

Fifteenth Meeting of the UNCTAD Research Partnership Platform

Room XIX, Palais des Nations, Geneva

3 July 2024

**Global food market implications for international trade
and competition and consumer policies**

Presentation

Dr. Dina Waked

Professor

Sciences Po Law School

Paris, France

This material has been reproduced in the language and form as it was provided. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UN Trade and Development.



Fifteenth Meeting of the UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Research Partnership Platform

Global food market implications for international trade and competition and consumer policies

Wednesday, 3 July 2024 (10:00 - 13:00)

Dina Waked

Professor, Sciences Po Law School

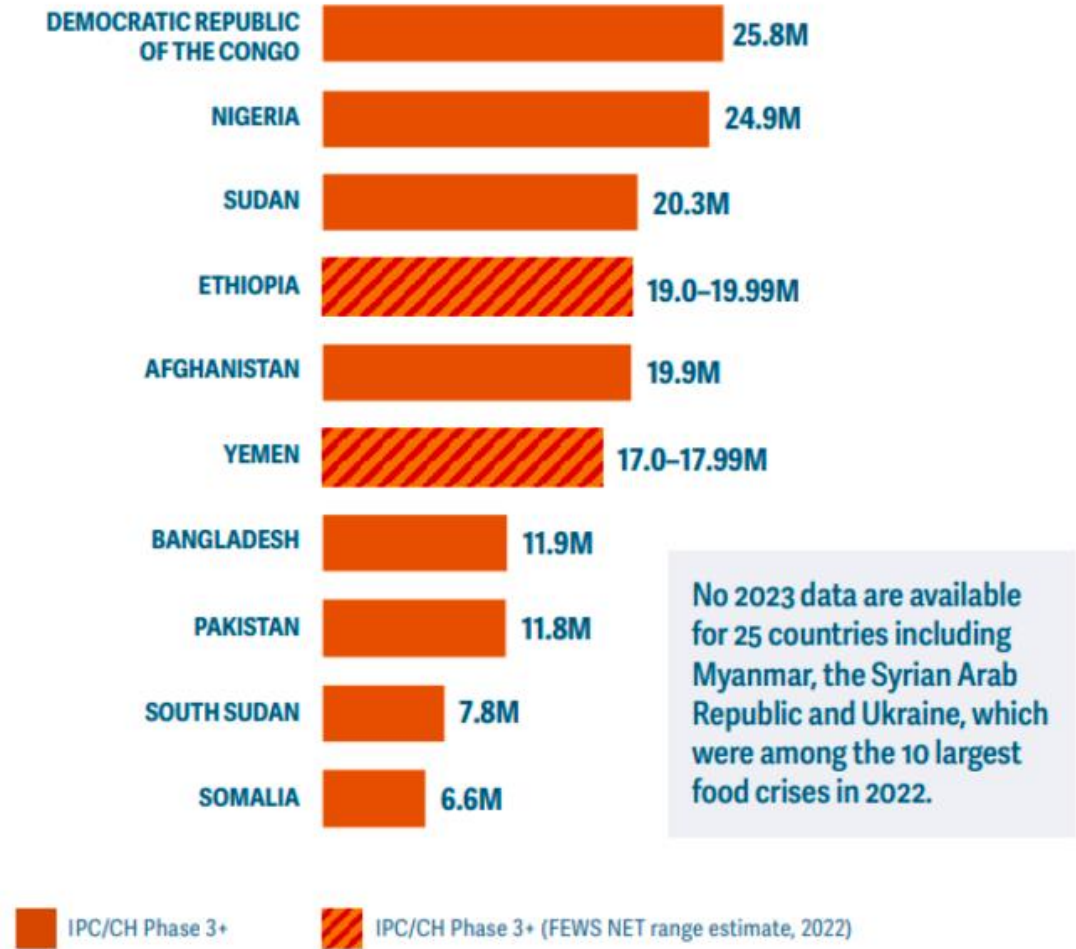
Food insecurity

- Covid pandemic
- Climate change
- Water shortages
- Armed conflict
- High levels of inflation
- **Competition and trade policies**
 - Global value chains
 - International mergers



Countries with most food insecurity

Figure 5. The 10 Countries with the Most People Facing Acute Food Insecurity, August 2023



Source: IPC TWGs, CH, FEWS NET, HRP, HNO, REACH, 2022 and 2023.

January - February, 2024

← Back ↑



Getty Images

India 2 min read

Farmers' protest: Protesters to resume Delhi march over crop prices

Updated 1 day ago


By Cherylann Mollan
BBC News, Mumbai

Europe

Thousands rally in Athens as Greek farmers step up protests

By Stelios Misinas
February 20, 2024 11:26 PM GMT+2 · Updated 10 hours ago

🔖 Aa 🔄



[1/5] A police officer gives directions to a farmer driving his tractor as Greek farmers protest over rising energy costs and competition from imports, in front of the parliament building in Athens, ... [Purchase Licensing Rights](#) 🔄

Read more

ATHENS, Feb 20 (Reuters) - Thousands of farmers from

🔒 reuters.com — Private


My View 👤 Following 🔖 Saved

Europe

French farmers up pressure on government as protests spread

By Clotaire Achi, Sudip Kar-Gupta and Tassilo Hummel
January 24, 2024 12:32 AM GMT+2 · Updated a month ago

🔖 Aa 🔄



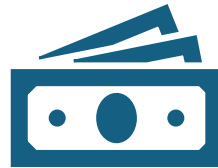
[1/8] French farmers block the A16 highway with their tractors to protest over price pressures, taxes and green regulation, grievances that are shared by farmers across Europe, near Beauvais, France, ... [Purchase Licensing Rights](#) 🔄

Read more

Anticompetitive and Unfair Practice?



Market structure



Prices



Supply

Who suffers along the chain?

- Farmers?
- Consumers?
- Other competitors?

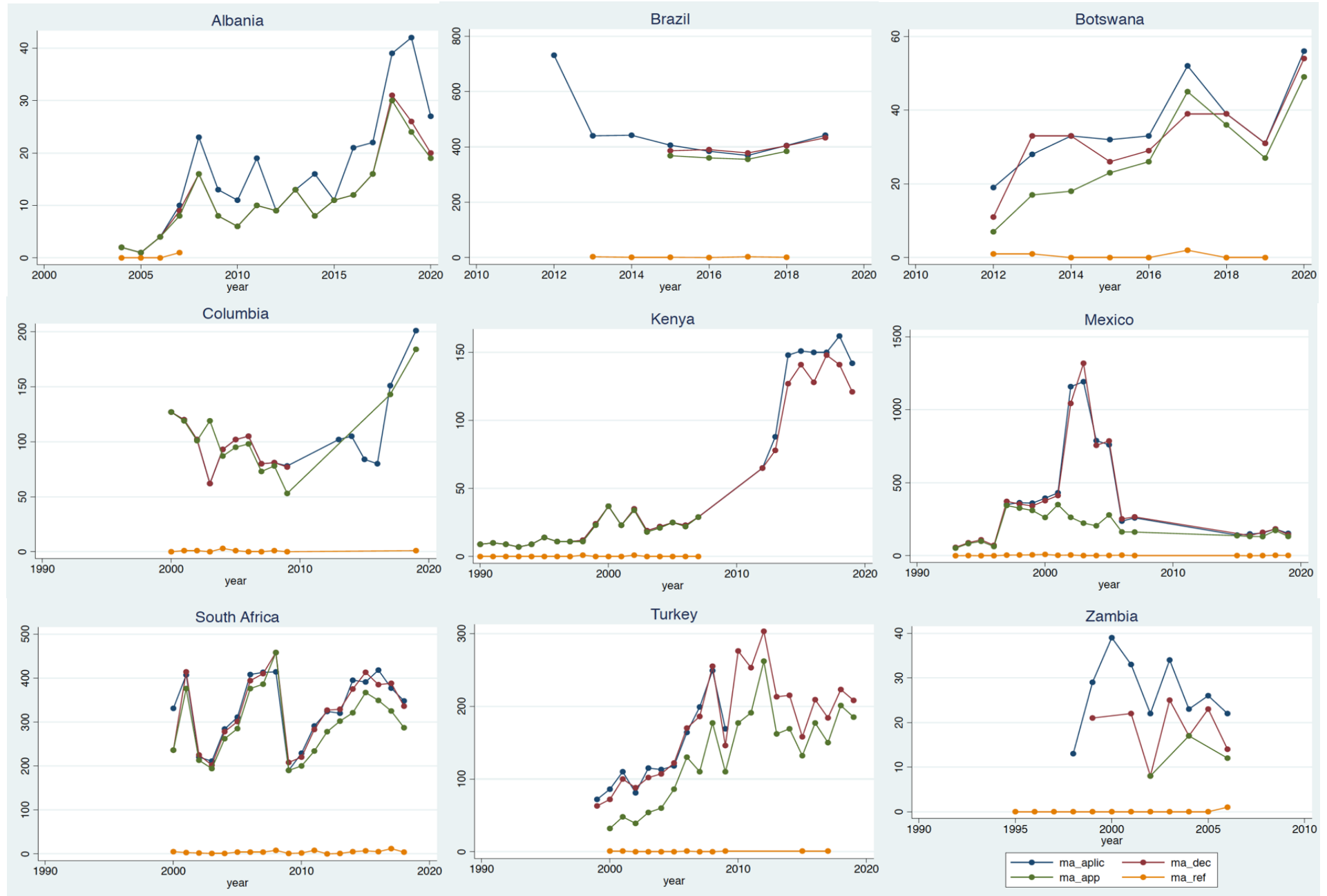


How to address these issues?

- Identify the violation
- Identify the suffering along the chain
- Remedy it
 - Stand up to powerful companies
 - Active antitrust enforcement
 - With most vulnerable in mind
 - Empower – South-South relations
 - Merger enforcement



Mergers across developing countries, 1990s to 2020s



Vision for Alternative Market Reality

South-South cooperation

- Not just for trade, but collective action to collectively resist the trade and competition challenges

Active merger enforcement against global M&As

- Collectively block harmful mergers
- Instill avenues to share the surplus from these merged entities to secure that the price is not paid by the most vulnerable - like ESG mandates

Promote local production and trade – lax antitrust & active industrial policy?

- Protect the industries from international competition – look to Japan and Korea (and the US, Europe) for inspiration
- Prioritize equity and not efficiency
- Build into competition laws ways to redistribute

Thank you!

