



West Africa food and agricultural trade with the World, Africa, Europe: 2015&2019

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Outlook

Summary

I – WA food and agricultural trade with the World and Africa

II – The overwhelming weight of the EU28 in food and agricultural trade with Europe

III – Breakdown of total WA food trade by continent

IV – Main suppliers of food and agricultural products to WA

V – Main recipient countries of WA food and agricultural products

VI – WA food and non-food agricultural production in 2015 and 2018

Conclusion

ANNEXES

Table 2a – WA food and agricultural trade with the World, Africa and WA

Tables 4bis to 6bis – Share of Africa and WA in WA food and agricultural trade

Table 8bis to 10bis – WA food and agricultural trade with Europe and the EU28: 2015&2019

Table 15bis – WA food production by product in 1000 dollars and tonnes in 2015 and 2018

Summary

This study updates and expands on the study with the same title dated 5 July 2021, which is also based on two previous studies on "[Africa's growing and suicidal trade extraversion](#)" "[UNCTAD has propagated the myth of Africa's huge food dependency](#)". It presents West Africa's (WA) total food and agricultural trade¹ by product category and for the main countries receiving its exports and supplying its imports in 2015 and 2019. It adds the value of food and non-food agricultural production. The summary is limited to the year 2019.

As WA's coffee-cacao-tea-spices (CCTS) trade balance with the world accounted for 79.6% of its total food trade balance in 2019, without CCTS WA had a food deficit of \$8.7 billion (bn). WA's trade balance with Africa was negative compared to a surplus with the world in 2015, with Africa accounting for 12.8% of food exports and 13.7% of food imports. WA's agricultural trade surplus with the world increased by 5.3 times from 2015 to 2019, the deficit with Africa fell by 43.7%, and the intra-WA agricultural surplus increased by 3.1 times.

Cereals and preparations constitute the main food deficit (\$6.7bn), including \$2.7bn for wheat and \$3.1bn for rice. Other deficits are miscellaneous food preparations (\$1.8bn), sugar and preparations (\$1.4bn), dairy products (\$1bn), fish and preparations moving from a deficit of \$0.8bn in 2015 to a surplus of \$54m in 2019. The main surplus items are CCTS (95.5% cocoa), \$8bn, and fruits and vegetables (\$2.6bn), oilseeds (\$0.9bn). Although not food, the cotton surplus is \$2.4 bn.

The breakdown by continent of food trade (exports, imports and the sum of the two) puts Europe in the lead for the sum of the two and especially for exports, but Asia weighs almost as much for imports. America is slightly ahead of Africa for the sum of the two, but if America is ahead

¹ Agricultural trade results from adding non-food agricultural raw materials to food products and deducting fish and fish preparations (not agricultural products in the WTO sense).

of Africa for imports, Africa is ahead of America for exports. West Africa's food trade with Europe is mainly with the EU28: 94.2% of exports and 75.8% of imports. Intra-WA food trade accounts for the bulk of WA trade with Africa: 81.3% for exports and 73.8% for imports, while intra-WA agricultural trade accounts for 81.2% of exports to Africa and 68.3% of imports from Africa. This is further evidence of the need to strengthen regional integration within WA before seeking to strengthen continental integration with the AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area).

While China is the largest supplier of food to WA, it also has the world's largest food deficit (\$60bn). China is the leading supplier of fish and fish products, fruit and vegetables, and various food preparations to WA. China is also the largest supplier of non-food agricultural raw materials to WA and even the largest supplier of agricultural products in 2019, but the US was far ahead in 2015.

The Netherlands is the leading destination for WA food exports (\$2.7bn) thanks to cocoa exports (it imports 36.7% of the total exported by WA) which accounted for 92.5% of its food imports from WA. China is only the 10th largest exporter of food to WA but the largest exporter of agricultural commodities, accounting for 23.1% of WA's exports of these products, thanks to cotton.

While WA imported \$15.1bn of food in 2015 and \$18.3bn in 2019, according to the FAO its food production (which does not include fish) fell from \$92.2bn in 2015 to \$80.3bn in 2018 (no data for 2019). Adding the estimated fish production (excluding preparations), FAO food production fell from \$103.8bn in 2015 to \$94bn in 2019. As a result, the percentage of extra-African food imports on the value of production + imports (from \$116.6bn in 2015 to \$109.8bn in 2019) was 11.4% in 2015 and 13.0% in 2018, contrary to UNCTAD's assertion that *"From 2016 to 2018, Africa imported about 85% of its food from outside the continent"*.

To prioritize its long-term food sovereignty over a short-term surplus by disconnecting from global value chains and bilateral agreements, especially with the EU, WA needs to establish political solidarity between coastal and Sahelian countries. By drastically reducing the area under cocoa in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria in favour of cereals, oilseeds, protein crops, fodder legumes, roots and tubers, a large part of which would provide Sahelian livestock with the fodder resources to allow for a strong expansion of livestock production, especially dairy, which would in turn return to the coastal countries.

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This study follows up and expands on two previous reports on "[Africa's growing and suicidal trade extraversion](#)" and "[UNCTAD propagated the myth of Africa's huge food dependency](#)". It presents West Africa's total food and agricultural trade by product category and for the main countries of destination of its exports and suppliers of its imports, in US \$1,000, for the years 2015 and 2019. The 5 July study did not explicitly assess agricultural trade but only trade in non-food agricultural commodities. However, agricultural trade must deduct trade in fish and preparations from the sum of trade in food and non-food agricultural raw materials. The study presents also the value of food and non-food agricultural production in 1000 dollars and tonnes in 2015 and 2018 according to Faostat, which does not have the data for 2019.

Food trade is taken from UNCTAD whose data is based on the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) which includes basic food products (including fish, crustaceans, molluscs

and preparations) and, adding beverages (code 11) – whose exports as well as imports are very low for WA – gives total food products (but UNCTAD erroneously includes tobacco in total food products). On the other hand, agricultural trade published by the WTO or Eurostat is based on the definition of agricultural products in the WTO Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), which does not include fish (code 03) and preparations (codes 1603 and 1604).

After Tables 1 and 2 present the evolution of cereals and cocoa production in WA, Table 3 compares the per capita cereals production of WA with that of the United States (US) and the EU28. Tables 4 to 6 present the food trade (exports, imports and balances) and agricultural trade of WA with the world, Africa and WA, and Table 7 shows the evolution of WA's food trade by continent. Tables 8 to 10 show the preponderant share of the EU28 in WA food trade with Europe: exports, imports and the sum of the two. Tables 4 to 6 and 8 to 10 are more detailed by product category in the annexes (Tables 4bis to 6bis and 8bis to 10bis): cereals and preparations (of which wheat and rice), fish and preparations, coffee-cocoa-tea-spices (CCTS), dairy products and eggs, live animals and meat and preparations, fruit and vegetables, sugar and preparations, oilseeds, animal and vegetable fats, tobacco, animal feed. Tables 11 and 12 identify the main supplier countries of WA imports, by product category, and Tables 13 and 14 the main recipient countries of WA exports. Finally, Table 15 presents the total food production of WA in US\$1,000, tonnes and FOB prices, but these data are partial, on the one hand because those in tonnes do not cover all products, in particular very few processed products (only a few dairy products), and those in value terms cover fewer animal products. In addition, fish production is not well identified by the FAO.

Although the main recipients are not the main suppliers, the countries in all tables are ranked in descending order of WA's food imports in 2019.

I – WA food and agricultural trade with the World and Africa in 2015 and 2019

Tables 1 and 2 show the evolution of the area and tonnage of cereals and cocoa (beans) in total and per ha and inhabitant in WA from 1961 to 2019, of which Côte d'Ivoire (CI), Ghana and Nigeria, with the sum of the three accounting for 98.1% of the cocoa area in 2019 – of which 61.6% for CI, 19.1% for Ghana and 17.5% for Nigeria - and 98.4% of production – of which 64.2% for CI, 23.9% for Ghana and 10.3% for Nigeria. What is not shown in the table is the very low cocoa yield in Nigeria, of only 59% of the WA average in 2019, while it is 25.4% above average in Ghana and 4.2% in the CI. The area of cereals increased by 2.7 times from 1961 to 2019 and that of cocoa by 2.8 times, while cocoa accounted for 13.6% of the area of cereals in 1961 and 14.4% in 2019. On a per capita basis, the area under cereals fell by 39.1% and that under cocoa by 35.4%.

Table 3 compares the per capita cereal production of the United States (US) and the EU28 with that of WA in 1961 and 2019, of which the Sahelian and coastal countries. Table 4 details the cereal and cocoa production of each WA country in 1961 and 2019.

Table 1 – Area of cereals and cocoa and per capita in WA, 1961 and 2019

	Population		Cereals				Cocoa			
	1000 inh		Hectares		ha/hb		Hectares		ha/hb	
	1961	2019	1961	2019	1961	2019	1961	2019	1961	2019
WA	86733	391440	20249469	54333130	0,23	0,14	2758500	7755628	0,03	0,02
Benin	2466	11801	531800	1349569	0,22	0,11				
CI	3632	25717	471000	1432005	0,13	0,06	260000	4776874	0,07	0,19
Gambia	372	2348	83994	234110	0,23	0,1				
Ghana	6848	30418	534518	2227593	0,08	0,07	1756000	1478462	0,26	0,05
Guinea	3552	12771	343985	3378777	0,10	0,26	15000	358120	0,04	0,03

Guinea Bissau	623	1921	97000	168110	0,16	0,09				
Liberia	1142	4937	200000	240000	0,18	0,05	6500	75967	0,06	0,02
Nigeria	46064	200964	10621000	20537025	0,23	0,1	700000	1354141	0,02	0,01
Sierra Leone	2352	7813	316421	716686	0,13	0,09	6000	24428	0,0032	0,02
Togo	1598	8082	373973	1200694	0,23	0,15	15000	9976	0,01	0,01
Coastal States	68649	306772	13573691	31484569	0,20	0,1	2758500	7827074		
" % of WA	79,1%	78,4%	67,0%	57,9%	0,01	0,07	100%	100%	100%	100%
Burkina	4895	20321	1777392	4272785	0,36	0,21				
Cape Verde	205	550	20000	27581	0,10	0,05				
Mali	5322	19658	1564005	5912564	0,29	0,3				
Mauritania	876	4526	246050	260742	0,28	0,06				
Niger	3486	23311	2107164	10645764	0,60	0,46				
Senegal	3295	16296	961167	1729125	0,29	0,11				
Sahelian States	18079	84662	6675778	2284856	0,37	0,27				
" % of WA	20,8%	21,6%	33,0%	42,1%	160,9%	200%				

Cereal production increased by a factor of 5.1 and cocoa by a factor of 4.9. On a per capita basis, cereal production increased by 14.9% and cocoa production by 12.2%.

Table 2 – Production of cereals and cocoa and per capita in WA, 1961 and 2019

	Population		Cereals				Cocoa			
	1000 inh		Tonnes		Kg/inh		Tonnes		Kg/inh	
	1961	2019	1961	2019	1961	2019	1961	2019	1961	2019
WA	86733	381202	13657891	68975292	157,5	180,9	713760	3491950	8,2	9,2
Benin	2466	11485	290434	2134806	117,8	185,9				
CI	3632	25069	294000	3139575	80,9	125,2	85000	2154400	23,4	85,9
Gambia	372	2280	90322	104852	242,8	46,0				
Ghana	6848	29767	436400	4220047	63,7	141,8	415200	904700	60,6	30,4
Guinea	3552	12414	460940	4286357	129,8	345,3	1500	20700	0,4	1,7
Guinea Bissau	623	1874	79000	238549	126,8	127,3				
Liberia	1142	4819	115000	170000	100,7	35,3	670	12000	0,6	2,5
Nigeria	46064	195875	7891000	28243317	171,3	144,2	197000	340000	4,3	1,7
Sierra Leone	2352	7650	297619	1085499	126,5	141,9	2840	50150	1,2	6,6
Togo	1598	7889	173900	1372361	108,9	174,0	11550	10000	7,2	1,3
Coastal States	68649	299122	10128615	44995363	147,5	150,4				
" % of WA	79,1%	78,5%	74,2%	65,2%	93,8%	83,1%	100%	100%		
Burkina	4895	19751	726079	4939630	148,3	250,1				
Cape Verde	205	544	13000	640	63,4	117,6				
Mali	5322	19078	1106550	10451442	207,9	547,8				
Mauritania	876	4403	91000	480433	103,9	109,1				
Niger	3486	22443	1064534	5338986	305,4	237,9				
Senegal	3295	15854	528113	2768798	160,3	174,6				
Sahelian States	18079	82073	3529276	23979929	195,2	292,2				
" % of WA	20,8%	21,5%	25,8%	34,8%	124,2%	161,7%				

Table 3 shows that WA cereal production in kg per capita was only 18.3% of that of the USA in 1961 and 13.5% in 2019.

Table 3 – US, EU28 and WA cereal production per capita in 1961 and 2019

	Population in 1000 inhabitants		Cereals production in tonnes		Production in kg/inh	
	1961	2019	1961	2019	1961	2018
USA	189570	327096	163619978	439709718	863	1344
UE28	387415	511678	128838277	294969136	333	576
WA	86733	381202	13657891	68975292	158	181
Coastal States	68649	299122	10128615	44995363	148	150
Sahelian States	18079	82073	3529276	23979929	195	292
WA/USA	45,8%	116,5%	8,3%	15,7%	18,3%	13,5%

Tables 4 to 6 show that WA's total food trade balance (basic food products + beverages) with Africa was negative in both 2015 and 2019, while it was in surplus with the world at least in 2015, with Africa accounting for 12.3% of WA's total food exports in 2015 and 12.8% in 2019, and 14.7% and 13.7% of its food imports respectively. Exports of agricultural products accounted for only 15.8% of food + non-food exports in 2015 and 21.7% in 2019, a much higher share than imports (6.1% in 2015 and 6.4% in 2019). And WA's agricultural trade surplus with

the world – the sum of total food trade plus non-food agricultural raw materials minus fish and preparations (which are not part of agricultural trade under the WTO Agreement on Agriculture) – increased by a factor of 5.3 from 2015 to 2019, the deficit with Africa fell by 43.7%, and the intra-WA agricultural surplus increased by a factor of 3.1.

As WA went from a food surplus of \$728m in 2015 to a deficit of \$639m in 2019 and the cocoa and preparations surplus (99.5% of the CCTE surplus) increased from \$8.964bn to \$8.560bn, without cocoa trade – which is not a vital food item – the WA food deficit increased from \$8.237bn to \$9.240bn, so was 14.4 times greater than its total food deficit in 2019 excluding CCTS. And, if we exclude CCTS trade – a surplus of \$3bn in 2019 after \$2.9bn in 2015 – from the agricultural trade balance, WA had a deficit of \$5.4bn in both 2015 and 2019.

Table 4 – WA food and agricultural exports to the World, Africa, West Africa*: 2015 & 2019

	World		Africa		WA		Africa/World		WA/Africa	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	14803676	16795521	1776491	2206071	1379559	1785230	12,0%	13,1%	77,7%	80,9%
Beverages	70529	78773	60776	68805	58238	64918	86,2%	87,3%	95,8%	94,4%
All food	14874205	16874294	1837268	2274876	1437797	1850148	12,4%	13,5%	78,3%	81,3%
Agrirawmater.	2999326	4039248	137136	168479	62574	57324	4,6%	4,2%	45,6%	34,0%
" + all food	17873531	20913541	1974404	2443355	1500371	1907472	11,0%	11,7%	76,0%	78,1%
Fish & prepar°	1312224	1971205	362807	599637	249837	409934	27,6%	30,4%	68,9%	68,4%
Agri. products	16561307	18942337	1611597	1843718	1250534	1497538	9,7%	9,7%	77,6%	81,2%
Cotton	1388541	2061197	79681	95101	20851	5998	5,7%	4,6%	26,2%	6,3%
CCTS	8939508	8788936	300104	246301	131263	121635	3,4%	2,8%	43,7%	49,4%
Cocoa & prepar°	8925699	8318298	60982	60932	27160	16610	0,7%	0,7%	44,5%	27,3%
All food-CCTS	5934697	8085357	1537164	2028574	1306534	1728513	25,9%	25,1%	85,0%	85,2%
Ag. produc-CCTS	7621799	10153401	1311493	1597417	1119270	1375903	17,2%	15,7%	85,3%	86,1%

Source: UNCTAD; Basic food : excluding beverages; Agrawmater.: agricultural raw materials (non-food); CCTS: coffee+cocoa+tea+spices; * see more detailed table4bis by product in annex

Table 5 – WA food and agricultural imports from the World, Africa and WA*: 2015 & 2019

	World		Africa		WA		Africa/World		WA/Africa	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	14849508	15929538	1972260	2345029	1380120	1738730	13,3%	14,7%	70,0%	74,1%
Beverages	568610	677897	92595	100109	49557	66465	16,3%	14,8%	53,5%	66,4%
All food	15418118	16607435	2180967	2445138	1429677	1805195	14,1%	14,7%	65,6%	73,8%
Agrirawmater.	827151	1204413	115895	188911	50116	79068	14,0%	15,7%	43,2%	41,9%
" + all food	16245270	17811848	2296862	2634049	1479793	1884262	14,1%	14,8%	64,4%	71,5%
Fish & prepar°	1930452	2134017	549897	760636	371238	604625	28,5%	35,6%	67,5%	79,5%
Agri. products	14314818	15677831	1746965	1873413	1108555	1279637	12,2%	11,9%	63,5%	68,3%
Cotton	456321	510569	135607	152618	108315	125907	29,7%	29,9%	79,9%	82,5%
CCTS	11273	7089	2206	3995	2170	3767	19,6%	56,4%	98,4%	94,3%
Cocoa & prepar°	78513	18378	36518	16669	32630	16619	46,5%	90,7%	89,4%	99,7%
All food-CCTS	14961798	16096866	2045360	2292520	1321362	1679287	13,7%	14,2%	64,6%	73,3%
Ag. produc-CCTS	13858497	15167262	1611358	1720795	1000240	1153729	11,61%	11,3%	62,1%	67,0%

Source: UNCTAD; * see more detailed table5bis by product in the annex

Table 6 – WA food & agricultural trade balance with World, Africa and WA*: 2015&2019

	World		Africa		WA		Africa/World		WA/Africa	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	-45832	865983	-195769	-138958	-561	46500	427%	-16,0%	0,3%	-33,5%
Beverages	-498081	-599124	-31819	-31304	8681	-1547	6,4%	5,2%	-27,3%	4,9%
All food	-543913	266859	-343699	-170262	8120	44953	63,2%	-63,8%	-24%	-26,4%
Agrirawmater.	2172175	2834835	21241	-20432	12458	-21744	10,0%	-0,7%	58,7%	106,4%
" + all food	1628261	3101693	-322458	-190694	20578	23210	-19,8%	-6,1%	-6,4%	-12,2%
Fish & prepar°	-618228	-162812	-187090	-160999	-121401	-194691	30,3%	98,9%	64,9%	120,9%
Agri. products	2246489	3264506	-135368	-29695	141979	217901	-6,0%	-0,9%	-105%	-733,8%
Cotton	932220	1550628	-55926	-57517	-87464	-119909	-6,0%	-3,7%	156,4%	208,5%
CCTS	8928235	8781847	297898	242306	129093	117868	3,3%	2,8%	43,3%	48,6%
Cocoa & prepar°	8847186	8299920	24464	44263	-5470	-9	0,3%	0,5%	-22,4%	-0,0%
All food-CCTS	-9027101	-8011509	-508196	-263946	-14828	49226	5,6%	3,3%	29,2%	-18,7%
Ag. produc-CCTS	-6236698	-5013861	-299865	-123378	119030	222174	4,8%	2,5%	-39,7%	-180,1%

Source: UNCTAD; see more detailed table6bis by product in the annex

The last two columns of Tables 4 to 6 also show that intra-WA trade accounts for the bulk of WA's trade with Africa: 80% in 2015 and 81.5% in 2019 for food exports and 79.3% and 70.7% for agricultural exports. The percentages are somewhat lower for intra-WA imports: 72.7% and 72.4% for food imports and 73.0% and 67.5% for agricultural imports. This is further evidence of the need to strengthen regional integration within ECOWAS (and more broadly within WA with Mauritania) before wanting to start by strengthening premature continental integration within the AfCFTA (African Continental Free Trade Area) through a top-down process.

It is also noticeable that both exports and imports from WA to the world and Africa were significantly higher in 2019 than in 2015, for food and agricultural commodities, but trade in CCTS was lower.

As can be seen in the detailed tables 4bis to 6bis in the appendix, cereals and preparations constitute by far the largest food deficit (\$5.2bn in 2015 and \$7bn in 2019), of which \$2.2bn and \$2.7bn for wheat and \$2.5bn and \$3.2bn for rice respectively. The other deficit items were miscellaneous food preparations (\$1.3bn and \$1.8bn), sugar and preparations (\$0.8bn and \$1.4bn), dairy products and eggs (\$1.0bn and \$0.979bn), fish and preparations, which nevertheless went from a deficit of \$0, 8bn in 2015 to a surplus of \$54m in 2019 due to a sharp rise in exports (from \$1.4bn to \$2.1bn), raw and processed tobacco (although not food) from \$313m to \$603m, live animals and meat and preparations (from \$425m to \$512m). On the other hand, the main surpluses are CCTS (95.5% cocoa), respectively \$9bn and \$8.6bn, non-food agricultural raw materials (\$2.2bn and \$3.7bn), fruit and vegetables (\$1.6bn and \$2.6bn), oilseeds (\$560m and \$871m).

II – Breakdown by continent of total food trade in WA in 2015 and 2019

Table 7 shows the distribution by continent of total food trade (exports, imports and the sum of the two) of WA in 1000 dollars and as a percentage in 2015 and 2019. Europe leads for the sum of the two and especially for exports (45.8% against 32.1% in 2019) but Asia weighs almost as much for imports in 2019 (32.9% against 33.3%). America is just ahead of Africa for the sum of the two, especially in 2019 (13.5% against 13.2%) because, while America is clearly ahead of Africa for imports (17.8% against 13.7% in 2019), it is Africa that is ahead of America for exports (12.8% against 9.1%). As for Oceania, its weight in total WA food trade is marginal and has halved from 2015 to 2019 (from 2.4% to 1.2%).

It can be seen that Europe accounted for 49.1% of WA food exports in 2015 (45.8% in 2019) and only 32.3% of food imports in 2015 and 32.9% in 2019, because wheat imports come more from Russia and Ukraine.

Table 7 – Export and import continents of WA food products: 2015 and 2019

	Europe	Asia	America	Africa	Oceania	World
WA exports, in 1000 dollars						
2015	7751359	4079059	1637371	1947787	360649	15778190
2019	8097409	5681079	1618707	2262568	30984	17694314
WA exports, in % of exports to the World						
2015	49,10%	25,90%	10,40%	12,30%	2,30%	100%
2019	45,80%	32,10%	9,10%	12,80%	0,20%	100%
WA imports, in 1000 dollars						
2015	4265481	5008852	3104437	2217532	380963	15050502
2019	6034658	6110955	3258107	2503604	405185	18332940
WA imports, in % of imports from the World						
Of 2015	32,3%	28,3%	20,6%	14,7%	2,5%	100%
2019	32,9%	33,3%	17,8%	13,7%	2,2%	100%
WA total food trade (exports + import), in 1000 dollars						
2015	12016840	9087911	4741808	4165319	741612	30828692
2019	14132067	11792034	4876814	4766172	436169	36027254

WA total food trade (exports + import), in % of food trade with the World						
2015	39,0%	29,5%	15,4%	13,5%	2,4%	100%
2019	39,2%	32,7%	13,5%	13,2%	1,2%	100%

Source: UNCTAD

III - The overwhelming weight of the EU28 in food and agricultural trade with Europe

Tables 8 to 10 show that WA's food and agricultural trade with Europe is mainly with the EU28: 94.9% of food exports and 84.3% of food imports in 2015 and 94.2% and 75.8% respectively in 2019 and, for agricultural trade, 94.2% and 90.3% of exports and 90.6% and 80.8% of imports respectively, where the EU28's share is a minority for cotton in 2019.

Table 8 – West African food and agricultural exports to Europe and the EU28: 2015 & 2019

	Europe		EU28		EU28/Europe	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	7282974	7242569	6908386	7242569	94,9%	94,2%
Beverages	8079	7939	7851	7939	97,2%	94,3%
All food	7291053	7250508	6916237	7250508	94,9%	94,2%
Agrirawmater.	696858	638113	630105	638113	90,4%	84,1%
" + all food	139096	65490	100589	65490	72,3%	47,7%
Fish & prepar°	5790983	5324166	5483079	5112711	94,7%	96,0%
Agri. products	5921348	5112711	5610273	5313853	94,7%	94,7%
Cotton	1500070	1926343	1433158	1926343	95,5%	92,4%
CCTS	7987912	7888622	7546342	8281449	94,5%	93,3%
Cocoa & prepar°	665546	846523	649935	846523	97,7%	93,4%
All food-CCTS	7322366	7042099	6896407	7042099	94,2%	90,3%
Ag. produc-CCTS	1531383	1717933	1413328	1717933	92,3%	100,0%

Source: UNCTAD

Table 9 – WA food and agricultural imports from Europe and the EU28*: 2015 & 2019

	Europe		EU28		EU28/Europe	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	4369632	4864031	3631198	4864031	83,1%	73,8%
Beverages	352113	462276	350229	462276	99,5%	99,2%
All food	4721745	5326306	3981427	5326307	84,3%	75,8%
Agrirawmater.	290267	471130	281989	471130	97,2%	97,9%
" + all food	942	503	942	503	100,0%	99,2%
Fish & prepar°	43990	43561	41778	43561	95,0%	92,8%
Agri. products	8102	1236	8058	1236	99,5%	94,9%
Cotton	4677755	5282746	3939648	5282746	84,2%	75,6%
CCTS	5012012	5797437	4263415	5797437	85,1%	77,5%
Cocoa & prepar°	882929	714686	521121	714686	59,0%	50,7%
All food-CCTS	4129083	5082752	3742294	5082752	90,6%	80,8%
Ag. produc-CCTS	4085093	5039190	3700516	5039190	90,6%	80,7%

Source: UNCTAD

Table 10 – WA food & agricultural trade balance with Europe and the EU28: 2015&2019

	Europe		EU28		EU28/Europe	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	3847112	2856978	4181281	3428319	108,7%	139,5%
Beverages	-361233	-454091	-359247	-450797	99,5%	99,3%
All food	3485879	2402887	3822034	2977522	109,6%	148,3%
Agrirawmater.	424572	250479	368845	181071	86,9%	57,9%
" + all food	138154	121491	99647	64988	72,1%	47,5%
Fish & prepar°	6031804	5614798	5721681	5283851	94,9%	94,9%
Agri. products	5913246	5444570	5602215	5111537	94,7%	94,8%
Cotton	-2545925	-3211911	-1899647	-2306330	74,6%	65,3%
CCTS	3910451	2653366	4190879	3213306	107,2%	137,9%
Cocoa & prepar°	6439407	192126	6375286	484405	99,0%	252,1%
All food-CCTS	-1637298	2461240	-1062195	2674	64,9%	70,3%
Ag. produc-CCTS	-7669102	-3153559	-6783876	-2609663	88,5%	86,9%

Source: UNCTAD

V – Main suppliers of food and agricultural products to WA

Tables 11 and 12 on the main suppliers of food and agricultural products to WA are ranked in descending order by value of food products in 2019 and this ranking remains the same for exports at all levels. Thirty-four countries were selected, including Algeria and Tunisia at the bottom of the ranking for geopolitical reasons. Six Asian countries accounted in 2019 for 50.9% of WA food imports and 52.0% of agricultural imports of the top 11 countries in the ranking, and China is by far the leading country for both food and agricultural imports. China is notably the leading supplier of non-food agricultural raw materials, fruit and vegetables and various food preparations to WA and is almost equal with the Netherlands for fish and preparations. Curiously, China is the country with the largest world food deficit (\$40.9 bi in 2015 and \$59.8 bn in 2019).

The Netherlands' 2nd place is due not only to its leadership in fish and fish preparations but also in dairy products and eggs, meat (with live animals) and preparations and its 2nd place in various food preparations and fruit and vegetables. France's 3rd place is split between its 2nd place in dairy products, its 3rd place in various food preparations and its 1st place in beverages. The 4th place of the United States (US) holds its leadership in wheat and, more broadly, the US was in 2015 by far the largest supplier of both food and agricultural products to WA. India's 5th place is due to its leadership in cereals, mainly rice. Brazil's 6th place is due to its exports of sugar and preparations. Thailand's 7th place is due to its second place in rice (it was first in 2015). Russia's 8th place is due to its 2nd place for wheat. The 9th and 11th places of Malaysia and Indonesia can be explained by their exports of oilseeds (not presented in the tables) and the 10th place of Vietnam is due to its 3rd place for rice.

Table 11 - Main suppliers of food and agricultural imports to WA in 2015 and 2019

	Total food		Ag.raw materials		Fish & prepar ^o		Agricultural products		Cereals & prepar ^o		Rice	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
China	867753	1201508	101682	164262	190401	223672	779034	1142098	18512	232231	4444	201961
Netherlands	856624	961046	23480	21794	212103	225207	668001	757633	21505	31014	763	1133
France	936218	959470	31652	39616	19001	11818	948869	987268	454269	428540	1171	605
USA	1305927	949672	66498	86991	24539	30787	1347886	1005876	866543	651582	25495	31153
India	837132	932604	8605	10221	2594	1913	843143	940912	711222	782716	687740	761342
Brazil	968188	874553	5442	9282	3200	1406	970430	882429	58825	112365	49864	106742
Thailand	1006868	729711	1988	3312	6446	4103	1002410	728920	952269	658598	946264	646193
Russia	353438	582571	1691	2977	37922	100331	317207	485219	312941	472222	0	38
Malaysia	451709	573264	2595	35912	1853	2066	452451	607110	1834	3629	134	1629
Vietnam	422417	557612	364	469	6243	5371	416538	552710	398967	538070	398015	537125
Indonesia	586441	486925	655	2314	5452	6498	581644	482741	1514	2385	270	1306
Belgium	322636	393804	20898	24833	67665	16610	275869	402027	46608	98320	307	377
Canada	382504	370756	20496	21234	5983	6052	397017	385938	363839	348854	86	172
Ireland	299316	335660	1704	4367	91969	39051	209051	300976	147	238		1
Spain	226094	306688	7453	11899	30419	28792	203128	289795	18552	31360	760	1134
Germany	383101	290107	32554	37311	2861	12305	412794	315113	160880	45753	47	94
UK	397696	286147	93979	232381	73533	12655	418142	505873	49986	35565	678	1369
Turkey	171206	282765	4411	8208	326	253	353582	290720	94023	164439	115	621
Argentina	192039	265510	2343	5115	10565	12781	183817	257844	53212	146693	5027	2361
Morocco	248711	258482	1962	2893	133663	117222	117010	144153	16010	17657	125	197
Pakistan	175710	220134	1646	2144	82	1	177274	222277	172093	215179	171904	214477
Poland	118336	200218	12447	18530	2389	6744	128394	212004	30810	17570	0	0
SouthAfrica	195432	179913	4822	10238	1091	1477	199163	188674	8932	9124	114	38
Ukraine	35377	176705	321	2351	61	94	35637	178965	16859	126114	0	225
NewZealand	255736	163107	726	722	4925	8770	251537	155059	1	31	1à	0
Portugal	123265	158748	2845	7468	1981	2273	124129	163943	15669	14460	1080	2044
Italy	116900	112098	32340	34501	1683	1381	147557	145218	13676	13495	2479	974
Norway	125522	102879	1052	696	124885	100402	1689	3173	328	173	2	4
Japon	22443	83556	116512	93231	8845	66301	130110	110486	12908	15929	12888	15834
Denmark	101087	61877	2074	858	1556	1093	101605	61642	1338	891	123	121
Singapour	57683	49184	4300	3117	80	338	61903	51963	9271	828	8106	365
Australia	169171	42484	897	891	1855	161	168216	43214	140763	431	7	50
Tunisia	50243	41528	4600	5516	380	219	54463	46825	16846	6598	0	0
Algeria	20782	29783	35	27	0	3	20817	29807	3571	5096	17	90

Source: UNCTAD

Table 12 - Main suppliers of food and agricultural imports to WA in 2015 and 2019

	Wheat		CCTS		Dairy & eggs		Meats&live anim		Miscellan prep°		F & V		Sugar & prep°	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
China	1859	5	175791	220112	15441	8815	2088	2599	155561	229441	226895	192783	47844	72059
Netherlands	12143	5574	8058	4292	202271	168298	64263	113433	146148	172978	137720	154215	7497	10476
France	361236	347194	13429	15717	88402	102509	67197	53805	130132	140847	34499	41732	28277	45967
USA	812986	605290	3077	3033	26922	9351	87129	91222	76134	90114	52305	14673	16081	1730
India	70	78	26587	33726	2893	3751	10470	8575	14034	15098	8950	8029	35294	49727
Brazil	7462	1821	6544	5025	6523	14248	73699	85054	6420	11837	984	1075	801630	638565
Thailand	0	3693	346	279	1132	1298	39	21	7005	6616	7502	4935	5514	29541
Russia	304573	444434	0	442	100	1130	134	2410	13	3762	692	593	8	271
Malaysia	0	0	3723	2836	17506	24978	22	36	49658	81343	1077	830	2040	622
Vietnam	0	0	10856	4748	435	38	0	32	897	515	1231	1542	1443	4331
Indonesia	0	0	4754	2064	5520	1632	3	172	90513	100874	1011	2683	724	2542
Belgium	0	73885	1422	2421	62575	77471	26966	36575	28084	50767	20569	29302	6093	15136
Canada	362706	318263	95	73	182	65	4773	9656	350	284	2939	2104	581	274
Ireland	0	2	0	1	45738	74109	14254	11400	144225	204411	270	30	44	221
Spain	4015	0	2408	3399	9651	19165	32259	35856	35761	46029	19855	32418	1269	3452
Germany	140609	33530	1537	1561	69115	77793	24896	19011	68655	60594	4981	12139	2506	1556
UK	0	59	8120	1949	34538	20355	15479	23880	53815	86288	104620	33510	7389	5649
Turkey	15708	190	8305	10147	898	2715	2561	8058	25856	48503	4447	2792	23038	33795
Argentina	10771	83937	109	37	11949	1603	3051	3190	1745	596	1364	2837	3307	338
Morocco	25	42111	4386	3985	17811	14343	2593	969	10258	13883	25627	45910	14760	31206
Pakistan	0	0	11	85	65	187	26	39	254	269	175	85	2830	4173
Poland	29268	15985	1090	2478	28162	23400	23841	40337	28662	97234	610	1119	268	4777
SouthAfrica	2444	0	0	0	201552	147451	1711	600	47355	5806	3	325	173	0
Ukraine	3	7	1988	2281	3160	3377	4525	5011	35569	33439	109252	101349	3238	2357
NewZealand	15708	113897	6	96	8282	7854	2068	11706	3673	3969	642	647	480	12081
Portugal	0	1	2610	3275	11738	14593	6690	8795	13853	14849	20252	26248	1116	2439
Italy	28	17	2433	4731	1402	1418	31217	30798	9585	8550	29105	26982	1072	573
Norway	0	0	0	1	0	77	156	403	65	464	4	0	39	24
Japon	0	0	57	145	3	0	32	54	405	491	5	264	0	61
Denmark	1	0	392	11	44137	19543	3651	4756	22853	16913	1025	1811	94	211
Singapour	0	0	1309		2411	2865	34		21520	15412	454	873	499	632
Australia	140755	193	1	11	2869	580	2849	2997	415	35395	77	130	1	3
Tunisia	0	0	25	248	42	318	461	1127	9296	8998	4139	4552	79	5865
Algeria	0	7	6	1	225	287		3	3167	4110	1818	3566	9785	11267

Source: UNCTAD

V – Main destination countries for WA food and agricultural products

The Netherlands is by far the leading destination in 2019 for both food (\$2.516bn) and agricultural (\$2.509bn) exports from WA thanks to CCTS exports (\$2.463bn, or 36.7% of total CCTS exports from WA).

China is only the 10th largest recipient of OA food products. India is the second largest destination for WA food exports (\$1.156bn), followed by Vietnam (\$1.144bn), and it is WA's fruit and vegetable exports that explain these positions (\$1.179bn for Vietnam and \$979m for India. After China and Malaysia, these two countries are also the 3rd and 4th recipients of agricultural raw materials from WA, thanks to cotton exports (\$339m for Vietnam and \$190m for India in 2019). After the Netherlands, India is the 2nd largest destination for WA agricultural exports, followed by Vietnam, China (first for non-food agricultural commodities with 23.1% of WA exports for these products in 2019, thanks to cotton), the US, Malaysia and France.

Table 13 - Main recipients of WA food and agricultural exports in 2015 and 2019

	Produits alimentaires		Mat.prem.agricoles		Poissons & prép°		Produits agricoles		Céréales&prep°		Riz	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
China	390964	616454	593358	657821	20907	75870	963415	1198405	64	3684	31	3147
Netherlands	2541564	2515942	23378	25434	40216	32416	2524726	2508960	425	479	0	0
France	927890	1071831	88873	91633	165277	129193	851486	1034271	394	922	42	15
USA	1231912	1084837	90494	152459	29882	94011	1292524	1143285	1153	1207	146	12
India	1093408	1155748	236769	354080	973	1170	1329204	1508658	8270	3033	5837	2385
Brazil	80250	156288	23294	30149	69	15	103475	186	25	201	0	201
Thailand	29773	83131	84936	29628	2607	9257	112102	103502	5245	72388	5244	71977
Russia	168978	236886	3762	9023	13103	56228	159637	189681	22	8	0	0
Malaysia	390177	642657	194943	393543	32	1432	585088	1034768	2	248	0	191
Vietnam	684312	1144193	274665	307079	6885	10240	952092	1441032	508	4	0	422
Indonesia	81197	293306	173993	54054	249	1619	254941	345741	269	989	269	988
Belgium	776006	578081	39073	78546	14425	9010	800654	647617	345	158	0	0
Canada	197455	265341	14681	26435	1122	1474	211014	291302	244	347	2	11
Ireland	12630	7165	1011	969	36	1291	13605	6843	18	54	0	0

Spain	523236	753094	86609	88780	184182	377335	425663	464539	242	275	15	23
Germany	750906	838872	123370	102572	5326	22375	868950	919069	154	66	0	0
UK	466436	497689	57517	25207	77366	65232	446587	457664	1386	2637	107	7
Turkey	462609	347334	66280	68193	2964	2087	525925	413440	929	4828	0	21
Argentina	0	719	1767	1131	0	163	1767	4390	0	0	0	0
Morocco	43855	35220	2983	1775	5871	8413	40967	28582	466	177	0	3
Pakistan	1966	2585	36587	34047	0	1277	38553	35355	83	0	83	66
Poland	146209	132771	47705	70612	223	147	193691	203236	10	47		
SouthAfrica	32468	30077	13233	7077	300	6225	45401	30929	78	92	7	1
Ukraine	44327	60223	2618	13645	1715	1996	45230	71872	5	1		
NewZealand	249793	13272	43	45	12	870	249824	12447	9	26		5
Portugal	45581	59804	26153	27808	29157	38573	42577	49039	19	24	7	
Italy	375315	373700	66906	46362	119265	147394	322956	272668	304	432		
Norway	12552	24766	118	2	14	7	12656	24761	6	4		1
Japon	319850	428889	1178	1009	90849	100965	230179	328933	3	4		
Denmark	63396	118189	683	1618	1677	1461	62402	118346	0	1		
Singapour	138678	137487	85408	108299	643	1312	223443	244474	16	313	12	253
Australia	24838	16228	236	163	909	3435	24165	12595	28	40	2	9
Tunisia	19012	34832	2927	1279	7103	9536	14836	26575	173	1055		43
Algeria	101209	98631	2474	13452	773	29132	102910	82951	155	297		12

Source: UNCTAD

Table 14 - Main recipients of WA food and agricultural exports in 2015 and 2019

	Wheat		CCTS		Dairy and eggs		Meats&live anim		Miscellan prep°		F & V		Sugar & prep°	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
China	0	0	71962	102791	1009	63	57	1119	826	1579	7548	11869	179	726
Netherlands	0	0	43300	121973	0	0	0	0	63	28548	5347	8195	28673	
France	0	0	29902	43188	0	9	0	6	46	175	1015261	969226	39	106
USA	0	0	21713	999	0	2	23	93	0	72	40	133	0	108
India	0	0	2332420	2462872	157	19	62	85	2002	3023	125036	88717	114	1630
Brazil	0	0	147999	170316	0	0	22	12	1	11	3429	9439	0	0
Thailand	29	7	1138130	877027	468	88	711	907	1257	2849	48581	74918	241	5797
Russia	1	69	590829	651317	27	529	342	526	4363	2673	134423	251074	699	475
Malaysia	0	0	3047	9778	14	0	217	186	8	117	656957	1079358	1	0
Vietnam	0	0	352855	541441	4983	622	11	59	6	49	218	803	10	0
Indonesia	0	0	78518	266433	0	2	14	20	112	156	217	5158		4
Belgium	0	0	189147	245458	4	46	105		444	801	4505	13040	5	22
Canada	1	4	713620	489875	79	74	1	2	382	315	38306	45356	15	48
Ireland	0	0	675134	731315	285	23	31	116	25	70	51162	59563	0	27
Spain	0	0	9253	5080	7	8	0	22	26	123	3128	342	0	1
Germany	0	0	348838	238269		50	48	22	1368	15617	706	4484	49	83
UK	0	4	272787	282921	80	432	71	11	2773	3328	104410	134923	170	68
Turkey	0	140	20699	9633	64	319		8	40	90	5131	6353	70	42
Argentina	0	0	0	716	5		51			2534		2	0	0
Morocco	0	0	1720	1062	0	0		13	0	0	44	13	10	41
Pakistan	0	47	140941	121766	0	10	1	452	0	8	3593	6734	8	3
Poland	0	0	249256	9105	2	0	0	0	6	1058	6	383	2	0
SouthAfrica	0	0	271485	293264	1	10	152	97	740	505	40945	57405	13	40
Ukraine	2	0	21341	10340	3			133	386	143	141	261	2	0
NewZealand	1	0	9307	8043	3	11	4	2	122	133	465	6527	27	2
Portugal	0	0	40426	55381			8		10	121	1006	1565	1	1
Italy	0	0	7128	10027	7	0	4	3	9	1	2228	1418	4	1
Norway	0	0	213547	166461	0	1	57	51	258	568	13846	20282	8	70
Japon	0	0	28	68					9	8	1692	2935	0	0
Denmark	0	0	2	0	18				1	14	19384	1206	0	0
Singapour	0	0	109450	194960	0	0	110	77	8	7	155	232	2	0
Australia	0	0	68212	72578	575	126	29	13	28	841	51961	44929	3	2
Tunisia	0	0	8921	19948	0	0	0	0	506	1706	21	933	0	0
Algeria	0	0	98677	59690			112		226	287	343	766	5	43

Source: UNCTAD

VI – Food and non-food agricultural production in WA in 2015 and 2018

While WA imported \$15.051bn worth of food products in 2015 (including and \$16.607bn in 2019, after \$16.485bn in 2018, of which \$13.930bn from outside Africa), its food production according to FAOSTAT was \$91.297bn in 2015 and \$80.414bn in 2018 (no data for 2019), but these FAO data are partial as they do not take into account many processed products (which are all taken into account in trade), nor all products (e.g. not vegetable fats excluding oilseeds, or animal feed) and it does not include fish. Despite these limitations, the grouping of production by major product category – cereals; roots, tubers and plantains; coffee, cocoa, tea and spices (CCTS); oilseeds; protein crops; fruit and vegetables; and sugar cane – and the detail in the appendix of the evolution of value, tonnage and price per tonne for all plant products

(incomplete and less detailed for animal food), provide interesting benchmarks on regional food production, to be compared with trade.

Table 15 – West Africa's food production in \$1,000 and tonnes in 2015 and 2018*

Products	2015			2018		
	\$1,000	Tonnes	\$/tonne	\$1,000	Tonnes	\$/tonne
Food production from plants						
Total food production from plants, of which:	82156563	307415948	267	71024008	337547948	210
" cereals	15796409	61087777	259	16719855	70518745	237
" roots and tubers	34961332	176228549	198	26256641	187853533	140
" coffee-cocoa-tea-spices (CCTS)	3378591	3678828	918	3833162	4372919	877
" oilseeds	4077795	12601677	324	5236907	15205981	344
" pulses	1396553	6249831	223	1901827	8495752	224
" fruits and vegetables (including dry and nuts)	22209349	41092544	540	16807909	44660481	376
" raw sugar	336041	6476742	52	267190	6440537	41
Animal food production						
Total food production from animals	9140392	6757845	1668	9389774	6874217	1366
of which meats						
Meats	7097295	3501317	2027	6217397	3760854	1653
Offals		358958			378726	
Fats		78492			83222	
of which dairy and eggs						
Unprocessed dairy products	1900099	5362773	354	2159655	5448766	396
Processed dairy products		741221			815770	
Eggs in shell	125671	956019	1314	1001791	962018	1041
All unprocessed food production						
All food production excluding fish	91296955	314173793	291	80413782	344422165	233
Fish and aquaculture	11556000			12897000		
TOTAL food production	102820740			93282255		

* see the detailed production per product in annex 15bis

In the study "[UNCTAD propagated the myth of Africa's huge food dependence](#)" SOL estimated the value of WA's fisheries and aquaculture production at \$11.556bn in 2015 with an extrapolation to \$13.692bn in 2019, i.e. 18.5% more. As exports of fish and fish preparations increased by 55% from 2015 to 2019 and imports fell by 4.2%, the estimate of \$12.897bn for 2018 production can be retained. This gives a total value of unprocessed food production of \$102.820bn in 2015 and \$93.282bn in 2018. As WA food imports from outside Africa were \$13.237bn in 2015 and \$13.930bn in 2018 the percentage of these imports on the value of production + imports (\$116.057bn in 2015 and \$107.212bn in 2018) was 11.4% in 2015 and 13.0% in 2019. This is the antithesis of UNCTAD's assertion that *'From 2016 to 2018, Africa imported about 85% of its food from outside the continent'*, even if the calculation here concerns only West Africa.

Conclusion

If WA wants to prioritize its long-term food sovereignty over a short-term trade surplus while creating the millions of additional jobs needed each year to cope with its population explosion by safeguarding its environment, human rights and security while minimizing jihadist attacks, it must radically change its agricultural policy (ECOWAP). But this will only be possible by sharing political solidarity, particularly between the coastal and Sahelian countries, as well as between the ethnic groups within each country. This would only be a return to the roots of the empires that covered the majority of WA States as described by Cheikh Anta Diop, Joseph Ki-Zerbo and Yves Person, empires that colonisation hastened to dismantle according to the principle "divide and rule".

In particular, the areas devoted to cocoa in West Africa will be drastically reduced, especially in Côte d'Ivoire where "[Since 1960, Côte d'Ivoire has lost 90% of its forest](#)" and [here](#) and [here](#). This has had a very negative effect on the climate and biodiversity, and budgetary revenues

fluctuate greatly and are not very profitable for small farmers, despite the quasi-slave labour of Sahelian children. But [CIRAD, funded by the EU](#) and under pressure from cocoa multinationals, seems to believe in the possibility of improving cocoa production and reforesting the country in an ecologically and socially sustainable way, on the pretext that world demand for cocoa should increase. It forgets that without the duty-free access to the EU for its cocoa exports under the interim EPAs for Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, these exports would not be competitive with those of Latin American and Asian countries that are exempt from duties in their bilateral free trade agreements with the EU.

However, a solution to regenerate the entire plant and animal production of WA would be to replace a large part of the cocoa areas of the coastal countries with crops of cereals, oilseeds, protein crops, fodder legumes, roots and tubers, a large part of which would be exported, partly after drying, to the Sahelian countries to provide fodder resources for a strong expansion of animal production, particularly dairy production, part of which would be returned to the coastal countries.

ANNEXES

Table 2 bis – Hectares, tonnes & yield of cocoa in West Africa from 1961 to 2019

	1961	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2015	2019	2019/10
Hectares									
WA	2758500	2624300	2824700	3084749	4554768	5392843	6300122	7755628	281,2%
CI	260000	404300	836700	1566500	2000000	2278786	3458163	4776874	18373%
Ghana	1756000	1451000	1200000	693249	1500000	1600200	1683765	1478462	84,2%
Nigeria	700000	700000	700000	715000	966000	1272430	1056893	1354141	194,5%
The 3	2716000	2555300	2736700	2974749	4466000	5151416	6198821	7609477	280,2%
The 3/WA	98,5%	97,4%	96,9%	96,4%	98,1%	95,5%	98,4%	98,1%	99,9%
Tonnes									
WA	713760	926557	879928	1379485	2200801	2475744	2993286	3395836	475,8%
CI	85000	179156	417222	807501	1401101	1301347	1796000	2180000	25647%
Ghana	415200	406000	277200	293355	436600	632037	858720	811700	195,5%
Nigeria	197000	304800	153000	244000	338000	399200	302066	350146	177,7%
The 3	697200	889956	847422	1344856	2175701	2332584	2956786	3341846	479,3%
The 3/WA	97,7%	96,0%	96,3%	97,5%	98,9%	94,2%	98,8%	98,4%	100,7%
Yield in 100 kg/ha									
WA	2587	3531	3115	4472	4832	4591	4751	4379	169,3%
CI	3269	4431	4987	5155	7006	5711	5194	4564	139,6%
Ghana	2364	2798	2310	4232	2911	3950	5100	5490	232,2%
Nigeria	2814	4354	2186	3413	3499	3137	2858	2586	91,9%
The 3	2577	3507	3106	4496	4852	4560	4761	4385	170,1%
The 3/WA	99,6%	99,3%	99,7%	100,5%	100,4%	99,3%	100,2%	100,1%	100,5%

Source: Faostat

Table 4bis – Share of Africa and WA in the WA food and agricultural exports in 2015 and 2019

\$ 1,000	World		Africa		West Africa		Africa/World		WA/Africa	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	14803676	16795521	1776491	2206071	1379559	1785230	12,0%	13,1%	77,7%	80,9%
Beverages	70529	78773	60776	68805	58238	64918	86,2%	87,3%	95,8%	94,4%
All food	14874205	16874294	1837268	2274876	1437797	1850148	12,4%	13,5%	78,3%	81,3%
Agrirawmater.	2999326	4039248	137136	168479	62574	57324	4,6%	4,2%	45,6%	34,0%
" + all food	17873531	20913541	1974404	2443355	1500371	1907472	11,0%	11,7%	76,0%	78,1%
Fish & prepar°	1312224	1971205	362807	599637	249837	409934	27,6%	30,4%	68,9%	68,4%
Agri. products	16561307	18942337	1611597	1843718	1250534	1497538	9,7%	9,7%	77,6%	81,2%
Cotton	1388541	2061197	79681	95101	20851	5998	5,7%	4,6%	26,2%	6,3%
CCTS	8939508	8788936	300104	246301	131263	121635	3,4%	2,8%	43,7%	49,4%
Cocoa & prepar°	8925699	8318298	60982	60932	27160	16610	0,7%	0,7%	44,5%	27,3%
All food-CCTS	5934697	8085357	1537164	2028574	1306534	1728513	25,9%	25,1%	85,0%	85,2%
Ag. prod-CCTS	7621799	10153401	1311493	1597417	1119270	1375903	17,2%	15,7%	85,3%	86,1%
Cereals & prep°	191549	321803	169090	227799	164876	224049	88,3%	70,8%	97,5%	98,4%
Rice	53994	186796	42184	106990	42031	106787	78,1%	57,3%	99,6%	99,8%
Wheat	2034	2979	957	2854	956	2713	47,1%	95,8%	99,9%	99,1%
Dairy	63385	48841	55185	43345	53504	41885	87,1%	88,7%	97,0%	96,6%
Live animals	86017	79847	83643	76714	83254	75426	97,2%	96,1%	99,5%	98,3%

Meats & prepar°	10193	19309	8476	15718	6069	15545	83,2%	81,4%	71,6%	98,9%
Fruit&vegetables	2529101	3121723	120088	137626	108701	119185	4,7%	4,4%	90,5%	86,6%
Sugar & prepar°	62645	86760	52736	48062	24977	31148	84,2%	55,4%	47,4%	64,8%
Miscillane food	230303	292976	213950	255898	199349	235555	92,9%	87,3%	93,2%	92,1%
Oilseeds	685587	958741	69143	87963	55601	72451	100,9%	9,2%	80,4%	82,4%
Animal&veg fats	552528	873689	284118	407103	277719	398730	51,4%	46,6%	97,7%	97,9%
Tobaccos	211465	229481	203434	225028	161528	175278	96,2%	98,1%	79,4%	77,9%
Feedstuffs	140636	231689	57151	59905	24410	39689	40,6%	25,9%	42,7%	66,3%

Source: UNCTAD

Table 5bis – WA food and agricultural imports from World, Africa and WA: 2015 & 2019

\$ 1,000	World		Africa		West Africa		Africa/World		WA/Africa	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	14849508	15929538	1972260	2345029	1380120	1738730	13,3%	14,7%	70,0%	74,1%
Beverages	568610	677897	92595	100109	49557	66465	16,3%	14,8%	53,5%	66,4%
All food	15418118	16607435	2180967	2445138	1429677	1805195	14,1%	14,7%	65,6%	73,8%
Agrirawmater.	827151	1204413	115895	188911	50116	79068	14,0%	15,7%	43,2%	41,9%
" + all food	16245270	17811848	2296862	2634049	1479793	1884262	14,1%	14,8%	64,4%	71,5%
Fish & prepar°	1930452	2134017	549897	760636	371238	604625	28,5%	35,6%	67,5%	79,5%
Agri. products	14314818	15677831	1746965	1873413	1108555	1279637	12,2%	11,9%	63,5%	68,3%
Cotton	11273	7089	2206	3995	2170	3767	29,7%	29,9%	79,9%	82,5%
CCTS	456321	510569	135607	152618	108315	125907	19,6%	56,4%	98,4%	94,3%
Cocoa & prepar°	78513	18378	36518	16669	32630	16619	46,5%	90,7%	89,4%	99,7%
All food-CCTS	14961798	16096866	2045360	2292520	1321362	1679287	13,7%	14,2%	64,6%	73,3%
Ag. prod-CCTS	13858497	15167262	1611358	1720795	1000240	1153729	11,6%	11,3%	62,1%	67,0%
Cereals & prep°	5408443	5780891	216283	214656	158952	167940	4,0%	3,7%	73,5%	78,2%
Rice	2261244	2098619	4204	6023	4175	6009	0,2%	0,3%	99,3%	99,8%
Wheat	2436391	2436391	36783	55136	35228	51112	1,5%	2,3%	95,8%	92,7%
Dairy	1023456	978980	83294	92656	56970	60534	8,1%	9,5%	68,4%	65,3%
Live animals	20546	36496	7316	8399	6808	6615	35,6%	23,0%	93,1%	78,8%
Meats & prepar°	515308	616130	11168	19082	3390	12840	2,2%	3,1%	30,4%	67,3%
Fruit&vegetables	973537	1084576	244140	282536	92377	114616	25,1%	26,1%	37,8%	40,6%
Sugar & prepar°	1204036	1190982	61906	96069	23795	36162	5,1%	8,1%	38,4%	37,6%
Miscillane food	1544254	1938047	295264	300224	226396	226494	19,1%	15,5%	76,7%	75,4%
Oilseeds	135859	101056	26720	60585	24331	53762	19,7%	60,0%	91,1%	88,7%
Animal&veg fats	1343432	1267195	309618	311743	288317	295158	23,0%	24,6%	93,1%	94,7%
Tobaccos	519047	699418	208707	270085	166707	182797	40,2%	38,6%	79,9%	67,7%
Feedstuffs	291855	290598	31046	45825	19232	34078	10,6%	15,8%	61,9%	74,4%

Source: UNCTAD

Table 6bis – West Africa's balance of food and agricultural trade with the World, Africa and WA: 2015 & 2019

\$ 1,000	World		Africa		West Africa		Africa/World		WA/Africa	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	1329967	-55305	-218750	-208320	-48392	29723	427%	-16,0%	0,3%	-33,5%
Beverages	-602279	-583321	-50996	-32716	-5911	304	6,4%	5,2%	-27,3%	4,9%
All food	727688	-638627	-269746	-241036	-54303	30027	63,2%	-63,8%	-24%	-26,4%
Agrirawmater.	2194462	3654597	-470895	-528614	-381308	-503906	10,0%	-0,7%	58,7%	106,4%
" + all food	2922420	3016338	-740641	-769650	-435611	-473879	-19,8%	-6,1%	-6,4%	-12,2%
Fish & prepar°	-796893	53804	116310	362467	65125	248629	30,3%	98,9%	64,9%	120,9%
Agri. products	14090485	1744906	1793300	1877611	1309328	1267883	-6,0%	-0,9%	-105%	-739%
Cotton	1346385	2381057	73978	103732	17729	1080	-6,0%	-3,7%	156,4%	208,5%
CCTS	8964456	8601047	169418	85669	62889	37954	3,3%	2,8%	43,3%	48,6%
Cocoa & prepar°	8888444	8560260	36310	43329	2684	-1584	0,3%	0,5%	-22,4%	-0,0%
All food-CCTS	-7634490	-8656352	-388445	-293672	-83703	41759	5,6%	3,3%	29,2%	-18,7%
Ag. produc-CCTS	-7806062	-7984954	-898008	-1010659	-432150	-476842	4,8%	2,5%	-39,7%	-180%
Cereals & prep°	-5216894	-5459088	-47193	13143	5924	56109	-8,2%	-7,2%	98,7%	97,7%
Rice	-2207250	-1911823	37980	100967	37856	100778	1,9%	11,3%	98,3%	96,7%
Wheat	-2434357	-2433412	-35826	-52282	-34272	-48399	-73,5%	-46,2%	118,0%	115,6%
Dairy	-960071	-930139	-28109	-49311	-3466	-18649	57,7%	-369,2%	97,8%	1214%
Live animals	65471	43351	76327	68315	76446	68811	-18,9%	-18,8%	112,8%	106,0%
Meats & prepar°	-505115	-596821	-2692	-3364	2679	2705	9,1%	5,2%	69,4%	53,6%
Fruit&vegetables	1555564	2037147	-124052	-144910	16324	4569	0,3%	0,4%	395,7%	186,5%
Sugar & prepar°	-1141391	-1104222	-9170	-48007	1182	-5014	0,9%	5,2%	-62,4%	2,7%
Miscillane food	-1313951	-1645071	-81314	-44326	-27047	9061	6,1%	5,2%	21,0%	36,5%
Oilseeds	549728	857685	42423	27378	31270	18689	-11,1%	6,3%	115,5%	83,2%
Animal&veg fats	-790904	-393506	-25500	95360	-10598	103572	3,2%	-24,2%	41,6%	108,6%
Tobaccos	-307582	-469937	-5273	-45057	-5179	-7519	6,6%	29,1%	48,4%	95,0%
Feedstuffs	-151219	-58909	26105	14080	5178	5611	-29,9%	-150,0%	24,4%	47,7%

Source: UNCTAD

Table 8bis – WA food and agricultural exports to Europe and EU28: 2015 & 2019

	Europe		EU28		EU28/Europe	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	7282974	7721009	6908386	7242569	94,9%	94,2%
Beverages	8079	8185	7851	7939	97,2%	94,3%
All food	7291053	7729194	6916237	7250508	94,9%	94,2%
Agrirawmater.	696858	721609	630105	638114	90,4%	84,1%
" + all food	7987912	8450803	8127957	7888622	94,5%	93,3%
Fish & prepar°	665546	906812	649935	846523	97,7%	93,4%
Agri. products	7322366	7543991	6896407	7042099	94,2%	93,3%
Cotton	139096	121994	100589	65490	72,3%	47,7%
CCTS	6086493	5823515	5774195	5527666	94,9%	94,9%
Cocoa & prepar°	5921348	5607992	5427	5313853	94,7%	94,8%
All food-CCTS	1664866	2273895	1593277	2101660	95,7%	92,4%
Ag. prod-CCTS	2491785	1885632	2353762	2753783	94,5%	90,3%
Cereals & prep°	5006	5744	4968	5433	99,2%	94,6%
Rice	1480	82	1480	82	100,0%	100,0%
Wheat	308	246	307	41	99,7%	16,7%
Dairy	1364	1507	1166	791	85,5%	94,0%
Live animals+meats&prep°	686493	728255	663628	750822	96,7%	103,1%
Fruit&vegetables	1434	2389	1428	1119	99,6%	99,4%
Sugar & prepar°	10780	11218	10572	13300	98,1%	97,7%
Miscillane food	72532	161609	69426	153990	95,7%	95,3%
Oilseeds	136601	227708	121631	192761	89,0%	84,7%
Animal&veg fats	857	2945	648	1804	75,6%	89,4%
Tobaccos	46151	35836	31347	38847	67,9%	73,3%
Feedstuffs						

Table 9bis – West Africa's food & agricultural imports from Europe & EU28*: 2015 & 2019

	Europe		EU28		EU28/Europe	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	4369632	4864031	3631198	3814250	83,1%	73,8%
Beverages	352113	462276	350229	458736	99,5%	99,2%
All food	4721745	5326306	3981427	4272986	84,3%	75,8%
Agrirawmater.	290267	471130	281989	457042	97,2%	97,9%
" + all food	5012012	5797437	4263415	4730029	85,1%	77,5%
Fish & prepar°	882929	714686	521121	362118	59,0%	50,7%
Agri. products	4129083	5082752	3742294	4367910	90,6%	80,8%
Cotton	942	503	942	502	100,0%	99,2%
CCTS	43990	43561	41778	43561	95,0%	92,8%
Cocoa & prepar°	8102	21955	8058	21588	99,5%	94,9%
All food-CCTS	4677755	5282746	3939648	4232672	84,2%	75,6%
Ag. prod-CCTS	4085093	5039190	3700516	4232672	90,6%	80,7%
Cereals & prep°	1185039	1450081	845597	842618	71,4%	58,1%
Rice	889885	1067813	560896	509258	63,0%	47,7%
Wheat	8688	8088	7412	7906	85,3%	97,7%
Dairy	622152	634559	609867	609905	98,0%	96,1%
Live animals+meats&prep°	320641	399827	317573	384748	99,0%	96,2%
Fruit&vegetables	376713	361181	374774	361332	99,5%	100%
Sugar & prepar°	57793	105690	55859	92762	96,7%	87,8%
Miscillane food	702426	942381	691511	927373	98,4%	98,4%
Oilseeds	8923	40062	8908	3792	99,8%	9,5%
Animal&veg fats	54754	63226	50485	49452	92,2%	78,2%
Tobaccos	188397	227184	185713	218160	98,6%	96,0%
Feedstuffs	114272	142833	113724	139835	99,5%	97,9%

Table 10bis – WA balance of food and agricultural products with Europe & EU28: 2015&2019

	Europe		EU28		EU28/Europe	
	2015	2019	2015	2019	2015	2019
Basic food	2913342	3224542	3277188	3806747	112,5%	118,1%
Beverages	-344034	-453439	-342378	-450407	99,5%	99,3%
All food	3029614	2771104	2934810	3356340	96,9%	121,1%
Agrirawmater.	536652	304309	348116	195081	64,9%	64,1%
" + all food	3566266	3075412	3864542	3551420	108,4%	115,5%
Fish & prepar°	1608856	2334648	1832641	2391665	113,9%	102,4%
Agri. products	-3435301	-4102560	-3064246	-3432938	89,2%	83,7%
Cotton	138154	175392	99647	64987	72,1%	37,1%

CCTS	6042503	5779954	5732417	5484105	94,9%	94,9%
Cocoa & prepar°	5913246	5586037	-2631	5292265	-0,0%	94,7%
All food-CCTS	-3012889	-3008851	-2346371	-2131012	77,9%	70,8%
Ag. prod-CCTS	-4080087	-5033446	-3695548	-4227239	90,6%	84,0%
Cereals & prep°	-1183559	-1449999	-844117	-842536	71,3%	58,1%
Rice	-889577	-1067567	-560589	-509217	63,0%	47,7%
Wheat	-8645	-7604	-7369	-7487	85,2%	98,5%
Dairy	-319277	-398986	-316407	-383957	99,1%	96,2%
Live animals+meats&prep°	-574892	-631931	-562608	-607280	97,9%	96,1%
Fruit&vegetables	262520	463285	241595	386865	92,0%	83,5%
Sugar & prepar°	-56359	-104564	-54431	-91643	96,6%	87,6%
Miscillane food	-691646	-928766	-680939	-914073	98,5%	98,4%
Oilseeds	63609	121547	60518	150198	95,1%	123,6%
Animal&veg fats	-81847	-63226	-50485	-49452	61,7%	78,2%
Tobaccos	-187540	-225167	-185065	-216356	98,7%	96,1%
Feedstuffs	-68121	-89806	-82377	-100988	120,9%	112,5%

Table 15 bis – WA food production in \$1,000 and tonnes in 2015 and 2018

Product	2015			2018		
	\$1,000	Tonnes	\$/tonne	\$1,000	Tonnes	\$/tonne
Plant food production, unprocessed						
All food plants, unprocessed	82156563	307415948	267	71024008	337547948	210
Garlic	8589	16205	530	12621	21721	581
Almonds with shell	3962	3324	1192	5798	3941	1471
Pineapples	1240036	2594304	478	711476	2979560	239
Groundnuts with shell	1982846	7309468	271	2962695	9432940	314
Egg plants (aubergines=	39441	217688	181	63716	247853	257
Advocados	7991	44055	181	9002	47428	190
Oats	4	37	108	5	46	109
Bananas	404672	1049510	386	496518	1132193	439
Wheat	24839	110896	224	18315	102278	179,
Cocoa beans	2998888	2993286	1002	3526235	3491950	1010
Coffee green	105904	204515	518	78858	123943	636
Carrots and turnips	128627	306745	419	92327	309628	298
Cereals nes	2673	19077	140	3108	18867	165
Cabbages and other brassicas	233854	446570	524	343511	509176	675
Cauliflowers and broccoli	65	75	867	59	60	983
Lemons and limes	29233	86124	339	43995	106584	413
Pumpkins, squash and gourds	42491	214777	198	52870	243951	217
Cucumbers and gherkins	32698	82545	396	41268	101681	406
Dates	18835	41618	453	24573	43643	563
Spices nes	32215	20675	1558	28527	21395	1333
Broad beans, horse beans, dry	4052	1429	2836	2238	1416	1581
Fonio	290764	643926	452	115261	637612	181
Nuts nes	7706	26246	294	5560	27760	200
Fruit, fresh nes	221014	2045052	108	152982	2066107	74
Fruit, tropical fresh nes	40269	128485	313	45300	131244	345
Fruit, citrus nes	1458951	4359050	335	759160	4504858	169
Ginger	226017	454894	497	186134	730625	255
Okra	1915753	2727609	702	1018511	2479060	411
Melonseed	124658	588493	212	99499	640531	155
Oilseeds nes	1059	43970	24	1145	51325	22
Beans, green	40616	88797	457	38321	97329	394
Beans, dry	184995	735266	252	448740	751126	597
Oil palm fruit	1320216	14788720	89	1629192	16806093	97
Yams	14188200	63339391	224	11770901	69286260	170
Lettuce and chicory	53443	216387	247	50009	227511	220
Vegetables, fresh nes	6981278	8915662	783	4366327	9678010	451
Pulses nes	48048	365299	132	33986	368174	92
Vegetables, leguminous nes	374	6311	218	1813	6867	264
Maize	4738611	20253506	234	4627628	23477302	197
Maize, green	509000	1265646	402	274985	1292591	213
Mangoes, mangosteens, guavas	479274	2107189	227	682937	2531529	270
Cassava	13366196	91646546	146	8404210	95663285	88
Melons, other (inc.cantaloupes)	218	58339	4	186	70364	3
Millet	2517804	9082229	277	3407525	10513101	324
Nutmeg, mace and cardamoms	25	33	758	18	33	545
Cashew nuts, with shell	437784	1464172	299	559471	1677464	334
Coconuts	123294	880207	140	87753	875630	100
Karite nuts	149677	530114	282	118064	662975	178
Kola nuts	195106	273233	714	113360	254158	446

Onions, dry	934002	2515372	371	936109	3289775	285
Onions, shallots, green	358975	660361	544	544513	945556	576
Oranges	212126	919706	231	284711	961875	296
Grapefruit (inc. pomelos)	6618	24527	270	8262	26505	312
Papayas	289081	955086	303	165303	944442	175
Water melons	197502	604732	327	712198	1625141	438
Sweet potatoes	1210325	5123622	236	805667	5577042	145
Chillies and peppers, dry	442763	420113	1054	532013	441118	1206
Chillies and peppers, green	1337401	1209573	1106	1232182	1196610	1030
Plantains and others	3823963	9382765	408	2564473	10346711	248
Leeks, other alliaceous vegetables	1794	4454	403	2413	4942	488
Cow peas, dry	1107720	4994945	222	1341837	7194534	187
Bambara beans	50223	130467	385	73035	157803	463
Chick peas	43	1860	23	54	2108	26
Peas, dry	98	14254	7	124	13724	9
Pepper (piper spp.)	15542	5337	2912	13390	4896	2735
Cashewapple	50031	100058	500	100306	167621	598
Potatoes	815433	1771310	460	780258	2173564	359
Roots and tubers nes	723137	130654	5535	1070999	142003	7542
Castor oil seed	239	790	303	280	797	351
Rice, paddy	4732218	16727410	283	5270291	20652844	255
Sesame seed	311303	776094	401	327926	910797	360
Soybeans	189161	901804	210	109852	1112287	99
Sorghum	2980496	12985050	230	3002737	13824104	217
Sugar cane	336041	6476742	52	267190	6440537	41
Tangerines, mandarins, clementines, satsumas	11048	9899	1116	61587	46515	1324
Taro (cocoyam)	834078	4834261	173	860133	4664668	184
Tea	493	88	5602	517	77	6714
Tomatoes	4221444	5566409	758	2438955	4877037	500
Animal food production, unprocessed						
Meat nes	103714	80095	1295	99265	84707	1172
Meat, ass	6974	19104	365	9480	20987	452
Meat, cattle	2021958	1002814	2016	1903446	1000119	1903
Meat, camel	75194	53957	1394	104224	57661	1808
Meat, horse	11232	11644	2286	14413	11815	1853
Meat, game	1119355	494401	967	823549	522860	1220
Meat, sheep	776378	348424	2264	744755	383892	1575
Meat, goat	1119535	489782	2228	1001799	540569	1940
Meat, pig	622989	412014	1512	427647	451439	947
Meat, poultry	1239966	589102	21048	1088819	686805	1585
Offals,,edible, camel		8017			8482	
Offals, edible, cattle		173990			175460	
Offals, edible, goats		87510			96182	
Offals, horses		1233			1252	
Offals, pigs, edible		22162			24152	
Offals, sheep, edible		66046			73198	
Fat, camels		2209			2407	
Fat, cattle		27162			26874	
Fat, goats		12981			14287	
Fat, pigs		26367			28857	
Fat, sheep		9773			10797	
Milk, whole fresh camel	199636	397411		240427	401873	
Milk, whole fresh cow	920893	2530500		1191161	2746105	
Milk, whole fresh goat	464953	1109726		443758	970096	
Milk, whole fresh sheep	314618	583915		284309	514922	
Eggs hen, in shell	1256571	956019		1001791	962018	
Eggs, other birds, in shell		250			252	
Honey, natural		13355			7121	
Total animal food products, unprocessed	10253966	9529963		9378843	9825189	
Processed food plants						
Groundnut oil		783957			843686	
Coconut oil		47443			47864	
Cotton oil		214897			179298	
Palm oil		1839028			2159230	
Palm kernel oil		254449			293504	
Sesame oil		51488			64162	
Soybean oil		108442			109900	
Margarine		24392			29249	
Molasses		187514			201329	
Raw centrifugal sugar		539499			549977	
Total processed food plants		4051109			4478199	
Processed animal food products						

Skimmed cow milk		612167			675181	
Cow milk cheese		14083			16252	
Cow milk ghee		1506			1580	
Goat cheese		36159			39490	
Sheep cheese		30197			32504	
Yoghurt		16334			16762	
Non food plants						
Cotton lint		856236			879487	
Cottonseeds		1321935			1599446	
Non food animal products						
Beeswax		670			702	
Soot wool		305			283	
Skins, goat, fresh		81288			88867	
Skins, sheep, fresh		65120			72449	