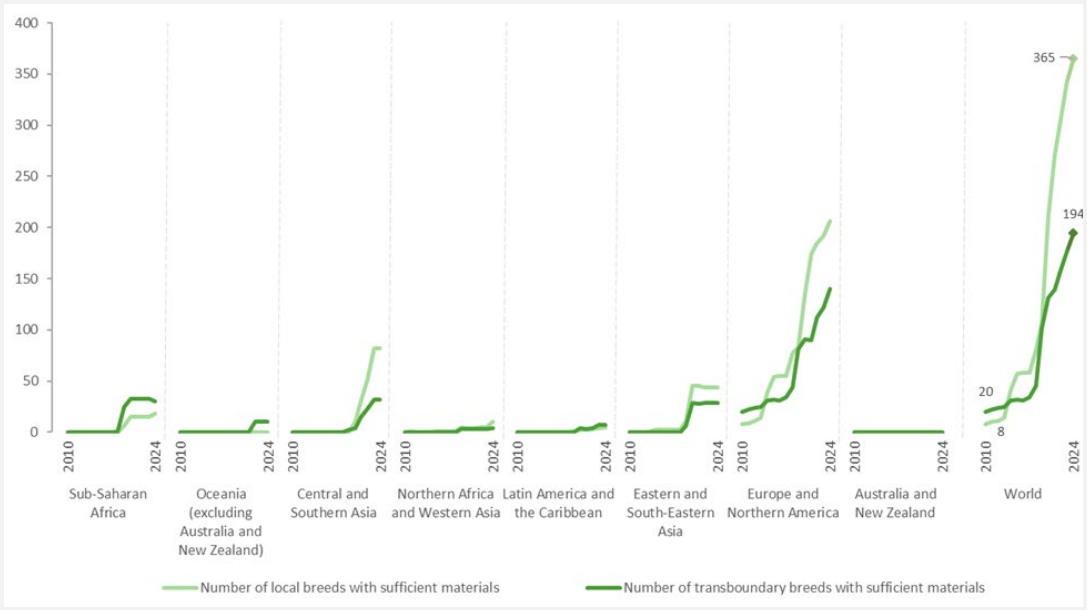
Indicator 2.5.2 Proportion of local and transboundary breeds classified as being at risk of extinction

Increased efforts are needed to preserve the genetic diversity of farmed and domesticated animals for future generations

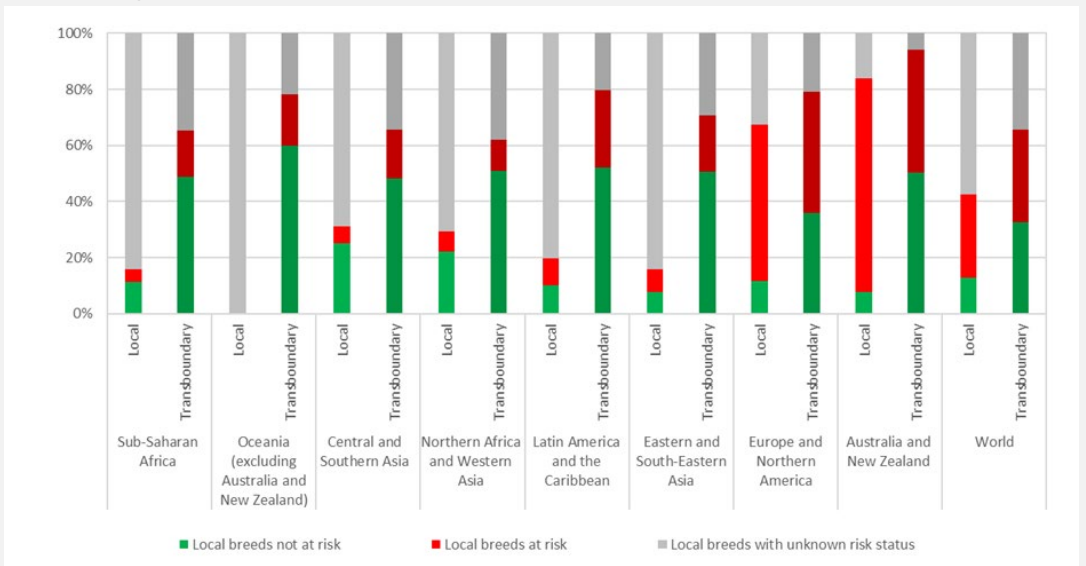
Farmed and domesticated animal diversity is mainly preserved in vivo in-situ, meaning live animals are kept within their production systems. Populations at risk of extinction require action by livestock keepers and governments. Another method is in vitro ex-situ conservation, storing cryopreserved genetic material in gene banks. These approaches complement each other, and SDG indicators (2.5.2 and 2.5.1b) must be interpreted together.

A stable or decreasing percentage of breeds at risk in combination with an increasing number of breeds with sufficient material cryoconserved can be interpreted as a positive trend regarding the achievement of the target. Unfortunately, we are still far from maintaining the genetic diversity of farmed and domesticated animals. Between 2015 and 2024, the number of local and transboundary breeds for which sufficient material is reported to be available increased from 57 to 365 (out of 7809 local breeds) and from 32 to 194 (out of 1126 transboundary breeds), respectively. Regarding in situ conservation, since 2015 the risk status remained unknown for approximately 58 percent of local breeds, and 34 percent of transboundary breeds. 69 percent of local and 50 percent of transboundary breeds with a known status are being at risk of extinction. Major efforts are needed to collect or estimate relevant data and increase the amount of cryopreserved material for local and transboundary breeds.

Number of local and transboundary breeds for which sufficient genetic materials are stored for reconstitution in case of extinction, 2010-2024



Proportions of local and transboundary breeds classified as being at risk, not at risk or unknown risk of extinction, 2024



The diversity of farmed and domesticated animals is mainly maintained in vivo in-situ, which refers to living animals kept and used in the respective livestock production system. If the number of living animals in a population falls below certain thresholds, it is considered to be at risk of extinction. Livestock keepers and governments must take action to maintain populations and to prevent breeds' extinction. Another way to preserve breed diversity for the future is to store cryopreserved genetic material in gene banks. This is called in vitro ex-situ conservation. These two approaches complement each other and the respective SDG indicators (2.5.2 and 2.5.1b) need to be interpreted simultaneously. For both indicators, the number of countries with updated data preclude the meaningful assessment of global results.

A stable or decreasing percentage of breeds at risk in combination with an increasing number of breeds with sufficient material cryoconserved can be interpreted as a positive trend regarding the achievement of the target. Unfortunately, we are still far from maintaining the genetic diversity of farmed and domesticated animals. Between 2015 and 2024, the number of local and transboundary breeds for which sufficient material is available increased from 57 to 365 (out of 7809 local breeds) and from 32 to 194 (out of 1126 transboundary breeds), respectively. Regarding in vivo in-situ conservation, since 2015 the risk status remained unknown for approximately 58 percent of local breeds, and 34 percent of transboundary breeds. 69 percent of local and 50 percent of transboundary breeds with a known status are being at risk of extinction. Transboundary breeds generally have better information and status compared to local breeds in terms of ex-situ and in-situ conservation. However, efforts are also required for these breeds to ensure their sustainable conservation and management.

In cases where the reporting status allows for presenting regional results, the proportion of endangered breeds is alarmingly high: in 2024, it was 83 and 55 percent for local and transboundary breeds with known status in Europe and Northern America. While the data on extinction risk do not allow for a sound interpretation at global level, the reporting for SDG indicator 2.5.1b is comparatively better. However, the number of local and transboundary breeds that have sufficient material cryoconserved is alarmingly low. In Europe and Northern America, sufficient material is reported for 206 local and 140 transboundary breeds, while this is the case for only for 18 local and 30 transboundary breeds in Sub-Saharan Africa, and 10 local and 4 transboundary breeds in Northern Africa and Western Asia.

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- FAO. 2025. Domestic Animal Diversity Information System. FAO, Rome. https://www.fao.org/dad-is/
- FAO. 2024. Status and Trends of Animal Genetic Resources - 2024. Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, FAO, Rome. https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/b8c17b9b-f931-4b65-bfbb-0a83a89db912/content

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Custodian agency(ies): FAO

Target 2.a Increase investment, including through enhanced international cooperation, in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development and plant and livestock gene banks in order to enhance agricultural productive capacity in developing countries, in particular least developed countries

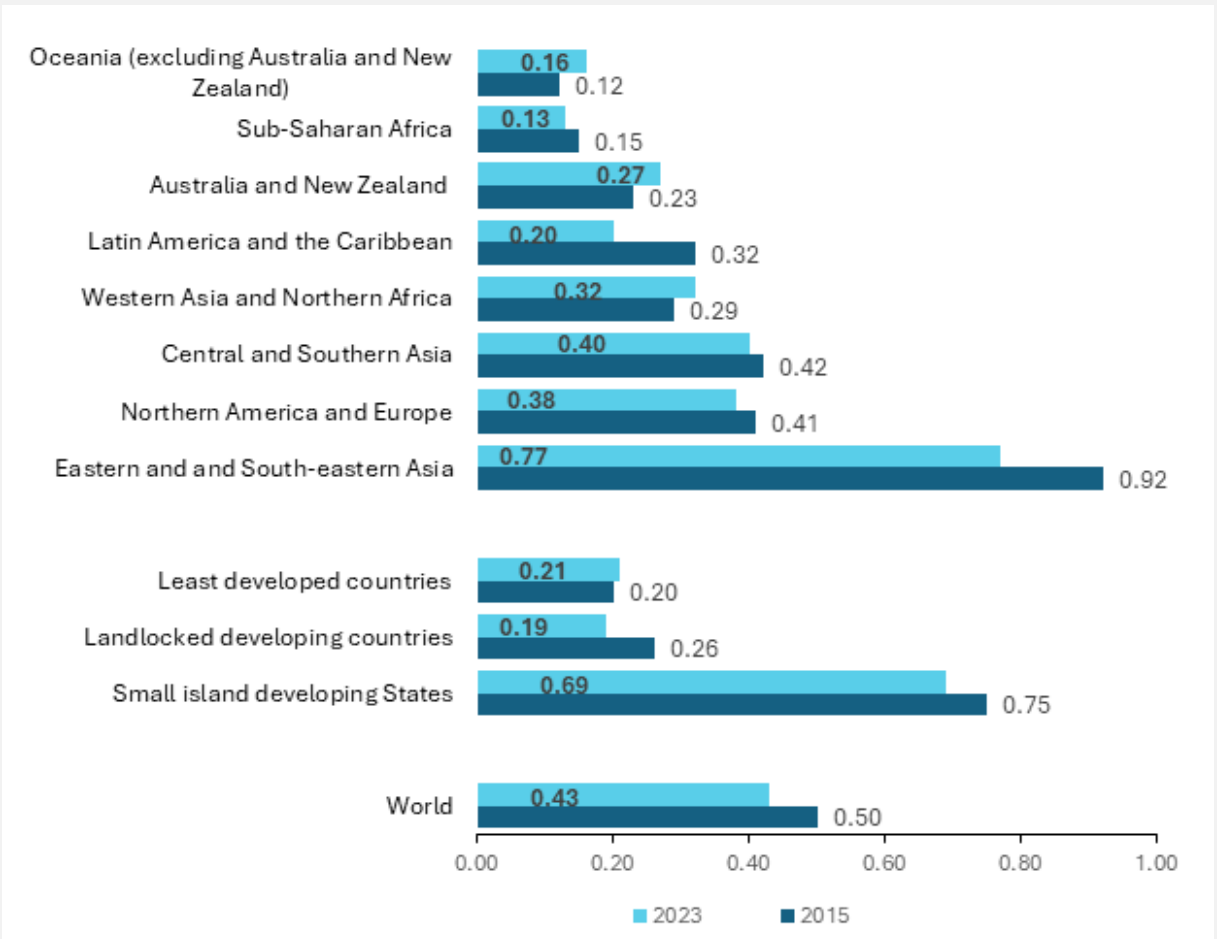
Indicator 2.a.1 The agriculture orientation index for government expenditures

Government spending in agriculture is increasing in nominal terms but the global agriculture orientation index continues to decline

Between 2015 and 2023, the global government spending in agriculture in nominal terms showed an increasing trend and recorded an all-time high of USD 701 billion in 2023, growing at an average annual rate of about 2 percent. Throughout this period, agriculture received between 1.86 percent and 2.1 percent of global total spending. Government spending are distributed among different programmes and sectors and can be used as a direct response to cushion the impacts of economic and social challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters or increasing inflation.

At the global level, agriculture sector contributes between 3.9 percent to 4.4 percent of the GDP between 2015 and 2023. When government expenditure on agriculture is compared relative to the agriculture sector's contribution to GDP, measured in terms of the agriculture oriental index (AOI), it recorded a declining trend during the same period. The global baseline AOI was 0.50 in 2015. It fell to 0.45 in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic and further declined to 0.43 in 2023 (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Agriculture orientation index, by SDG regions, 2015 and 2023



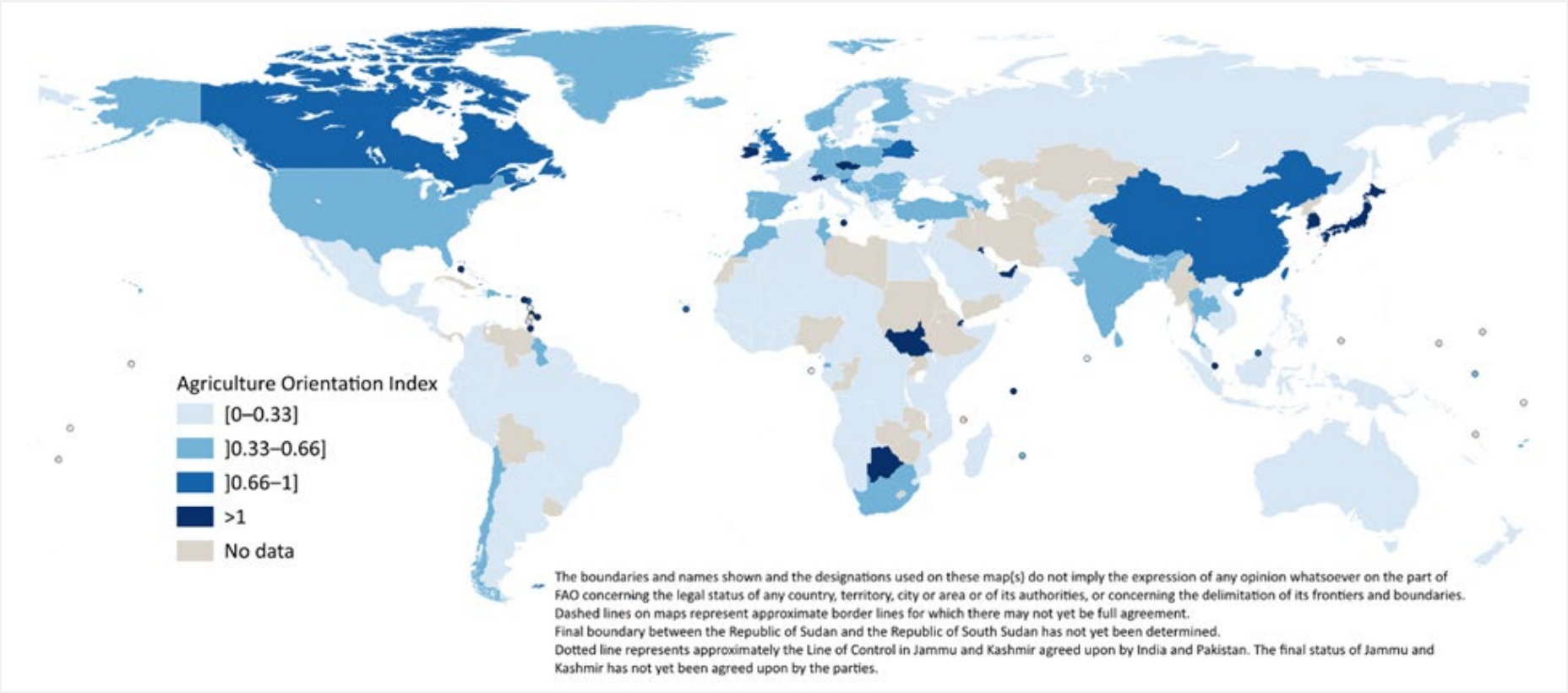
Note: The number of countries with data available may vary over time. Global and regional aggregates include imputed data. Source: FAO. 2025. FAOSTAT: Government Expenditure. [Accessed January 2025]. http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/IG. Licence: CC-BY-4.0.

The declining trend in AOI is also observed among all regions with the exception of Western Asia and Northern Africa, and Oceania. During this period, Western Asia and Northern Africa recorded an increase in AOI from 0.29 in 2015 to 0.32 in 2023 while the Oceania region recorded an increase from 0.12 in 2015 to 0.16 in 2023. The more populous regions of sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern and South-eastern Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Central and Southern Asia reported a decline of their AOI in 2023.

Among subregions, increases in the AOI are observed between 2015 and 2023 in Northern Africa (from 0.24 to 0.30), Western Asia (from 0.33 to 0.34)– these subregions mostly include lower-income countries. Australia and New Zealand, which comprise high-income countries, also reported an increased AOI. SDG subregions with a declining AOI include Eastern Asia, South-eastern Asia, Central America and South America. Countries in Latin America reported declining agricultural spending relative to the total, hence the decrease in the AOI.

Countries that belong to the least developed countries (LDCs) and landlocked and developing countries (LLDCs) are among the highest spenders in agriculture in terms of share to total government expenditures. On average, the LDC and the LLDC regions allocated about 4 percent of their total expenditures to agriculture, yet the agriculture sector generates about 18 percent of their GDP. In terms of AOI, LLDCs reported a decline from 0.26 in 2015 to 0.19 in 2023, while there was a small increase for LDCs from 0.20 in 2015 and 0.21 in 2023. The Small Island developing states (SIDS), also recorded a decline in AOI from 0.75 in 2015 to 0.69 in 2023.

Figure 2. Agriculture orientation index, 2022–2023 average



Source: FAO. 2024. Government Expenditure. In: FAOSTAT. Rome. [Cited January 2025]. http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/IG based on UN Geospatial. 2020. Map geodata [shapefiles]. New York, USA, UN

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Custodian agency(ies): FAO

Indicator 2.a.2 Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) to the agriculture sector

Total official support for agriculture in developing countries dropped in 2023, but still remains high

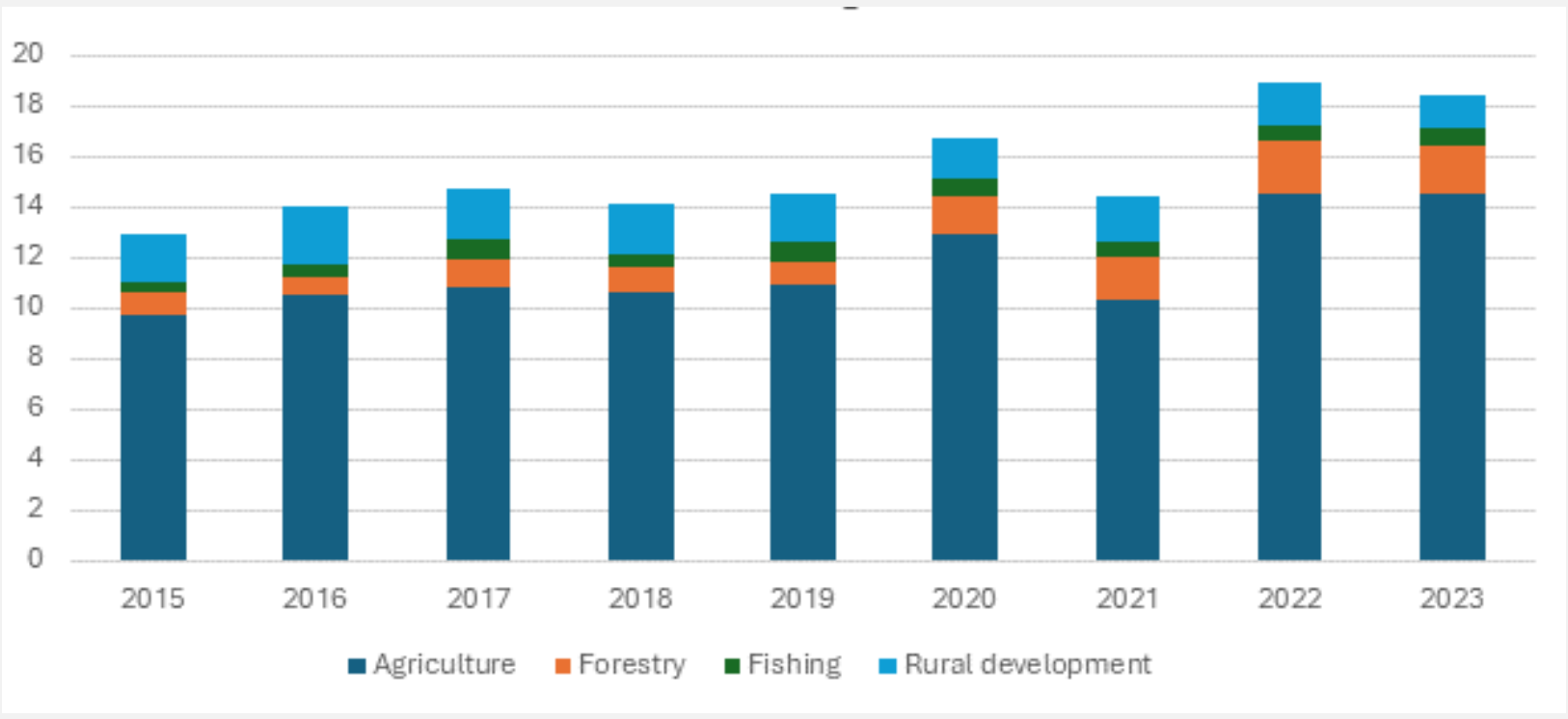
Total official support to agriculture in developing countries decreased in 2023 by 2.5% compared to previous year amounting to USD 18.5 billion in 2023 and representing 4.6% of total official flows. The total volume in 2022 had been historically high due to due to agricultural development (integrated projects) and to agricultural policy and administrative management and financial services. Despite the decrease in 2023, the level is still notably higher than in years previous to 2022 when the average support was USD 14.5 billion for the period 2015-2021. Between 2015 and 2023, the volume of aid for agriculture has increased by 43.5%.

Support to Africa in 2023 was USD 8.1 billion which represented a further increase of 3.8% compared to 2022 which was a historical peak, partly due to disbursements of non-concessional loans from the Islamic Development Bank to Egypt for integrated agricultural projects. Support to Asia increased by 14.3% and reached USD 5.3 billion. Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and Oceania decreased by 38%, 36% and 12% respectively.

Egypt was the largest recipient of official financing for agriculture in 2023 (USD 1.4 billion), followed by India (USD 753 million) and Ethiopia (USD 627 million). However, an important part of the official support (USD 3.1 billion) were for programs not allocated by country (and therefore regional).

Among the four sectors that are included in the indicator, agriculture represented 79%, forestry 9%, rural development 7% and fisheries only 4%.

Total official flows to the agriculture sector. Constant 2023 USD billion.



Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Yasmin Ahmad, OECD; Elena Bernaldo, OECD

Custodian agency(ies): OECD

Target 2.b Correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions in world agricultural markets, including through the parallel elimination of all forms of agricultural export subsidies and all export measures with equivalent effect, in accordance with the mandate of the Doha Development Round

Indicator 2.b.1 Agricultural export subsidies

Custodian agency(ies): WTO

Target 2.c Adopt measures to ensure the proper functioning of food commodity markets and their derivatives and facilitate timely access to market information, including on food reserves, in order to help limit extreme food price volatility

Indicator 2.c.1 Indicator of food price anomalies

The proportion of countries with moderately to abnormally high food prices saw a modest decline in 2023, but it remains three times higher than the 2015-19 average value

Globally, the proportion of countries facing moderately to abnormally high food prices decreased to about 50 percent in 2023, down from 60 percent in 2022. This pattern was consistent across most regions, except for Eastern and South-Eastern Asia and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand). While the global figure for 2023 represents a moderate decline from the record value of 60 percent in 2022, it remains over three times higher than the 2015-19 average value of 16 percent and similar to the high level registered in 2020.

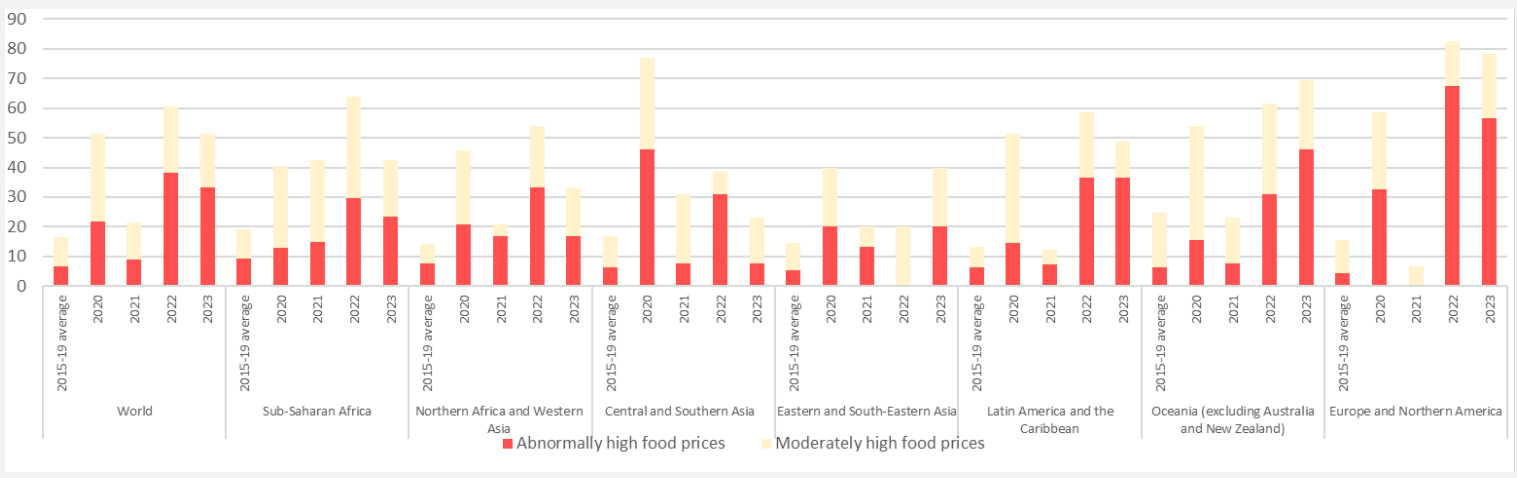
Following the sharp increases in 2022, global food prices mostly declined during the first half of 2023, driven by lower shipping costs and easing prices for fuel and fertilizer. However, in the latter half of the year, global food prices saw a modest rebound due to heightened uncertainty from multiple factors, including geopolitical tensions from conflicts in the Middle East and rising oil prices linked to OPEC+ production cuts. Despite the year-on-year improvement and a generally favourable food supply situation, global food prices remained historically high in 2023.

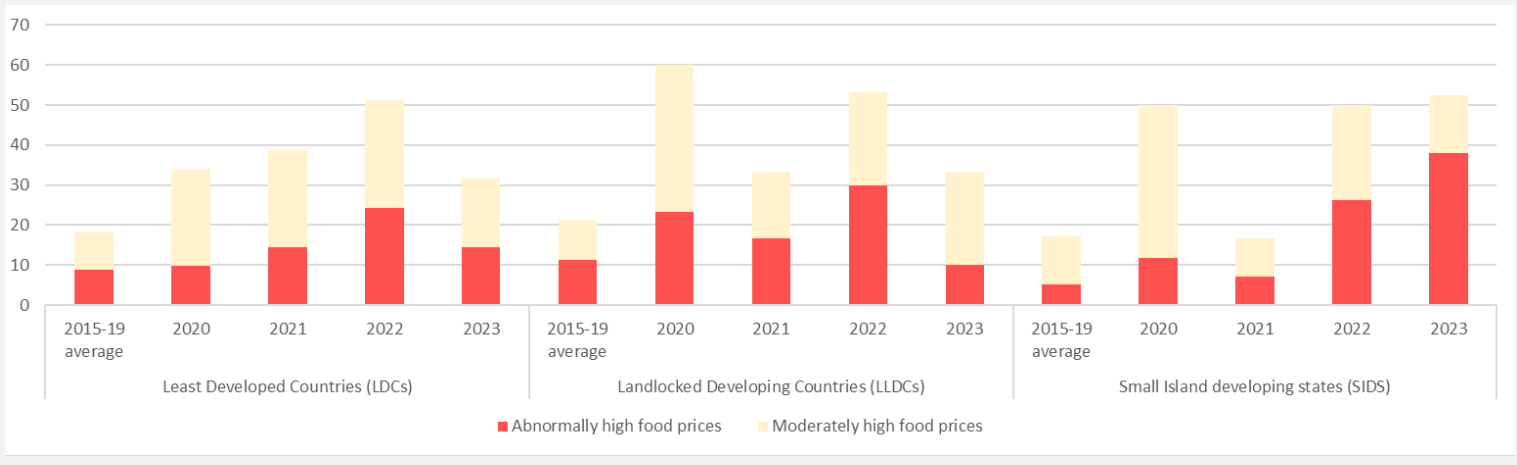
In Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, the proportion of countries experiencing moderately to abnormally high food prices doubled on an annual basis in 2023, returning to the levels observed in 2020. This change was driven by a jump in the number of countries with abnormally high food prices. Concerns about weather-related declines in rice production led to a sharp rise in rice prices throughout most of the year, prompting trade restrictions and stockpiling by major rice-producing countries.

In 2023, the proportion of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) facing moderately to abnormally high food prices increased for the second consecutive year. In contrast, Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) and in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) – with SSA comprising over 70 percent of LDCs –saw a reversal of this trend, with a year-on-year decline. The rise in food prices for SIDS can be attributed to a sharp increase in the number of countries experiencing abnormally high food prices, driven by persistent food price inflation throughout much of 2023. This situation exacerbated pre-existing economic vulnerabilities, particularly due to the heavy reliance of SIDS on food imports.

In Europe and North America, the share of countries experiencing moderately to abnormally high food prices decreased year-on-year in 2023 but remained significantly above 2020 and 2015-19 average levels. On an annual basis, the percentage of countries experiencing abnormally high food prices fell in 2023 after rising sharply in the immediate aftermath of the conflict in Ukraine, which began in February 2022 and intensified broader inflationary pressures. In contrast, the share of countries with moderately high food prices increased year-on-year in 2023.

Proportion of countries by region affected by moderately to abnormally high food prices in 2015-2019 average, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 (%)





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Custodian agency(ies): FAO