



SDC A+FS Network

# Thoughts for Food

A series of light & informal events on food-systems related news



WELCOME  
3 August 2022

# What's on the menu today?

1. Introduction
2. Organic vs. Conventional Farmer Crisis Responses –  
Dr. David Amudavi, Biovision Africa Trust
3. Networking space
4. News & updates
5. Private Sector Capacity Development for Agricultural  
Innovation – Philipp Aerni, CCRS

# Organic vs. Conventional Farmer Crisis Responses

Dr. David Amudavi, Executive Director  
Biovision Africa Trust (BvAT)



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# **Organic Versus Conventional Farmer Crisis Responses: Implications under Covid and Russia- Ukraine War**

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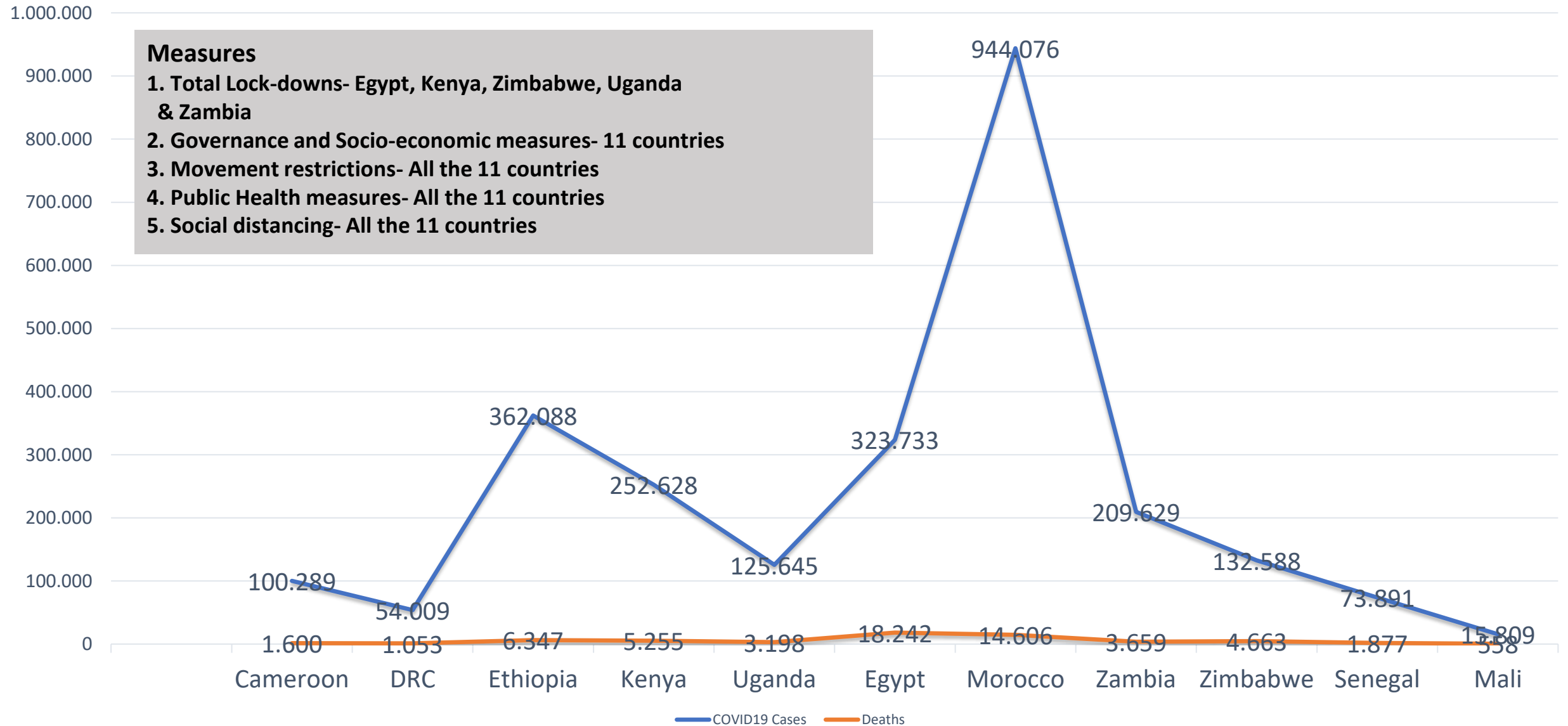
**“Thoughts for food” Session**

**3 August 2022**

**David Amudavi**

**Executive Director, Biovision Africa Trust**

# Summary of COVID19 cases, deaths and mitigation measures



# Purpose & Scope of the COVID Study

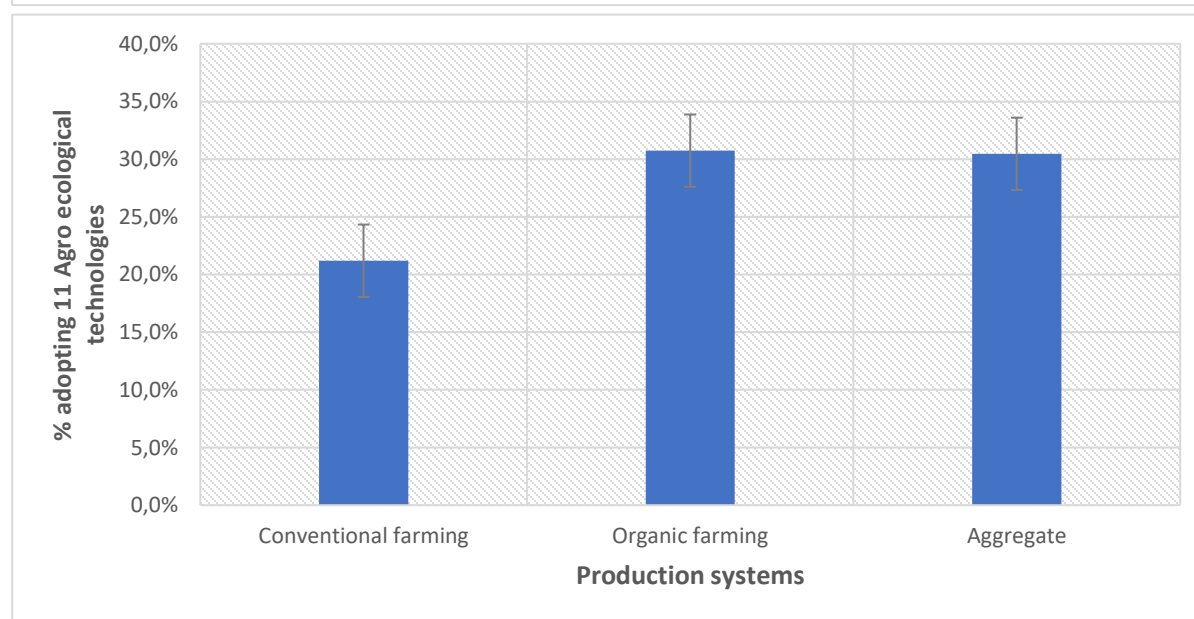
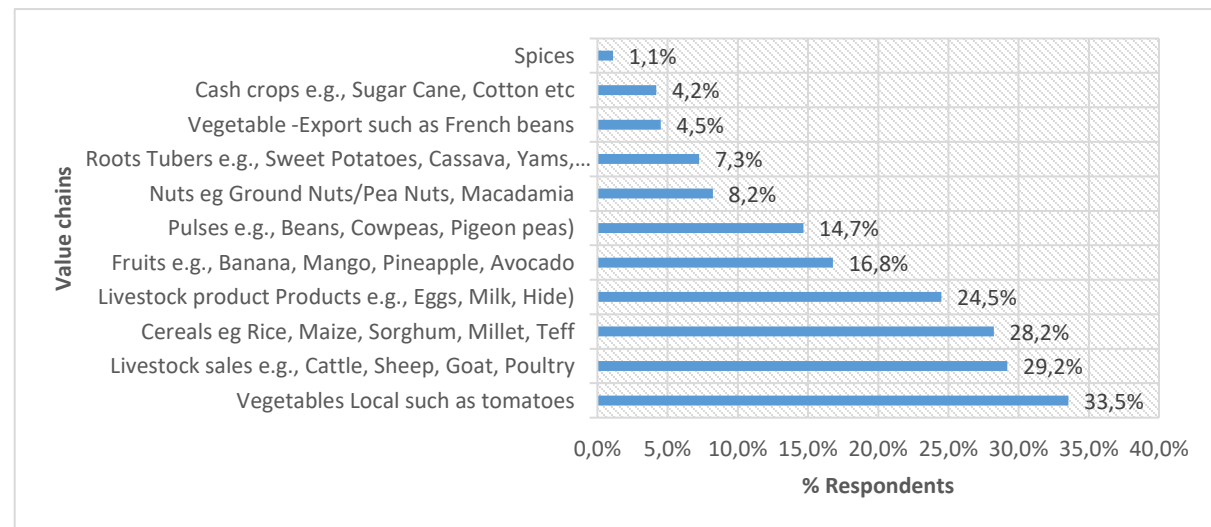
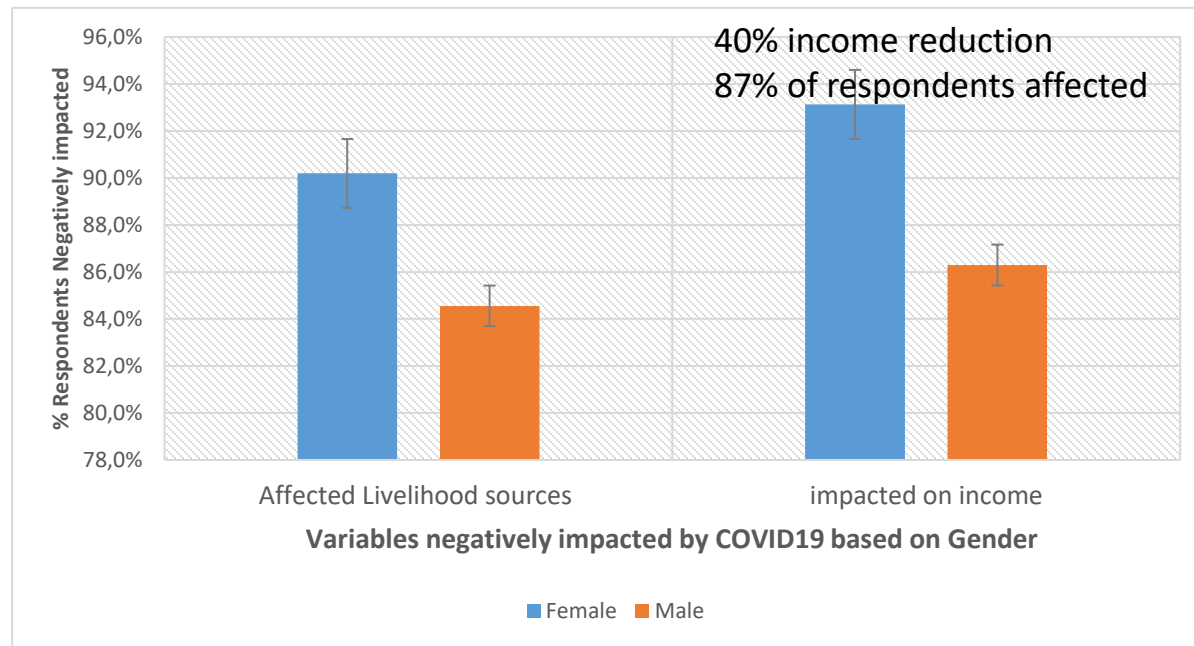
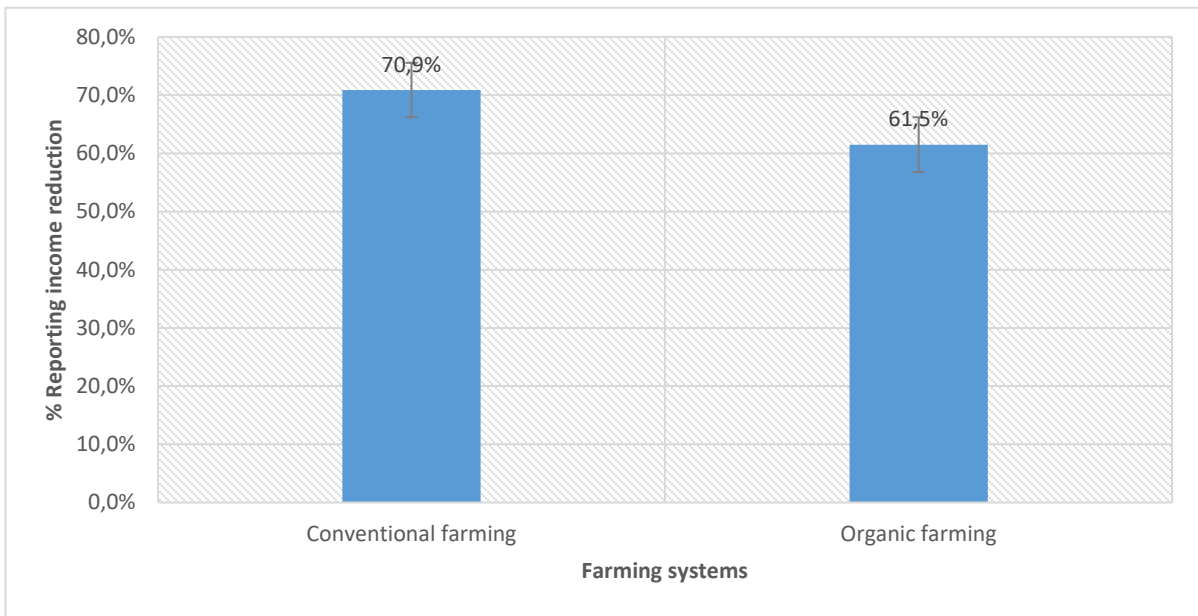
- **Commissioned** by Biovision Africa Trust on behalf of the Continental Steering Committee of the African Union-led Ecological Organic Agriculture Initiative (EOA-I) in October 2021.
- **Purpose:** Assess the impact of the COVID19 pandemic on agriculture and food systems in Africa by examining farmers' (organic & conventional) resilience and mitigation strategies.
- **Scope** - Eastern Africa (Kenya, Uganda, and Ethiopia), West Africa (Mali and Senegal), Southern Africa (Zimbabwe and Zambia), Central Africa (Democratic Republic of Congo and Cameroon) and Northern Africa (Morocco and Egypt).
- **Methodology:** A cross-sectional design and a mixed research approach: 22 FGDs with farmers, 106 Key Informants drawn from government departments, development partners and donors, 29 KIIs value chain actors - wholesalers, transporters, processors, retailers, and exporters and random sample of 620 farmers as respondents.
- **Value Chains:** Surveyed 2 main value chain per country with high demand by local consumers and for export – e.g. maize, rice, avocado, pineapple, vegetables.



# Key Results

- Most countries were aware of the COVID between January and March 2020, with effects being felt from April-June 2020.
- Measures Taken by the countries: Total country Lock-downs, Governance and Socio-economic Measures, Movement restrictions, Public Health Measures, and Social distancing.
- Morocco in spite of reporting the highest COVID cases and deaths it did not apply TLD, but adopted other measures to build resilience and provide safety nets to its population and had the highest vaccination rate (59%).
- Of the 620 households interviewed, 43% practised organic farming systems, 38% practised conventional farming, while 19% practised mixed farming.
- Majority (86%) of the producers were negatively affected by the pandemic and subsequent mitigation measures, with 83% of organic producers being impacted, compared to 95% of the conventional producers.
- Women were more vulnerable to the pandemic, 90% compared to 85% men. Organic producers and male headed households seem to be more resilient compared to the conventional and female headed households.
- West Africa with an average of 9 household size compared to Eastern Africa's with an average of 5 members, was more vulnerable to COVID19 shock due to higher food demand.
- Inability to access extension services affected 61% of the producers, with 58% conventional compared to 60% organic facing the challenge.
- Led to post-harvest losses for farmers' products.
- Among the inputs, fertilizer access was the major input most affected as mentioned by 57% of the producers, followed by pesticides affecting 40% and seed affecting 34% of the respondents.
- **Vegetables** were the most affected value chain both at production and marketing as reported by 33% of the survey respondents.
- **Livestock production** (cattle, sheep and goat) was the second most affected, as reported by 29% of the respondents.
- **Cereals** (Rice, Teff, Millet, Sorghum), were third most as reported by 28% the respondents.

# Impact of COVID on Farming Systems, Value Chains, Gender Parity and Production Systems





# Conclusions

- COVID 19 impacted the farmers (organic & conventional) negatively in all the five regions, with organic farmers showing more resilience.
- Positive spinoff: Application of agroecology based practices with some regions fairing on better than others – South Africa, North Africa and West Africa.
- Major agroecology practices adopted – compost green manure, crop rotation, and minimum tillage – adopted by the three top regions.
- Access to production inputs and services severely affected – with fertilizer being the major product affected.
- Disruption of livelihoods – reduced yields, loss of revenue & income, loss due to pests and diseases, market loss due to product quality, increase in farm costs.

# Recommendations

- Stimulate adoption of Agroecological technologies for resilience building – technical training, investments,
- Support collective aggregation and marketing of products & livelihood asset diversification
- Promotion of organic products as healthy products to stimulate demand
- Promote diversification of products and markets (a market systems approach, M4P)
- Catalyse adoption and integration of ICT in trade – creating a marketplace
- Strengthen Agro-dealer networks with farming communities and value chain actors
- Support Farmer-led extension service delivery through the model farms
- Establish early warning preparedness / systems among the population for pandemics
- Support digitization of extension service delivery
- Support digitization of the market and trade systems for improved efficiency
- Improve access to finance through enhancing VSLA capacity
- Build productive partnerships along value chains drawing on EOA/agroecology to enhance access to food and food diversity, household incomes, resilient farmers and better environment, etc.

# Acknowledgements



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC**



Thanks!



**Swedish Society  
for Nature Conservation**



**PENGUIN AGRICULTURAL CONSULTANTS**



# RELAX & SAY HI !

## Let's quickly reconnect

You'll be randomly assigned to a small group.

In the group, take a minute to say hi and introduce yourself.



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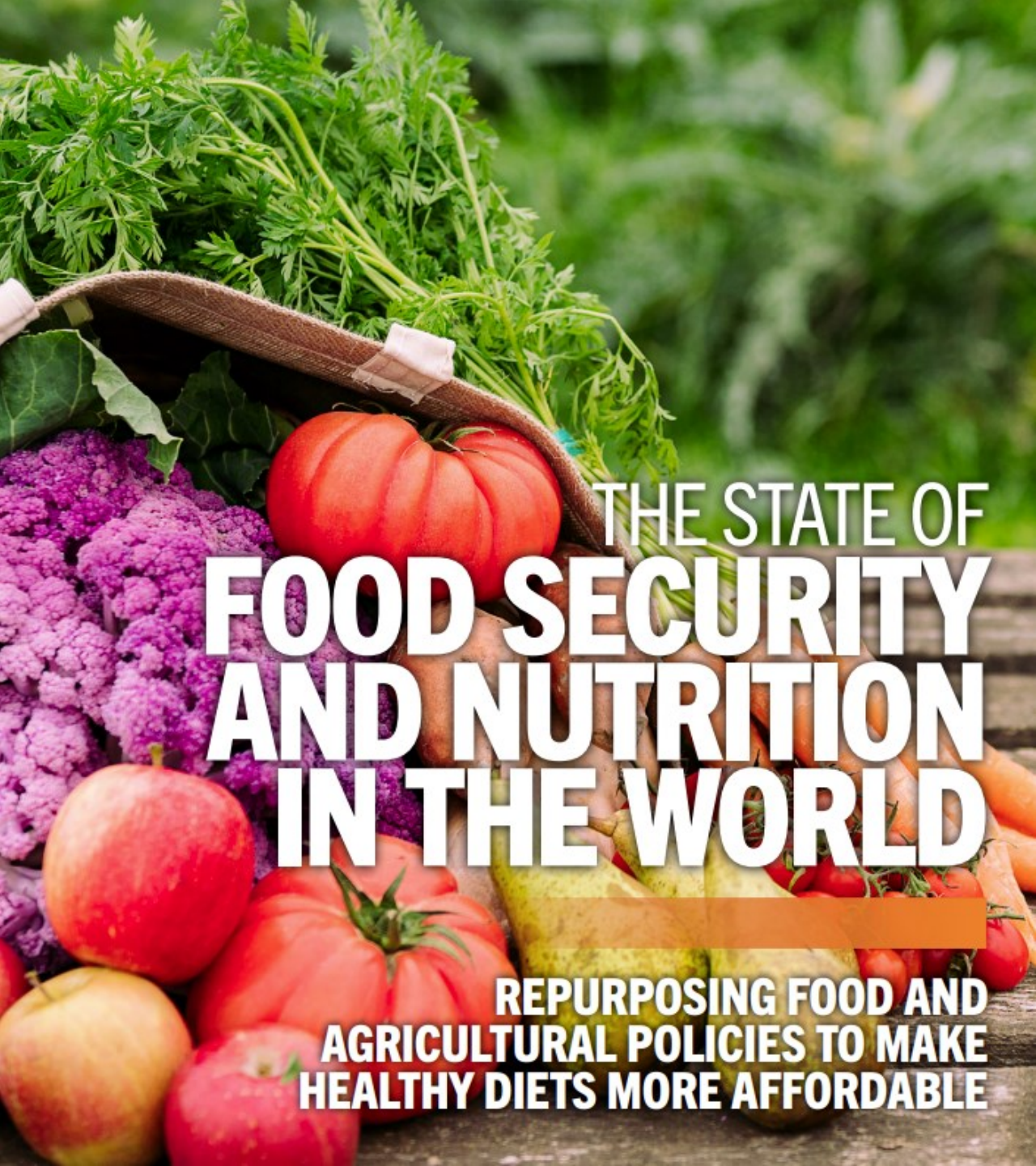
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# WHAT'S NEW?



# THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD

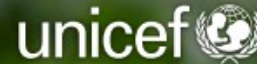
**REPURPOSING FOOD AND  
AGRICULTURAL POLICIES TO MAKE  
HEALTHY DIETS MORE AFFORDABLE**



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



International Fund for  
Agricultural Development



World Food  
Programme



World Health  
Organization

2022

The 2022 edition of *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World* (SOFI) highlights the intensification of the major drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition: conflict, climate extremes and economic shocks, combined with growing inequalities.

[LEARN MORE](#)



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UN General Assembly declares  
**Access to a clean,  
healthy & sustainable  
environment a  
universal human right**

July 2022

[LEARN MORE](#)



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## CFS Voluntary Guidelines on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)

After 2 rounds of negotiations, the planned last round of negotiations last week in Rome has come to an impasse.



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# CFS Policy Recommendations on Youth Promotion

The final version of the *CFS Policy Recommendations on Promoting Youth Engagement And Employment In Agriculture and Food Systems for Food Security and Nutrition* as approved by the OEWG on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022 are out

[LEARN MORE](#)



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# CFS

COMMITTEE ON  
WORLD FOOD  
SECURITY

BRIEF

# Food Security Update



## Key Food Security Data

World Bank: Commodity prices - including Food Price Index

Agricultural Market Information System (AMIS) Market Monitor

FAO: Domestic Food Prices

WFP Dataviz Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping



# Food Security UPDATE

Update July 29, 2022

*The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in this update do not necessarily reflect the views of the World Bank, its Board of Executive Directors, or the governments they represent.*

### AT A GLANCE

- The agricultural, cereal, and export price indices were stable over the past 2 weeks.
- Domestic food price inflation remains high around the world. High inflation continues in almost all low-income and middle-income countries, and the share of high-income countries with high inflation is also increasing sharply.
- Russia and Ukraine signed an agreement to free more than 20 million tonnes of grain stuck in Ukraine's Black Sea ports.
- The war in Ukraine threatens poor countries with overlapping food and debt crises.
- The Horn of Africa is suffering its worst drought in more than 40 years.

### GLOBAL MARKET OUTLOOK (AS OF JULY 26, 2022)

#### Trends in Global Agricultural Commodity Prices

Figure 1: Trends in Agricultural and Cereal Prices (Nominal Indices)



# Food Security Updates

World Bank bi-weekly Briefs on the Global Food Situation

LEARN MORE



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# Food Systems Learning Journey

In the context of the A+FS Network, a one-year around-the-world journey of co-learning and co-creation, to jointly work towards more sustainable and resilient food systems.

**Launch** : Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> , 2 timeslots :

- 9:00 – 11:00 (CET)
- 15:00 – 17:00 (CET)



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**Food Systems Learning Journey**

A learning adventure taking us around the globe to understand and act more systemically



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# Institutional Framework Conditions for the Promotion of Private Sector Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation

Philipp Aerni, Director,  
Centre for Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability (CCRS)



# Institutional Framework Conditions for the Promotion of Private Sector Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation

## - Stakeholder Views from four African Countries

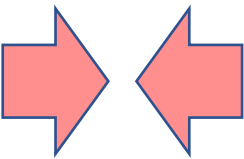
**Philipp Aerni  
& Wenya Zou**

Center for Corporate  
Responsibility and  
Sustainability (CCRS) at  
School of Management  
Fribourg (HES-SO)



*SDC, 4<sup>th</sup> session of 'Food for Thought', Wednesday, August 3, 2022*

# A Polarized Debate since Food Crisis in 2008



# What it is the view of stakeholders in Africa?

ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT CAPACITIES AND NEEDS FOR  
INSTITUTIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY  
DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION  
SYSTEMS

REGIONAL SYNTHESIS REPORT FOR AFRICA'

BY

OJIJO, N. K. O., JAKINDA, D. O., AND ANNOR-FREMPONG, I.



FSN Forum  
in Africa

Part of the  
Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition

Summary of the  
online discussion  
N°11  
from 25.10.2017  
to 17.11.2017



Sustaining the impact of  
capacity development initiatives for  
African youth in agriculture

## ➤ Four country stakeholder surveys on CD4AI in Africa (2021)

- FARA/Konfidants (Ghana, Zambia, Uganda)
- Policy Center for the New South (Morocco)
- > Draft of Joint Questionnaire, Pre-tests, Survey, Expert Interviews

# Survey on Institutional Framework Conditions for CD4AI

**SDC-funded project** from April 2020 to April 2022

Main local partner: Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (**FARA**)

- > Embracing its 'Whole of Africa' approach
- > including the four major regions



Surveys carried out in

**Uganda** (24 participants, return rate 46% )

**Zambia** (31 participants, return rate 41%)

**Ghana** (36 participants, return rate 54%)

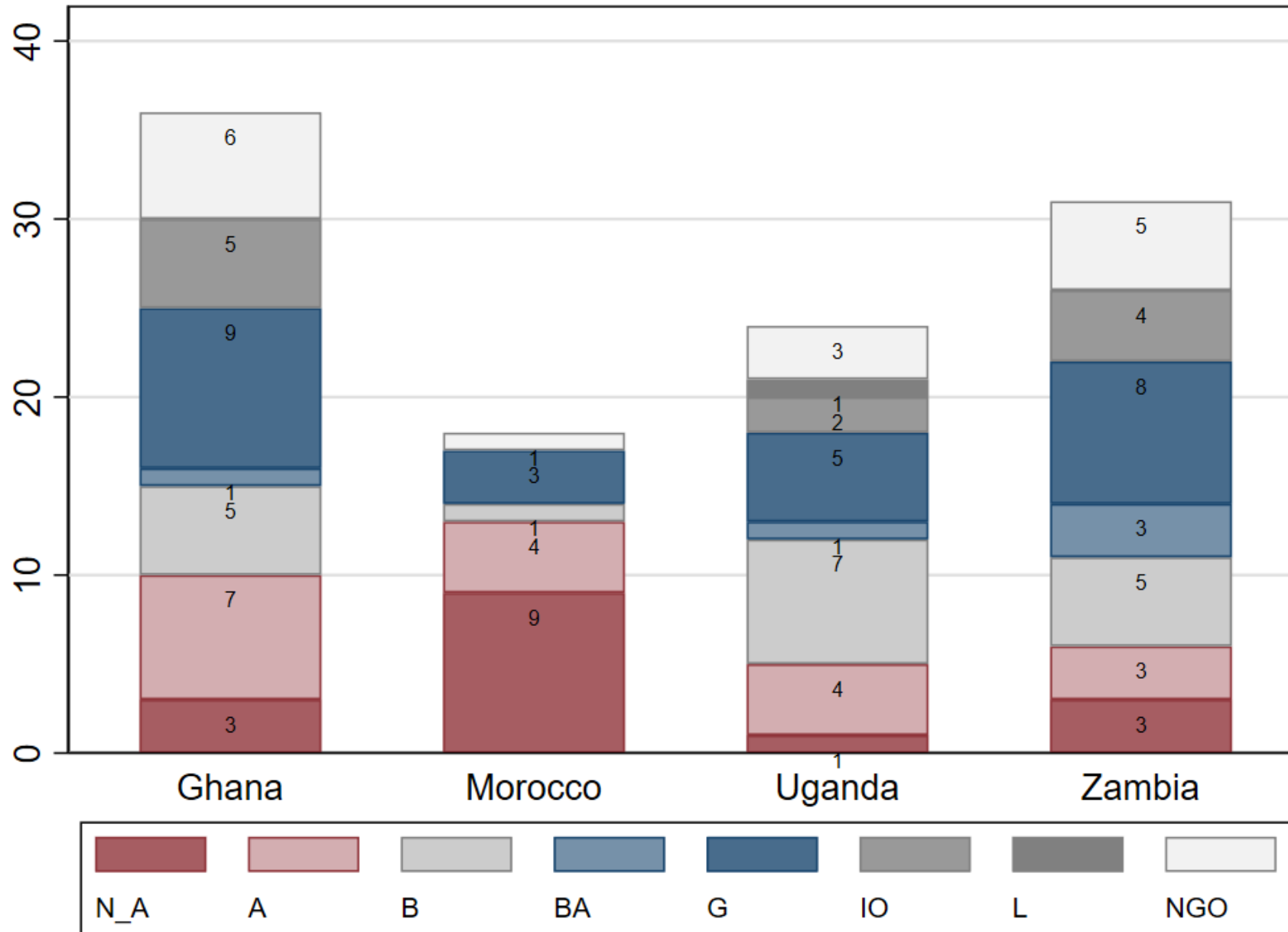
**Morocco** (18 participants, return rate 30%)



**Challenge with FARA:** MoU with Irene Frempong > left FARA in December 2020 > end of communication (Main Partner of EU in AR4D)

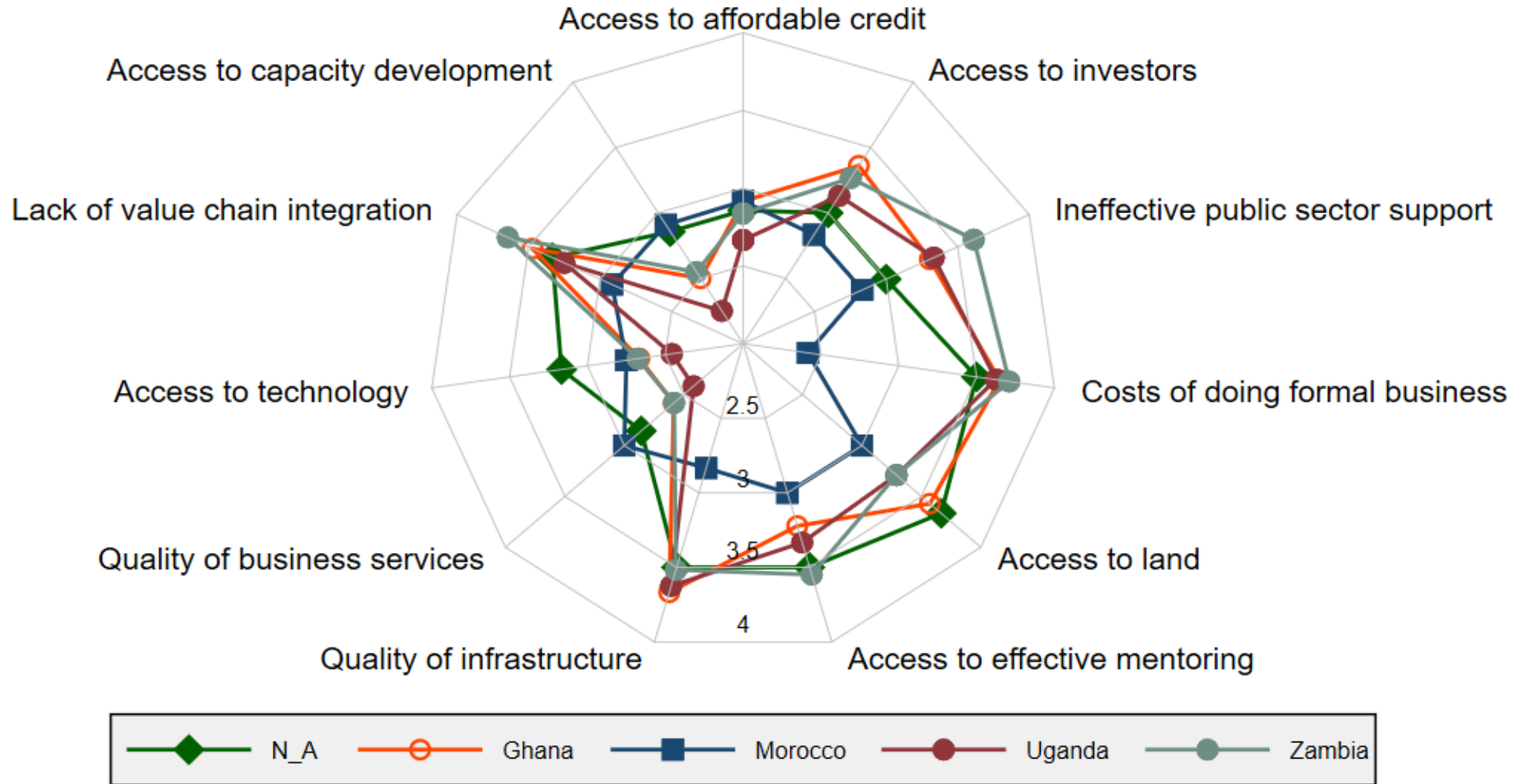


## Survey participation



# Perceived constraints faced by ag-entrepreneurs

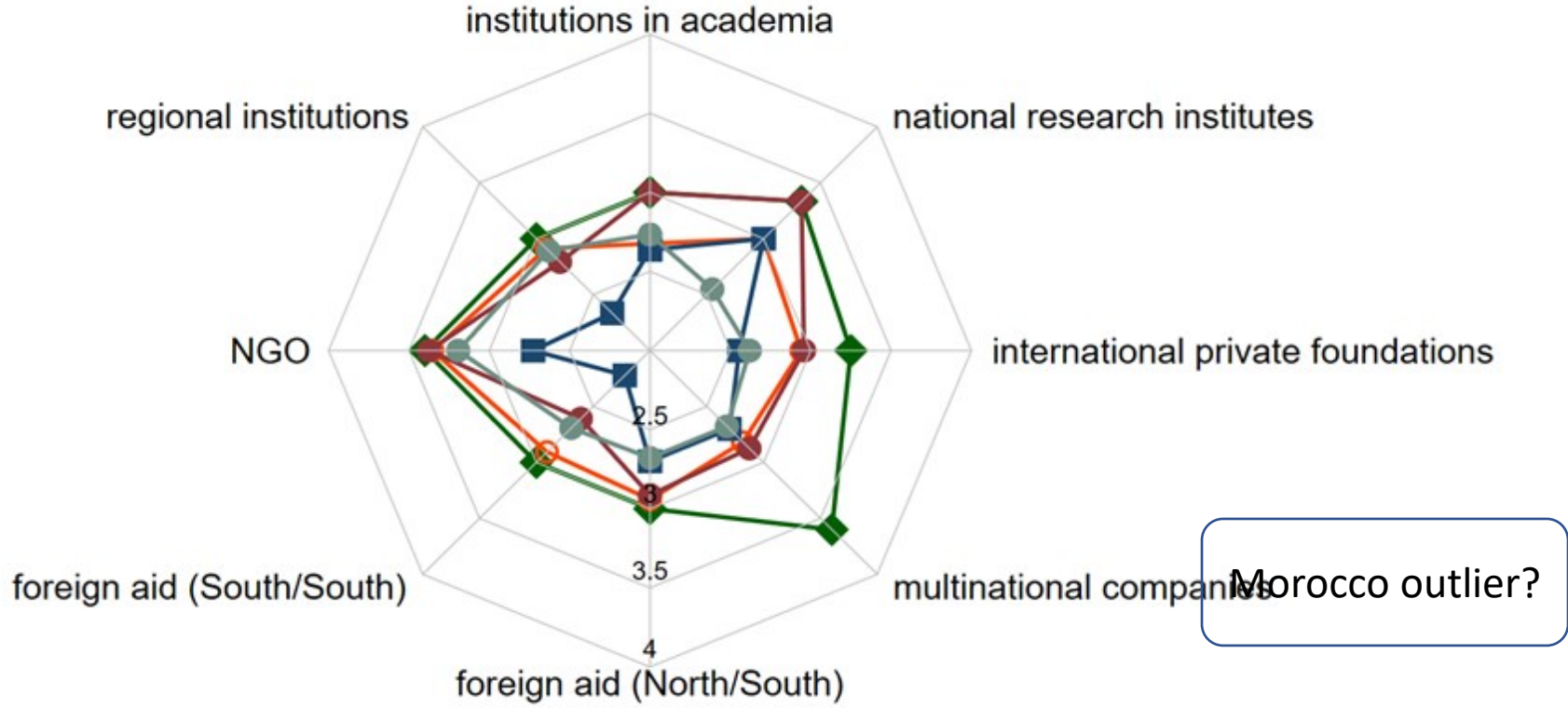
110 respondents



Center is at 2

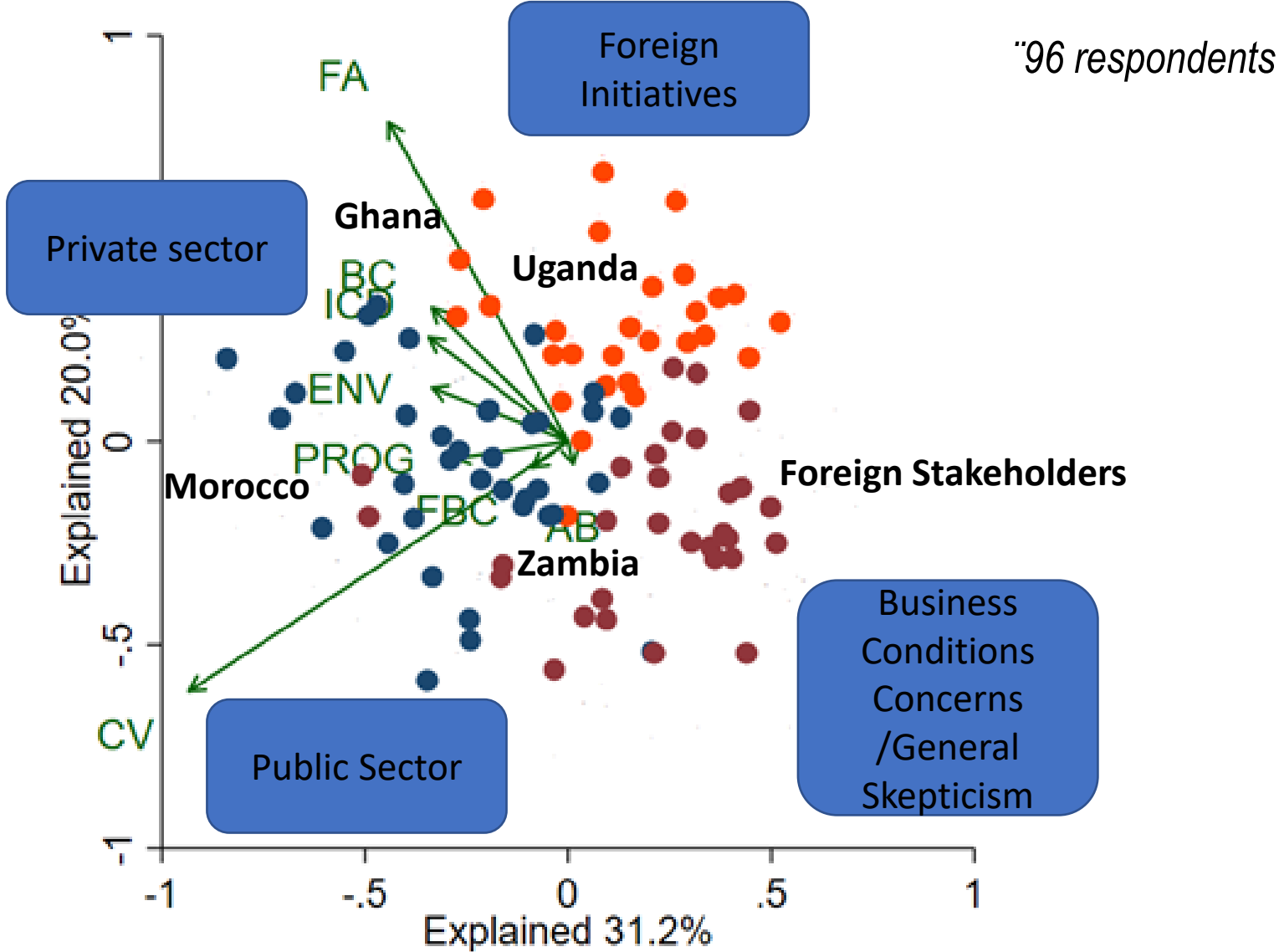
# Perceived Contribution by institutions to entrepreneur support

109 respondents



Center is at 2

# Perceived Contribution by institutions to entrepreneur support



## 5. Concluding Remarks

- **The Politics of Food Systems is also mirrored in domestic African Debates on CD4AI (Foreign Initiatives / Foreign stakeholders)**
- **Emphasis on action to enable structural change in agriculture – public sector plays a crucial role in enabling inclusive and sustainable change**
- **Business is generally recognized as a valuable provider of**
  - **CD4AI, entrepreneurial infrastructure, formal value chain integration**

**Respecting Ownership: 4 UN Resolutions** passed since 2012 on promoting entrepreneurship and innovation for sustainable change (UN RES 67/202, 69/210, 71/221, 73/225 (2012-18) **Were they ever discussed in Europe?**

- **Time to shift from Confrontation to Collaboration** in the face of COVID-19 and New War-related Food Security Challenges?



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# NEXT STEPS & A+FS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The presentations from today are available in the Shareweb at:  
<https://www.shareweb.ch/site/Agriculture-and-Food-Security/CUG/Pages/thoughts-for-food.aspx>
- We'll be back with more Thoughts for Food in September
- Share news, topics and ideas with us



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Before you leave...

**What do you think about this meeting?**

**<https://forms.office.com/r/k1UaAgznCb>**



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**Thank you!**  
**Stay well, stay safe and stay connected !**