

# AGRARIAN

## POLICY ISSUE TRACKER



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## ABOUT ACSA

The Advocacy Coalition for Sustainable Agriculture (ACSA) is a legally registered national network of Civil Society Organisations working with smallholder farmers to advance sustainable agriculture, agricultural market development, environmental conservation, research, and policy advocacy. ACSA now has 30 member organisations operating across 52 districts in Uganda. Its mission is to empower Civil Society Organisations, including church and non-church actors, to advocate for a favourable agrarian policy environment for sustainable communities, and its Vision is smallholder farmers living in a sustainable environment. ACSA advances this mandate through advocacy and lobbying, research and documentation, capacity building for member organisations and the Secretariat, and networking and partnership building, to ensure that relevant agricultural policies and services are effectively implemented to foster profitable and sustainable smallholder enterprises.

### Rationale

The agriculture sector is very sensitive to emerging issues that may be social, economic, cultural and environmental, which are often overlooked in planning and implementation processes by stakeholders at different levels, and yet they heavily impact on food security as well as sustainability livelihood options. Through the objective of "ACSA Member Organizations (MOs) and smallholder farmers influencing the agrarian policy and budgeting processes at different levels", ACSA will continuously identify and popularize the emerging agrarian policy issues for dissemination among MOs and other stakeholders to inform advocacy initiatives towards improved legislation, resource allocation and service delivery.

This publication tracks key agrarian policy issues from the period of June, 2026. Additionally, it also tracks the current status of agrarian and related bills in the Ugandan parliament within the same period.

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### Stories Inside

- ▶ Hunger Hotspots: FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity - June to November 2026 outlook
- ▶ Africa's coffee exports fall 22.1 percent in April as Ethiopia and Uganda shipments decline - ICO

### **FAO Food Price Index broadly stable in May even as cereal quotations increase**

While global food commodity markets have remained broadly resilient, rising cereal prices underscore vulnerability to weather-related risks and disruptions in energy and input markets. Continued uncertainty affecting key trade routes, including the Strait of Hormuz, could reduce fertilizer use and place additional pressure on food prices, highlighting the need for coordinated international action.

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### **Hunger Hotspots: FAO-WFP early warnings on acute food insecurity - June to November 2026 outlook**

Acute food insecurity is expected to worsen for millions of people across 13 countries deemed “hunger hotspots”, between June and November 2026.

This latest edition of the Hunger Hotspots report, released twice a year through the Global Network Against Food Crises, identifies Sudan, South Sudan, Yemen and Palestine as the world’s most critical hunger hotspots in terms of severity and magnitude of hunger.

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### **UK set to initiate EUDR-aligned deforestation regulations**

The government announced that businesses trading in commodities sourced from rainforests, such as soy, rubber, and coffee, will be required to verify that their supply chains are not linked to illegal deforestation. The specifics of the new rules are set to be revealed during London Climate Action Week, and they will leverage powers from the Environment Act, alongside enhancements to existing timber regulations.

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### **Food Security Monitor - June 2026**

In June 2026, global food commodity prices showed mixed trends, with the FAO Food Price Index averaging 130.3 points, down 0.3% from May but 1.7% higher than a year earlier, as declines in cereals, dairy, and sugar prices, driven by strong supplies and improved production prospects, offset gains in vegetable oils and meat.

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### **Norway and FAO scale up forest monitoring for climate action**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) today announced a new investment from Norway to strengthen forest monitoring worldwide, helping countries strengthen climate action, improve transparency and unlock finance to protect and restore forests.

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- ▶ **FAO report highlights long-term economic case for tackling antimicrobial resistance in livestock**

## FAO calls for stronger prevention and global action as transboundary animal diseases spread across regions

Countries around the world are facing a growing threat from transboundary animal diseases (TADs), including New World Screwworm, African Swine Fever, Avian Influenza, Foot-and-Mouth Disease, and Peste des Petits Ruminants, as well as other emerging zoonotic threats such as Andes hantavirus, Ebola, and Nipah. As diseases and pests move more rapidly across borders, countries are facing increasing pressure to strengthen prevention, preparedness and response systems. The factors driving disease spread are becoming increasingly complex. Increased movement of animals, people and products, changing production systems, environmental pressures and uneven veterinary and surveillance capacity are creating new opportunities for diseases and pests to spread across regions.

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## FAO report highlights long-term economic case for tackling antimicrobial resistance in livestock

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) poses a significant long-term threat to food security, livestock production, economic welfare and human health, making it imperative to realign incentives in the global livestock sector before the costs of inaction become much harder to reverse, according to a new scenario-based economic assessment from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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▶ Parliament Pushes For Inclusion Of Aflasafe In Fertilizer Subsidies

▶ Ghana to strengthen cocoa farmer's rights with market price guarantee bill

### **Kenya Launches Horticulture Traceability System to Strengthen Export Compliance and Market Access**

Kenya has launched a National Horticulture Traceability System (NHTS), a digital platform designed to track horticultural produce from the farm to international markets, in a move aimed at enhancing food safety compliance, boosting confidence among global buyers and protecting one of the country's leading export sectors. The system, commissioned by the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA), comes amid increasing demands from export markets for greater transparency on the origin of produce, farming practices and the use of agricultural inputs.

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### **Parliament Pushes For Inclusion Of Aflasafe In Fertilizer Subsidies**

Parliament will advocate for the expansion of the fertilizer subsidy programme to include Aflasafe as a measure to enhance food safety and reduce the risk of chronic diseases linked to aflatoxin contamination.

National Assembly Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock Chairperson John Mutunga said Parliament will fast-track the inclusion of Aflasafe in government support programmes to help farmers control aflatoxin, a naturally occurring toxin that contaminates key staple crops such as maize, sorghum, and groundnuts.

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### **Ghana to strengthen cocoa farmer's rights with market price guarantee bill**

Ghana's President John Dramani Mahama announced that a new bill will soon be laid before parliament to guarantee cocoa farmers at least 70% of the world market price. He explained that the legislation would also mandate that 50% of Ghana cocoa output be processed locally to add value and create jobs. President Mahama said the move was necessary to ensure that farmers benefited more fairly from the wealth they help to generate, stressing that they deserve a greater share of the proceeds.

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- ▶ Sugar Production Rises By 22 Per Cent

## Parliament Pushes For Inclusion Of Aflasafe In Fertilizer Subsidies

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## Sugar Production Rises By 22 Per Cent

Kenya's sugar production has increased by approximately 22 per cent over the past year following ongoing Government reforms. As a result, the country now moves to harness the sector's vast potential in electricity generation and ethanol production to strengthen energy security and reduce dependence on imported petroleum products.

Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development Mutahi Kagwe said the reforms, which include the leasing of state-owned sugar factories and enhanced support to farmers are beginning to deliver measurable results. Kagwe added that the government is now shifting focus towards maximizing the full economic value of sugarcane through electricity cogeneration and industrial ethanol production.

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## Traders Want Lifting Of Ban On Export Of Unprocessed Macadamia

Nut traders and farmers have renewed calls for the government to lift the ban on the export of unprocessed macadamia, arguing that the restriction has negatively affected the sector amid changing global market dynamics.

The Nut Traders Association of Kenya (NUTAK) has urged Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe to suspend the ban, saying the current international trade challenges have significantly affected export opportunities and left thousands of tonnes of macadamia nuts unsold.

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► Uganda coffee exports hit by weaker prices

## National

### **EAC Identifies Critical Crop Pests to Secure Regional Trade and Agriculture**

In a major push to eliminate non-tariff trade barriers and safeguard agriculture across East Africa (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, DRC, and Somalia), technical experts have finalized critical Pest Risk Analyses (PRAs) and accompanying harmonized Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) targeting high-risk threats to the region's most vital priority crops. The joint initiative by ASARECA and the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat successfully isolated the specific biological threats facing avocado, pineapple, and groundnut, soybean trade.

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### **Uganda coffee exports hit by weaker prices**

Uganda's coffee export earnings dropped sharply in May as falling global prices and lower export volumes weighed on the country's top agricultural export. The decline highlights the vulnerability of Africa's largest coffee exporter to swings in international commodity markets. Uganda earned US\$151.7 million from coffee exports in May, a decline of about 38 percent from the US\$244 million recorded in the same month last year, according to an Agriculture Ministry report released on Friday.

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### **Agriculture Ministry Intensifies Coffee Trader Registration, Digital Uptake Push in Kayunga to Strengthen Value Chain**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) has intensified the registration of coffee traders in Kayunga District as part of efforts to streamline the coffee value chain, improve quality standards and enhance market access for farmers and traders.

The exercise, which is being conducted across the district, seeks to ensure that all coffee traders are formally registered and operate within required legal and quality frameworks, while strengthening traceability and compliance with international coffee market requirements.

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### **Stakeholders convene to chart growth strategy for Uganda's avocado industry**

Farmers, exporters, processors and government officials have convened in Kampala to develop strategies aimed at strengthening Uganda's avocado industry and improving its competitiveness in regional and international markets.

The engagement, organised recently by the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives [MTIC], focused on addressing persistent challenges affecting the sector while exploring opportunities to increase production, promote value addition and expand export volumes.

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► Farmers encouraged to keep non-chicken birds

### **Foot & Mouth Disease Outbreak Sparks Fear Among Livestock Farmers in Sembabule**

Livestock farmers in Lwemiyaga County, Sembabule District, are grappling with a Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak that has affected cattle in several communities, raising fears of further livestock losses and economic hardship. Farmers say the outbreak has disrupted their livelihoods and forced some livestock keepers to abandon grazing areas amid growing concerns about the spread of the disease.

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### **Reducing border delays: EAC moves to harmonise crop pest inspections across region**

The East African Community (EAC) is set to adopt a harmonised pest risk assessment framework and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for key agricultural crops produced and traded across the region. The move is expected to reduce border delays, improve transparency and simplify regional trade among member states, while making the agricultural market safer, more predictable and better integrated.

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### **Africa's coffee exports fall 22.1 percent in April as Ethiopia and Uganda shipments decline – ICO**

Coffee exports from Africa fell sharply in April 2026, declining by 22.1 percent year-on-year to 1.54 million bags from 1.98 million bags in the same month last year, according to the latest International Coffee Organization (ICO) Coffee Market Report. The report says the decline was driven largely by lower shipments from Ethiopia and Uganda, whose combined exports dropped by 19.9 percent to an estimated 1.2 million bags from 1.5 million bags in April 2025.

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### **Farmers encouraged to keep non-chicken birds**

Farmers across the world – including in Uganda – looking to diversify beyond chicken rearing can venture into keeping the most profitable and viable alternative poultry options such as turkeys, ducks, quails and guinea fowls. This is the call by agricultural experts from Ministry of Agriculture, as well as international experts, in a bid to diversify protein-rich products to meet the growing demand for the same. These birds are well adapted to local conditions and often fetch higher market prices than standard chicken.

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