

Situation Report on Nepal's Agrifood Systems February 2024 | Bulletin Number 15

Key messages

Nepal registered a significant decline in poverty from 25.2 percent in 2010-11 to 20.3 percent in 2022-23 according to the just-released Nepal Living Standards Survey (NLSS) IV 2022-23. Data suggest that the incidence of headcount poverty is highest in Sudurpashchim Province (34.2 percent) and the lowest in Gandaki Province (11.9 percent). The overall decline that was measured, however indicates positive benefits accrued from economic development.

In mid-January of 2023, year-on-year inflation in Nepal was to 5.3 percent compared to 7.3 percent a year ago. Food and beverage inflation experienced a decline of 1.5 percent in mid-January compared to the previous month. This decline in inflation is expected to provide some relief to net food purchasing families, particularly in urban and peri-urban areas.

Nepal received NPR 733.22 billion (USD 5.5 billion)¹ of remittances between mid-July and mid-January, marking a 24.3 percent rise from the same period in the previous year. However, there was a notable 11.3 percent decline in remittances to NPR 120 billion (USD 901.4 million) in mid-January 2024 compared to last month, potentially signaling a decrease in future remittance trends that should be carefully monitored.

Retail prices of cereals at both the national level and in the Western provinces remained stable compared to the previous month. However, there was a decrease in year-on-year vegetable and edible oil costs. On the other hand, the prices of milk, eggs, and fish increased compared to the same period last year. While these higher prices may benefit smallholder farmers, they could pose challenges for poor consumers who rely on purchasing these foods for access to animal-based proteins, minerals, and vitamins.

Macroeconomic trends and implications for household economic welfare

Key messages: Many Nepali families have experienced an increase in purchasing power due to lower food prices, higher wage rates, and increased remittance inflows. In January 2024, Nepal's year-on-year consumer inflation slightly decreased to 5.3 percent, with notable drops in food and beverage prices, particularly vegetables at 8.8 percent. This decline in inflation could make basic food more accessible and affordable for consumers.

Inflation: In January 2024, the year-on-year consumer inflation (CPI) stood at 5.3 percent, with a 0.67 percent decrease compared to the previous month. Within the food and beverage category, cereal grains, pulses, milk products, fruits, spices, sugar, and sugar products saw an increase in year-on-year CPI, while vegetables, ghee, oil, meat, and fish experienced a decline. Notably, there

¹ Exchange rate as of 19 February 2024: USD 1 = NPR 133.13

was an 8.8 percent decrease in the vegetable category compared to the previous month (Annex 4). The higher supply of vegetables resulting from seasonal harvests may have caused this decrease.

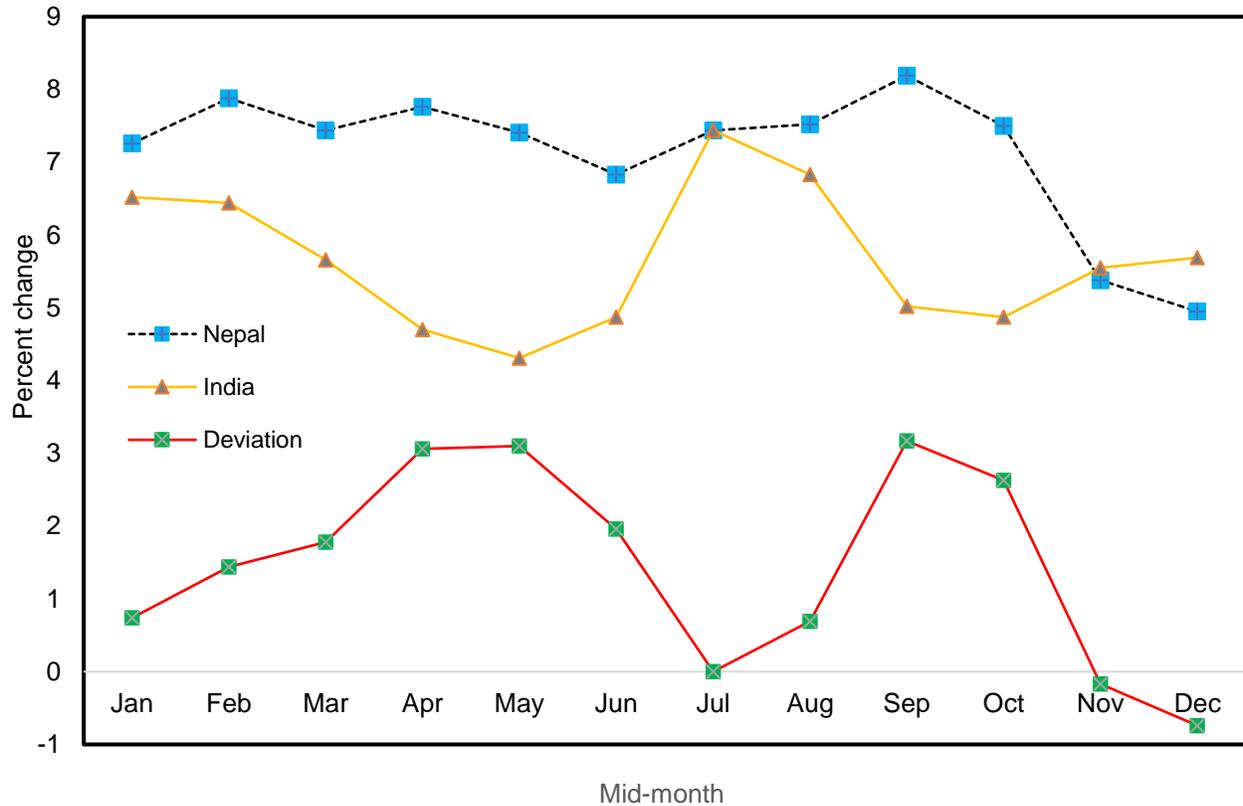


Figure 1: Monthly percent change in the consumer price index (CPI) in Nepal and India. Data source: Current Macroeconomic and Financial Situation (Based on six months data ending mid-January 2023/24), Nepal Rastra Bank

Salaries and wages: In mid-January, the year-on-year salary and wage rate index (WRI) surged by 5.6 percent, while the agricultural WRI in Nepal saw a 5.2 percent increase compared to the previous year. This uptrend in purchasing power, coupled with declining food prices, is poised to enable households in Nepal to afford a wider variety of food items, leading to improved nutritional intake.

Migration and remittances: Between mid-July 2023 and mid-January 2024, Nepal witnessed a substantial influx of remittances amounting to NPR 733.22 billion (USD 5.5 billion), marking a 24.3 percent increase compared to the same period in 2022-23. However, from mid-December 2023 to mid-January 2024, remittances declined by 11.3 percent, totaling NPR 120 billion (USD 901.4 million).

Concurrently, there has been a noticeable drop in the issuance of labor permits compared to the previous year, with new permits decreasing by 24.6 percent and renewals by approximately 5.0 percent during the same period, indicating an ongoing downward trend. If sustained, these trends may pose challenges for remittance-receiving households in affording food and essential nutrients.

Nepal's Poverty Landscape: Nepal Living Standard Survey Reveals Regional Disparities

The recently released NLSS IV 2022-23² published by the National Statistical Office reported 20.3 percent of the population of Nepal as being below new poverty line. The survey updated the poverty line, setting the annual per capita total consumption expenditure threshold at NPR 72,908 (USD 549.73) per person per year, representing a 70 percent increase compared to the poverty line used in the previous NLSS III 2010-11 round, indicative of the rising cost of living.

Among the provinces, Madhesh Province comprises 25.1 percent of the impoverished population. Within the Feed the Future Zone of Influence, Lumbini Province represents 22.8 percent of the total poor population, followed by Sudurpashchim Province at 14.0 percent, and Karnali Province with a share of 6.7 percent (Figure 2).

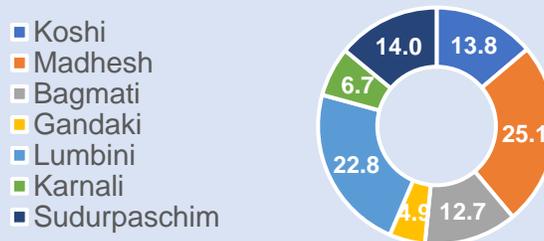


Figure 2: Percentage distribution of poor population across provinces.

However, when considering the poverty headcount rate, Karnali Province, with only 5.1 percent of the total population reported 26.7 percent of the population to be below the poverty line, and Sudurpashchim Province with 8.3 percent of the population has the highest rate of population below poverty line at 34.2 percent (Figure 3).

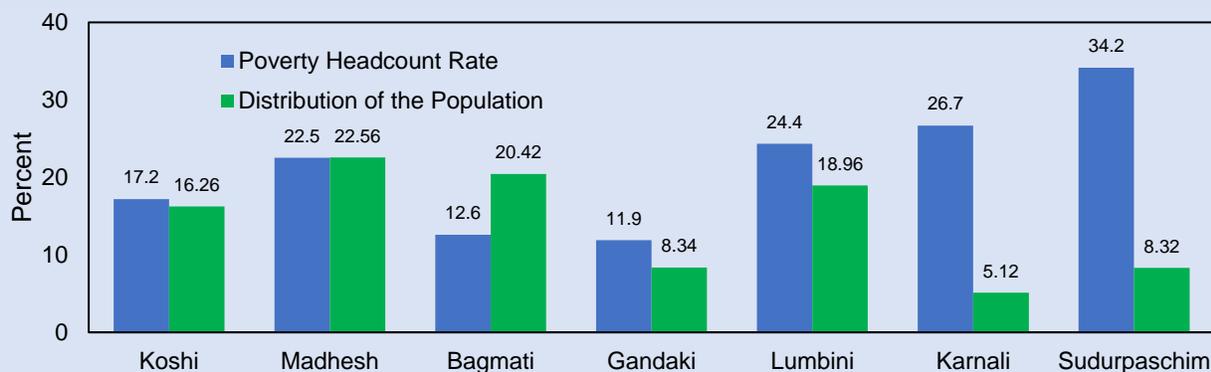


Figure 3: Poverty headcount rate by provinces.

The surveys also found that incidence of poverty (headcount rate) in urban areas was 18.3 percent compared to 24.7 percent in rural areas.

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National Statistical Office, 2023. *NEPAL LIVING STANDARDS SURVEY IV 2022-23*, Thapathali, Kathmandu: Office of the Prime Minister and Council of Ministers. Kathmandu, Nepal.

Recent price fluctuation in food commodities and agricultural inputs

Key messages: In December 2023, cereal prices remained stable both nationally and in the Western Provinces compared to the previous month. However, there was a notable year-on-year increase in the price of coarse rice by 25.6 percent nationally and 27.6 percent in the Western Provinces. These price hikes may adversely impact consumption patterns, particularly among rural and lower-income urban households. Conversely, the price of vegetables, vital for their nutritional value, experienced a significant decrease in December 2023 compared to the preceding month.

The decrease in vegetable prices can be attributed to a surge in the supply of seasonal vegetables like tomato, pumpkin, and cabbage during their peak harvest period. This decline is expected to benefit lower-income urban consumers by enabling them to afford more vegetables, thereby enhancing their intake of essential vitamins, minerals, and fibers. Conversely, the prices of milk and fish, known for their protein and essential fatty acids content, experienced significant year-on-year increases both nationally and in the Western Provinces. According to NLSS 2023², for the poorest 20 percent of the population, food-related consumption expenditure accounts for 57 percent of overall consumption expenditures, except in the Kathmandu Valley.

Agricultural inputs

Fertilizers: According to field data provided by USAID FtF implementing partners, in January 2024, the average price of urea fertilizer was NPR 21.22 (USD 0.16) per kilogram, showing a significant decline of 24.8 percent compared to the previous month. Similarly, the average price of diammonium phosphate (DAP) fertilizer was NPR 50.3 (USD 0.38) per kilogram, marking a decrease of 9 percent compared to the previous month. Additionally, the price of muriate of potash exhibited a consistent decline, ranging from NPR 52.40 (USD 0.39) to NPR 39.3 (USD 0.29) per kilogram, representing a substantial decrease of 25 percent. These declining fertilizer prices are expected to reduce the production costs for winter crops, particularly wheat.

Energy: In January 2024, there was a slight increase in the prices of petrol, diesel, kerosene, and LPG compared to the previous month. Petrol was priced at NPR 170 (USD 1.3) per liter, reflecting a 1.8 percent increase from the preceding month, while both diesel and kerosene were retailed at NPR 158 (USD 1.2) per liter. Since fuel prices significantly impact food prices and production costs, this marginal rise in petroleum product prices may result in higher household expenses and increased production costs for agricultural households in Nepal.

Seed: CSISA field data indicated a moderate decline in the monthly average price of hybrid seeds by NPR 10 rupees (USD 0.075), dropping from NPR 559.5 (USD 4.22) to NPR 540 (USD 4.05) per kg in January. Concurrently, the monthly average price of open-pollinated rice seeds stood at NPR 69.6 (USD 0.52) per kg. For maize seeds, the price of open-pollinated varieties was NPR 178.93 (USD 1.34) per kg, while hybrid maize seeds were priced at NPR 533.6 (USD 4.0) per kg. Additionally, the cost of 10 grams of local tomato seeds was NPR 107.3 (USD 0.8), while hybrid tomato seeds were priced significantly higher at NPR 1328.9 (USD 10). Moreover, Lentil, Wheat, Cauli OP, and Nepali Onion seeds had average prices of NPR 233 (USD 1.76), 75.3 (USD 0.57), 7,925 (USD 59.76), and 3,750 (USD 28.28), respectively, with variations observed across different districts (Annex 4).

Labor: Field data reveals significant disparities in agricultural labor wages based on gender. On average, male agricultural laborers earned NPR 850.8 (USD 6.4) per day, while women earned only NPR 679 (USD 5.1) per day. The minimum wage per day for male agricultural labor was NPR 450

(USD 3.4), whereas for females it was only NPR 300 (USD 2.3). Similar gender-based discrepancies in wages were also observed among non-agricultural workers. Please refer to Annex 3 for detailed information on district-wise variations in the prices of key inputs, including unit prices for irrigation and tractors. Beginning next month, the bulletin will include percentage changes in the prices of the listed agricultural inputs.

Cereals

In December 2023, the prices of all cereals in Nepal saw a marginal increase compared to the previous month (refer to Annex 1). This upward trend was also evident in the Western Provinces, except for medium grain rice, which experienced a slight decline. Although the monthly change in cereal prices was minimal, the year-on-year comparison revealed a significant rise. Notably, coarse rice saw the highest increase nationally, rising by 25.6 percent between December 2022 and December 2023. This trend was mirrored in the Western Provinces, with coarse rice prices increasing by 27.6 percent during the same period. Additionally, cereal price fluctuations varied across regions in Nepal, as seen in Annex 2, indicating regional differences in price movements. The Government of Nepal's decision to raise the minimum support price for short grain and medium grain rice by 7.8 percent and 7.6 percent per quintal, respectively, in 2023 likely contributed to the rise in rice prices in December 2024.

Spotlight: Increasing Paddy Yield and Food Security in Nepal's FtF Zone of Influence

In December 2023, the second round of household surveys conducted by IIDS through CSISA gathered agricultural production data from 784 households across five provinces: Lumbini, Bagmati, Karnali, Sudurpashchim, and Madhesh Province (the first four are in the USAID Feed the Future Zone of Influence (FtF ZoI), while the fifth is proposed for the Zone of Influence). Preliminary findings indicate that the paddy yield in surveyed households from Sarlahi, Banke, Dang, Surkhet, Dadeldhura, and Kailali districts exceeded the district average yield recorded in 2021-22. However, there is still room for improvement in paddy yield in FtF ZoI districts, as the yield in the sample households remained lower than the provincial average yield reported in 2023-24. Particularly, the paddy yield in surveyed households in Salyan district is notably lower than both the district average and the provincial average, likely due to the focus on vegetable production in the hilly region where the sampled households are located.

Efforts to bolster paddy yield and tackle food security issues remain paramount in these areas. Strategies like investing in innovations and partnering with the private sector, such as implementing the rice mill model for market assurance, hold considerable promise in advancing these objectives. Moreover, offering assistance in agricultural inputs will foster sustainable farming practices and enhance food security for communities in the FtF ZoI.

Selected horticultural and fruit products

Vegetables: Data available for analysis of horticulture and fruit products are from December 2023. In this month, vegetable prices in Nepal saw a decline compared to the previous month (refer to Annex 1). Specifically, tomato prices experienced the steepest drop nationally, decreasing by 12.8 percent, while cabbage prices in the Western Provinces plummeted by 9.7 percent during the same period. Interestingly, the monthly price of red potatoes exhibited divergent trends between Nepal and the Western Provinces. While red potato prices dropped by 3.4 percent nationally, they increased by 2.4 percent in the Western Provinces compared to the previous month. Additionally, pumpkin

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prices in both Nepal and the Western Provinces saw significant annual declines, with decreases of 17.6 percent and 30.0 percent respectively.

It's worth noting that, among vegetables, only the national price of red potato and the price of carrots in the Western Province showed a positive change compared to the same period 12 months earlier. The overall decline in vegetable prices can be attributed to increased supply during the peak harvest period, particularly of seasonal vegetables like tomatoes, pumpkins, and cabbage, indicating improved affordability in these regions. However, it's important to highlight that Koshi and Madhesh provinces experienced price increases, likely influenced by regional disparities in production and distribution.

Fruits: The price of apples and bananas increased both annually and month-on-month at the national level and in the Western Provinces, while the price of oranges declined in both Nepal and the Western Provinces (Annex 1). In December 2023, Nepal saw an annual increase in apple prices by 11.8 percent and banana prices by 11.0 percent. In the Western Provinces, the per kilogram price of apples and bananas exceeded the national average, with year-on-year increases of 14.4 percent and 15.5 percent, respectively.

Similarly, the monthly price inflation of apples (7.6 percent) and bananas (9.8 percent) in the Western Province surpassed the national price inflation. Among provinces, Bagmati Province recorded the highest year-on-year fruit price inflation for apples (40.7 percent), followed by an increase in banana prices (36.8 percent) in Madhesh Province. Conversely, Sudurpashchim Province saw the highest drop in orange prices (14.8 percent) in December 2023 compared to the previous year. These fluctuations in fruit prices reflect market dynamics and regional variations in supply and demand.

Milk and eggs

In December 2023, the last month when succinct public data are available, the price of milk saw a significant increase both nationally and in the Western Province compared to a year ago. In Nepal, the annual increase in milk price was 18.8 percent, reaching NPR 118.3 (USD 0.9) per liter, while in the Western Province, the price rose even more sharply by 27.9 percent to NPR 132.5 (USD 1.0) per liter during the same period. This rise in retail milk price can be attributed to the government of Nepal's decision to increase the price of raw milk provided to farmers by NPR 9 per liter in March 2023. Despite these year-on-year fluctuations, milk prices remained relatively stable in both the Western Provinces and Nepal in December 2023 compared to the previous month. In contrast, the unit price of eggs in Nepal and the Western Provinces remained relatively stable at NPR 19.9 (USD 0.14) and NPR 20.7 (USD 0.15) per unit, respectively. These price increases may negatively impact the consumption patterns of rural and lower-income urban households.

Meat and fish

In December 2023, a notable increase in the price of fish was observed both nationally and in the Western Provinces compared to the previous year. Nationally, the average price of fish saw a 14.9 percent year-on-year increase, with the highest rise recorded in the Western Provinces at 27.6 percent. Among the Western Provinces, Karnali Province experienced the highest increase in fish prices at 18.8 percent. Additionally, in December 2023, fish prices rose by 3.2 percent nationally and 1.3 percent in the Western Provinces compared to the previous month. Meanwhile, the national price of chicken meat remained relatively stable year-on-year, although in the Western Provinces, there was a slight decline of 3.6 percent. These price increases may negatively impact the consumption patterns of rural and lower-income urban households.

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Edible oils

The price of edible oils in Nepal and the Western Provinces has shown a decline. In Nepal, the year-on-year price of mustard oil dropped by 21.7 percent, while soybean oil decreased by 23.8 percent in December 2023. Similarly, in the Western Provinces, the prices of mustard oil and soybean oil fell by 18.6 percent and 26.0 percent respectively during the same period. Reflecting this year-on-year trend, the monthly prices of both mustard and soybean oil also decreased in December 2023. The most significant declines were observed in Sudurpashchim Province for mustard oil (10.7 percent) and Koshi Province for soybean oil (9.4 percent) compared to the previous month. These declines align with the trends in the FAO price indices for oilseeds and oil meals, which saw declines of 25.1 percent and 17.8 percent, respectively, in January 2024 compared to last year.³ Similarly, the FAO vegetable oil price index is also 12.8 percent lower than the previous year.

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Data sources

Data sources for this brief include the World Food Program for food prices, Nepal Oil Corporation (noc.org.np) for fuel prices, the Nepal Rastra Bank for the CPI, budget shares from the Ministry of Finance, remittance flows, and other macroeconomic data. The field reports provided by USAID/Nepal's Nepal Seed and Fertilizer (NSAF) and KISAN II Activities. Data from a primary household survey undertaken by CSISA across nine districts in USAID Feed the Future Zone of Influence in December 2023 (second wave) and a bi-weekly market survey in the same areas including Kathmandu is used.

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³ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. [WWW Document]. *Monthly Price Update: Oilseeds, Oils and Meals, No. 175, February 2024*. Available at <https://www.fao.org/3/cc9701en/cc9701en.pdf> (Accessed 27 February 2024).

Annexes
Annex 1: Percentage change in food commodity price (NPR/Kg) in Nepal.

Commodity	Western Provinces					Nepal				
	2022 Dec	2023 Nov	2023 Dec	2022 Dec	Nov 2023	2022 Dec	2023 Nov	2023 Dec	2022 Dec	Nov 2023
	(NPR)	(NPR)	(NPR)	2023 Dec (Percent Change)	Dec 2023 (Percent change)	(NPR)	(NPR)	(NPR)	2023 Dec (Percent Change)	Dec 2023 (Percent change)
Rice (coarse)	58.6	74.2	74.8	27.6	0.8	55.5	69.4	69.7	25.6	0.3
Rice (medium grain)	90.2	102.6	101.6	12.7	-1.0	82.3	90.9	91.0	10.6	0.1
Wheat flour	77.2	88.1	90.0	16.5	2.2	78.4	87.1	87.4	11.4	0.3
Apples	256.9	273.1	293.8	14.4	7.6	256.3	281.4	286.5	11.8	1.8
Bananas*	152.5	160.4	176.2	15.5	9.8	129.7	137.4	144.0	11.0	4.8
Oranges	144.6	145.4	136.9	-5.3	-5.8	137.1	147.4	131.5	-4.1	-10.8
Tomatoes	99.0	96.2	93.1	-6.0	-3.2	73.8	80.0	69.8	-5.5	-12.8
Potatoes (red)	51.6	47.3	48.5	-6.0	2.4	45.5	48.5	46.9	3.1	-3.4
Cabbage	60.2	55.8	50.4	-16.3	-9.7	52.4	53.2	48.0	-8.5	-9.9
Carrots	114.4	115.5	116.2	1.5	0.6	104.0	108.0	97.9	-5.9	-9.3
Pumpkin	78.6	59.6	55.0	-30.0	-7.7	68.0	58.8	56.0	-17.6	-4.7
Chickpeas	155.4	151.5	151.2	-2.7	-0.3	142.1	139.5	142.9	0.6	2.4
Lentils (broken)	192.0	187.5	183.3	-4.5	-2.2	175.9	172.6	170.9	-2.8	-1.0
Beans (black)	191.4	199.6	206.2	7.7	3.3	176.2	197.6	204.0	15.8	3.2
Oil (mustard) **	349.5	292.3	284.6	-18.6	-2.6	342.6	269.6	268.3	-21.7	-0.5
Oil (soybean) **	300.5	223.5	222.3	-26.0	-0.5	281.5	217.8	214.4	-23.8	-1.6
Milk	103.6	132.7	132.5	27.9	-0.1	99.5	119.0	118.3	18.8	-0.6
Meat (chicken)	521.5	512.3	502.7	-3.6	-1.9	442.5	453.8	444.2	0.4	-2.1
Eggs***	20.8	19.8	20.7	-0.4	4.7	19.7	19.2	19.9	0.8	3.5
Fish	500.0	630.0	638.0	27.6	1.3	440.0	490.2	505.7	14.9	3.2
Peanut	568.8	446.9	455.0	-20.0	1.8	366.6	328.0	333.0	-9.2	1.5

*Denotes unit price per dozen, ** denotes unit price per liter and *** denotes unit price per piece. Western Province includes Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpashchim provinces.

Annex 2: Percentage change in food commodity prices (NPR) across provinces of Nepal.

Commodity	Koshi		Madhesh		Bagmati		Gandaki		Lumbini		Karnali		Sudurpashchim	
	Dec 2022	Nov 2023	Dec 2022	Nov 2023										
	Dec 2023	Dec 2023												
Rice (coarse)	28.4	-1.6	25.9	-2.2	31.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.8	1.1	23.0	0.8	38.4	0.7
Rice (medium grain)	17.8	-3.1	1.4	1.9	1.6	0.4	12.5	5.9	13.3	0.9	10.4	-1.4	17.3	-1.3
Wheat flour	4.0	-10.3	7.0	-0.4	-5.6	0.0	16.1	5.9	4.7	5.6	23.1	0.2	13.2	4.2
Apples	-4.5	-2.6	-6.9	-15.6	40.7	-0.1	8.5	4.5	14.1	-4.5	20.9	20.0	6.5	4.5
Bananas	-9.4	-6.5	36.8	8.3	15.0	-13.2	-15.6	0.0	-4.2	-10.4	27.8	16.4	-2.3	7.7
Oranges	-6.5	-6.5	-1.3	-37.5	-5.9	-6.2	8.7	-10.7	-13.5	-25.6	3.1	13.6	-14.8	-20.7
Tomatoes	36.8	-18.7	4.3	-50.0	-11.1	-27.3	-32.1	-26.9	8.3	8.3	-9.0	2.1	-6.5	-19.4
Potatoes (red)	28.6	-15.6	27.3	-6.7	-20.0	-10.1	25.0	-9.1	-4.8	14.3	-19.3	0.0	-4.8	0.0
Cabbage	27.8	-4.2	26.3	-14.3	-21.3	-18.0	3.8	-3.6	34.5	18.2	-27.6	6.9	-28.6	-44.4
Carrots	-11.5	-20.7	20.0	-42.9	-39.1	-18.8	-27.1	-7.9	-27.9	14.0	6.2	10.5	46.1	-28.8
Pumpkin	-11.8	-6.3	-6.3	0.0	13.3	-29.2	23.1	60.0	3.6	20.8	-36.6	0.0	-31.8	-38.8
Chickpeas	23.2	3.7	4.3	0.0	5.1	9.8	-12.9	8.0	2.8	4.3	-0.5	1.0	-10.0	-5.3
Beans (black)	21.4	3.5	29.2	0.0	50.0	1.3	10.3	7.5	7.1	2.9	0.5	3.9	22.4	2.5
Lentils (broken)	0.0	-1.1	2.3	0.0	-3.6	-1.8	0.0	2.4	-6.1	-3.2	-7.8	-1.9	2.9	-2.1
Oil (mustard)	-21.8	-6.5	-26.1	-2.9	-34.8	5.6	-16.4	10.4	-24.7	5.2	-14.6	0.0	-21.6	-10.7
Oil (soybean)	-18.4	-6.1	-26.6	-9.4	-18.4	4.0	-19.4	-2.2	-24.5	2.6	-29.1	-0.7	-21.5	-2.3
Milk	4.2	-3.8	11.1	0.0	3.3	-6.1	6.2	2.0	15.4	0.0	37.7	-0.2	2.6	0.0
Meat (chicken)	21.6	0.0	-8.5	-4.4	2.3	-9.6	14.3	1.3	-0.9	-1.8	-5.8	0.1	-1.0	-5.4
Eggs	9.1	0.0	-10.9	8.9	-8.1	-2.6	35.5	5.0	-3.6	-3.6	0.7	11.0	0.0	0.0
Fish	4.3	6.2	0.0	0.0	-10.4	-1.5	-4.7	7.6	-1.6	-1.6	18.8	2.2	6.7	0.0
Peanut	-1.4	0.7	25.9	-10.5	88.2	-15.5	29.1	4.7	4.6	4.6	-30.7	-3.1	NA	NA

NA indicates data not available.

Annex 3: Unit prices of key agricultural inputs observed in January of 2024.

Variables	Price (NPR per unit)						
	Banke	Bardiya	Dang	Kailali	Kanchanpur	Kapilvastu	Surkhet
Fertilizer							
Urea (kg)	19.8	22.0	20.0	22.5	22.8	18.5	23.0
DAP (kg)	49.2	52.4	50.0	52.5	52.5	43.5	52.3
MOP (kg)	39.6	38.0	37.0	39.0	39.7	40.0	40.0
Seed							
Rice open pollinated (OP) seed (kg)	61.3	72.5	-	72.5	71.5	-	70.0
Rice hybrid (kg)	575.0	500.0	-	500.0	575.0	-	550.0
Maize OP (kg)	150.0	185.0	200.0	140.0	155.0	172.5	250.0
Maize hybrid (kg)	750.0	475.0	410.0	650.0	300.0	650.0	500.0
Wheat (kg)	71.3	70.0	-	75.0	85.0	-	-
Lentil (kg)	250.0	200.0	-	250.0	-	-	-
Cauliflower OP (kg)	7,000.0	4,550.0	10,000.0	6,500.0	7,000.0	-	12,500.0
Cauliflower hybrid (kg)	57,500.0	82,500.0	80,000.0	60,000.0	62,500.0	-	42,000.0
Tomato OP (kg)	6,250.0	12,500.0	10,000.0	9,000.0	9,000.0	-	17,500.0
Tomato hybrid (kg)	57,500.0	82,500.0	207,307.5	107,500.0	285,000.0	-	57,500.0
Onion (kg)	1,462.5	1,050.0	-	750.0	700.0	-	1,100.0
Onion seed Nepali (kg)	-	1,000.0	-	3,750.0	-	-	6,500.0
Labor							
Agricultural Labor – Male (day)	500.0	600.0	675.0	666.7	600.0	600.0	780.0
Agricultural Labor – Female (day)	300.0	600.0	625.0	533.3	500.0	600.0	700.0
Non-Agricultural Labor – Male (day)	450.0	570.0	675.0	900.0	1,000.0	650.0	860.0
Non-Agricultural – Female (day)	300.0	570.0	625.0	566.7	600.0	650.0	760.0
Irrigation							
Irrigation (per hr.)	183.3	356.3	375.0	350.0	75.0	-	900.0
Tractor							
Tractor (per hr. of rental)	2,000.0	2,300.0	2,316.7	2,933.3	3,350.0	2,300.0	980.0
Fuel							
Diesel (liter)	-	155.6	155.0	154.0	162.5	157.0	155.6
Petrol (liter)	-	163.7	165.0	164.0	177.5	168.0	165.6

Source: CSISA field data, January 2024.

Annex 4: National Consumer Price Index (January 2024).

Groups & Sub-Groups	Weight %	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24 ^P		% Change			
		Dec/Jan	Nov/Dec	Dec/Jan	Nov/Dec	Dec/Jan	3 Over 1	3 Over 2	5 Over 3	5 Over 4	
		1	2	3	4	5					
Overall Index	100	144.84	156.87	155.36	164.63	163.52	7.26	-0.96	5.26	-0.67	
Food and Beverage	43.91	141.3	152.59	149.24	160.37	157.86	5.62	-2.19	5.77	-1.57	
Cereal grains and their products	11.33	130.6	143.03	143.09	159.19	159.37	9.56	0.04	11.38	0.11	
Pulses and Legumes	1.84	119.34	124.63	124.54	137.79	138.41	4.36	-0.07	11.14	0.45	
Vegetable	5.52	146.09	159.18	134.42	145.86	133.02	-7.99	-15.56	-1.04	-8.81	
Meat and Fish	6.75	141.33	147.82	146.79	147.63	146.7	3.86	-0.7	-0.06	-0.63	
Milk products and Eggs	5.24	138.49	150.95	151.91	166.94	167.55	9.7	0.64	10.29	0.36	
Ghee and Oil	2.95	181.21	195.01	193.15	168.36	167.9	6.59	-0.95	-13.07	-0.27	
Fruit	2.08	152.04	156.04	154.76	176.9	170.47	1.79	-0.82	10.15	-3.64	
Sugar and Sugar products	1.74	138.05	147.3	147.42	166.8	158.17	6.79	0.08	7.29	-5.17	
Spices	1.21	130.67	137.42	137.78	188.57	186.83	5.44	0.26	35.6	-0.92	
Non-alcoholic drinks	1.24	139.44	148.22	148.67	158.67	159.15	6.62	0.3	7.05	0.3	
Alcoholic drinks	0.68	187.54	204.12	204.12	215.27	215.27	8.84	0	5.46	0	
Tobacco products	0.41	171.61	191.88	191.88	194.28	194.28	11.81	0	1.25	0	
Restaurant and Hotel	2.92	147.11	169.56	169.99	181.36	181.57	15.56	0.25	6.81	0.12	

P = Provisional. Source: Current Macroeconomic and Financial Situation (Based on Six months Data Ending Mid-January 2023/24), Nepal Rastra Bank

Annex 5: Provincial, District, and Surveyed Household Paddy Yield (metric ton per hectare).

Districts	Survey Data Yield (2023/24)	District Average Yield (2021/2022) ⁴	Province Average ((2023/2024) ⁵	Yield Deviation	
	(mt/ha)			(mt/ha)	(mt/ha)
	1	2	3		
Madhesh Province			3.41		
Sarlahi	3.83	3.45		0.38	0.42
Lumbini Province			4.33		
Banke	3.3	2.31		0.99	-1.03
Palpa	3.41	3.8		-0.39	-0.92
Dang	4.18	3.7		0.48	-0.15
Karnali Province			3.46		
Surkhet	4.53	4.18		0.35	1.07
Salyan	2.91	4.06		-1.15	-0.55
Sudurpashchim Province			3.82		
Dadeldhura	4.5	3.45		1.05	0.68
Kailali	3.87	2.47		1.4	0.05

⁴ Government of Nepal, 2023. *Statistical Information on Nepalese Agriculture 2078/79 (2021/22)*, Kathmandu: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.

⁵ Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, 2024. Press Release on the rice productivity of the current fiscal year 2023/24, Kathmandu: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development. Available at: <https://moald.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Pressnote-on-Rice-Estimation-for-FY-2080-81-1.pdf>. [Accessed 25 January 2024].