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AFRICAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

Twenty-Nineth Session

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Response rates to FAO questionnaires

Executive summary

This paper focuses on the data reporting in Africa based on a detailed analysis of response rates to annual FAO questionnaires dispatched to countries and territories. It first presents the status of response rates to FAO questionnaires by data domain, and sub-domains when applicable, in Africa and in the world. Second, it focuses on a detailed analysis of response rates by data domain, and sub-domains across the sub-regions of Africa. Third, it updates AFCAS Members on the data collection plans and upcoming changes to FAO's data collection process. Then, conclusions and recommendations are formulated based on the results of the analysis, highlighting the main issues for discussion with the distinguished AFCAS Members.

Suggested actions by AFCAS

The Commission is invited to provide comments and guidance on:

- FAO's efforts to liaise with institutions/national focal points responsible for the questionnaire and to follow-up actions.
- The underlying causes of the low and/or deteriorating response rates on Pesticides, Land use, Fertilizers, AQUASTAT and DAD-IS questionnaires in Africa.
- Ways to sustain improvements in response rates on some questionnaires and experience sharing to scale-up in-country/intra-regional good practices.
- FAO's plans to centralize FAO's data collection processes through a new data exchange platform, and express their interest to participate in the platform pilot tests and consultations.

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1. Introduction

1. The institutional mandate of FAO on data and statistics stems from Article I of its Constitution, which mandates the Organization to collect, analyse, interpret, and disseminate information relating to nutrition, food, and agriculture. FAO statistics are based on data supplied by national statistical authorities or by countries primarily through FAO questionnaires. For these statistics to be useful for evidence-based policymaking, the availability and quality of the data provided by these actors are therefore essential. The response rates to FAO questionnaires are used in FAO result framework as a proxy measure for FAO's data quality and as an outcome measure of FAO's statistical capacity development work. Indeed, response rates provide an indication on the level of FAO's estimates that are based on official data. It is also assumed that an adequate statistical capacity development programme will ultimately translate into greater data reporting to FAO.

2. This paper focuses on the data reporting issue in Africa based on a detailed analysis of response rates to annual FAO questionnaires dispatched to countries and territories. It presents the status of responses rates to FAO questionnaires by domain, and sub-domain when applicable, at the regional level, and then at the sub-regional level. It also updates AFCAS Members on the data collection plans and upcoming changes to FAO's data collection process. Then, recommendations are formulated based on the results of the response rate analysis, highlighting the main issues for discussion with the AFCAS.

2. Status of response rates to FAO questionnaires

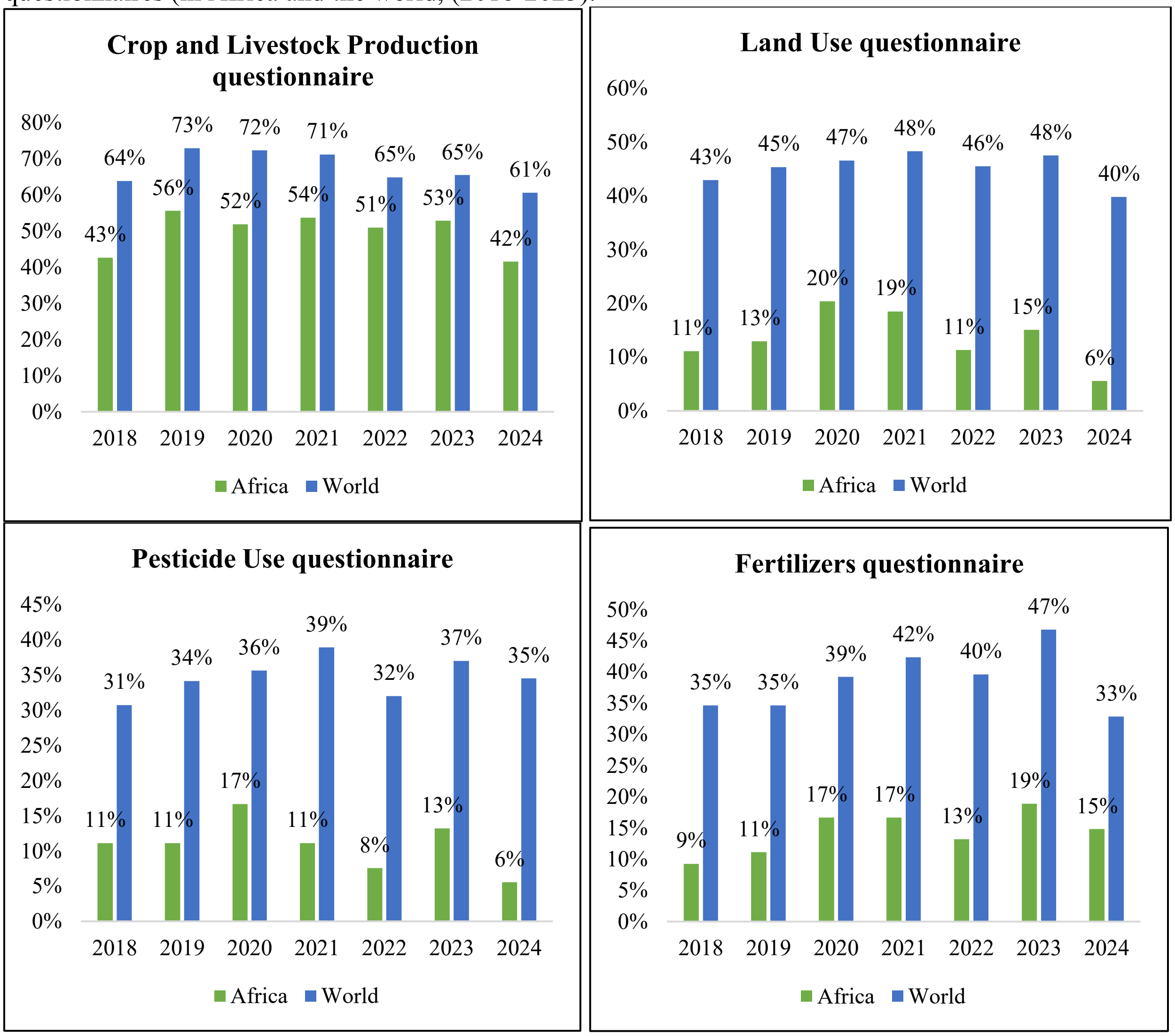
3. This section describes response rates to FAO questionnaires, starting with overall patterns in the agriculture sector, followed by the other domains or systems, including commodity market developments, fisheries and aquaculture, forestry, AQUASTAT, Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS) and the World Information and Early Warning System (WIEWS) on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The response rate is defined as the ratio of between the number of filled questionnaires by targeted territories and the number of questionnaires (domains) that were dispatched to these territories. It is not always the case that questionnaires are universally dispatched to all countries in the world or within a given region – thus some of the results must be interpreted with caution bearing in mind a more restricted questionnaire dispatch. The number of countries receiving each questionnaire at global, regional and subregional level is presented in Annex 1. Overall response rates by questionnaire are followed by a detailed analysis of response rates by sub-domains and across African sub-regions.

2.1. Overall patterns

2.1.1. Agriculture domains

4. The overall patterns of the six agriculture-related questionnaires in Africa and the world are provided in Figure 1 and Figure 2 below.

Figure 1: Response rates on the Crop and Production questionnaire, and on Agricultural inputs questionnaires (in Africa and the world, (2018-2023).

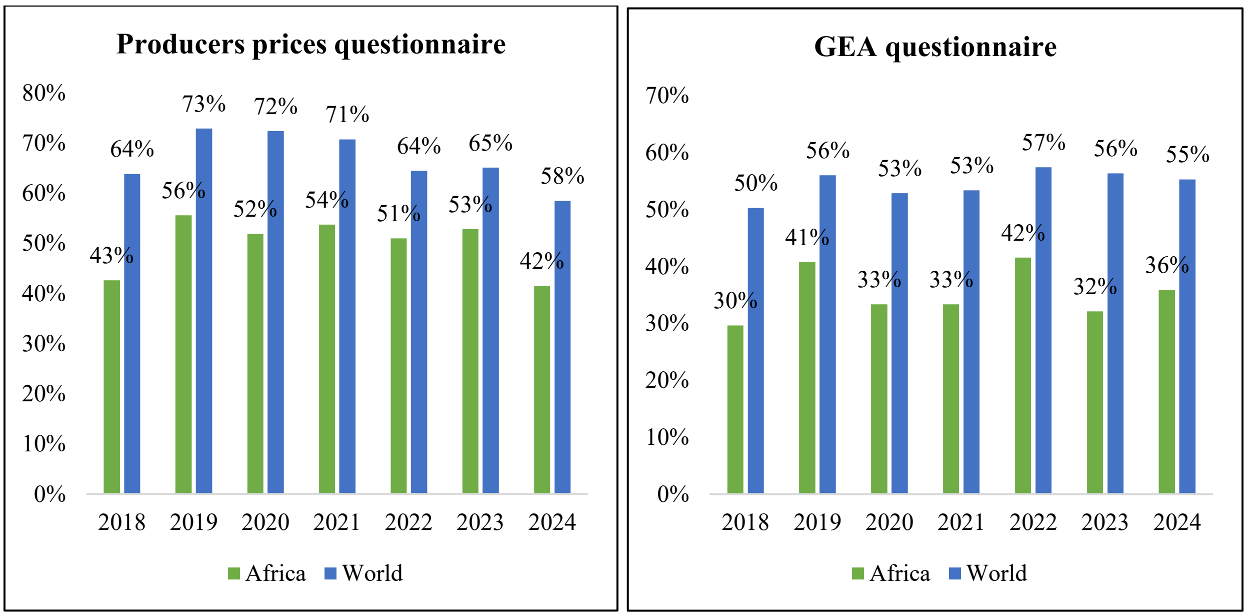


5. The *Crop and Livestock Production and Utilization* is a questionnaire sent by FAO to countries on an annual basis to collect national data on agriculture and livestock production and utilization, such as primary livestock production, primary crop utilization data, live animals number data and areas harvested. The *Land Use, Irrigation and Agricultural Practices; Pesticides Use* and *Fertilizers* questionnaires are a set of agricultural questionnaires, also dispatched annually. The *Land use* questionnaire allows to collect data on land use focusing on agriculture, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries, irrigation and agricultural practices. The *Pesticides* questionnaire gathers data on the agricultural use of major pesticide groups and chemical families, and the *Fertilizers* questionnaire on the agricultural use of fertilizers.

6. The response rates to Agriculture-related questionnaires in Africa consistently falls below the world average over the period 2018-2024. On the Crop and Livestock Production questionnaire, the response rate in the region returns to its 2018 level of close to 43 percent in 2024, after reaching higher levels while the world average rate is over 60 percent. On the Land Use questionnaire, response rates are significantly below the global average over the period and declined further in 2024. Only 6 percent of

African countries filled in the questionnaire in 2024, compared to 15 percent in 2023 - both figures around 34 percentage points below the global average for those years. Likewise, only 6 percent of African countries responded to the Pesticide Use questionnaire in 2024, compared to a global average of 35 percent. The response rate of African countries to the Fertilizers questionnaire increased slightly between 2018 and 2023, despite a dip in 2022. However, it declined slightly again, falling from 19 percent in 2023 to 15 percent in 2024.

Figure 2: Response rates to the Producer prices questionnaire and the Government Expenditure in Agriculture (GEA) questionnaire in Africa and the world, (2018-2023).



7. The *Agricultural Producer Prices for primary crops and livestock* questionnaire collects producer price data on crops, livestock, and derived products annually that are used to track and study issues related to price inflation, volatility and transmission, and food security. The *Government Expenditure in Agriculture* (GEA) questionnaire allows gathering information on countries' expenditures on agricultural activities. The responses to this questionnaire are crucial, as the information gathered enables the calculation of SDG indicator 2.a.1.

8. The response rates on the Producer prices questionnaire returns to its 2018 level of close to 43 percent in 2024, after reaching higher levels while the world average rate is 58 percent. On the GEA questionnaire, response rates in Africa increased from 30 percent in 2018 to 36 percent in 2024, but the region remains below the world average of 55 percent in 2024.

9. Targeted efforts are needed to improve response rates, as the data collected through these questionnaires is essential for measuring a wide range of national, regional and global monitoring frameworks, including the CAADP frameworks and the SDG indicators.

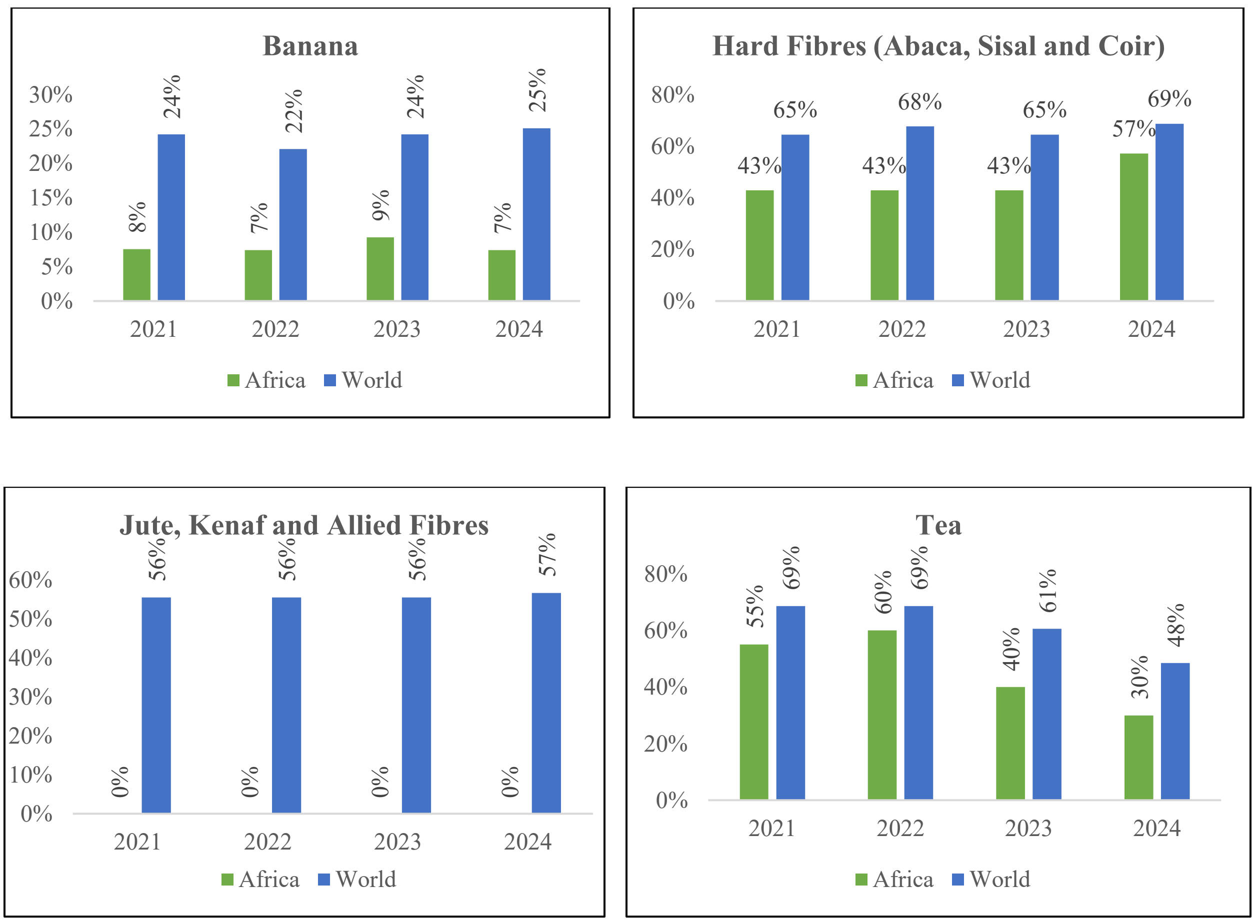
2.1.2. Other domains or systems

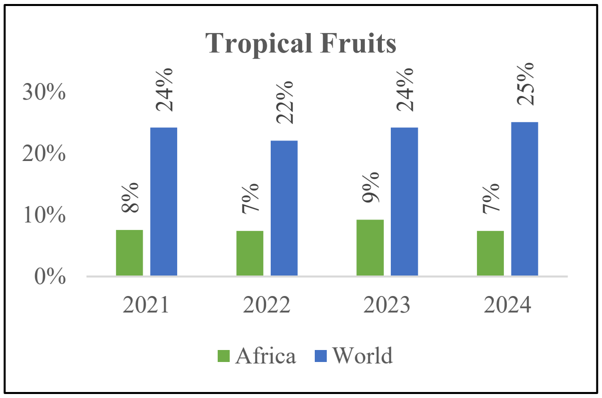
10. In this sub-section, response rates to questionnaires on Forestry, Fisheries and aquaculture, Commodity Market developments, AQUASTAT, Plant Genetic Resources and DAD-IS are respectively analysed.

A. <u>Response rates to the Commodity market developments, Forestry and Fisheries questionnaires in 2021 and 2024</u>

11. Across the five Commodity Market developments questionnaires, the response rates in Africa are below the world average throughout the period 2021-2024. No African country responded to the Jute, Kenaf and Allied fruits questionnaire, compared to a global rate of 56-57 percent in 2021 to 2024. The second lowest response rate was recorded for the Banana and Tropical fruits questionnaires, fluctuating between 7-9 percent across the period. Responses to the Tea questionnaire dropped sharply from 60 percent in 2022 to 30 percent in 2024, while Hard Fibres saw a recent increase reaching 57 percent in 2024, up from 43 percent during the preceding three-year period.

Figure 3: Response rates on the five Commodity Market Development questionnaires in Africa and the world, (2021 – 2024).

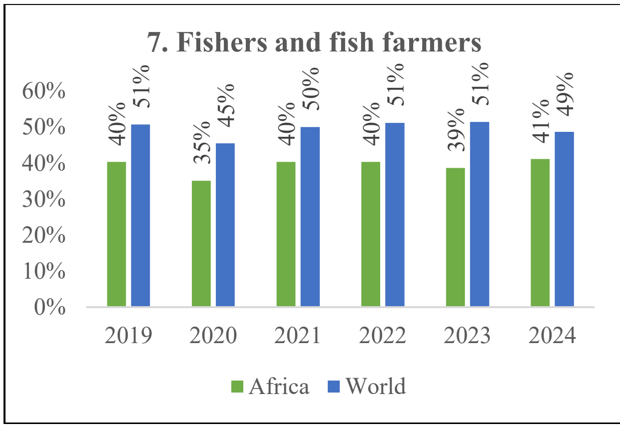


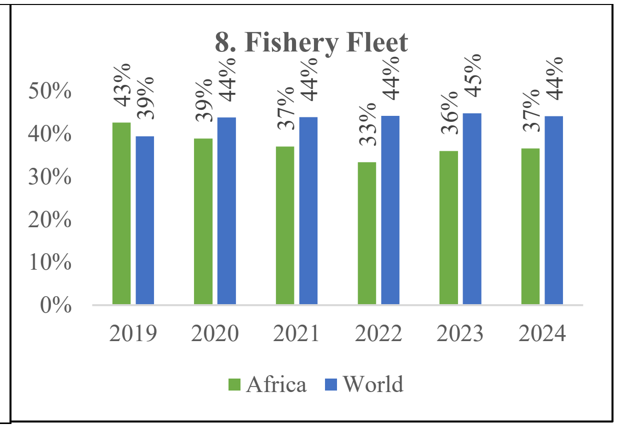


12. The fisheries and aquaculture questionnaires comprise eight questionnaires, namely *(1) Global Aquaculture production*, (2) *Global Capture production*, (3) *Regional Capture production, (4) Disposition of Fishery and Aquaculture production, (5) Production of preserved and processed fishery and aquaculture commodities, (6) Trade of fisheries and aquaculture commodities, (7) Fishers and fish farmers and (8) Fishery fleet.* These questionnaires collect annual data on aquaculture and capture fisheries production, utilization and processing of fishery, production of processed and preserved fishery, aquaculture products, trade, employment in fisheries, and fishery fleet by country or region.

13. Between 2019 and 2024, a relative decline in the response rates of Africa can be observed across four of these questionnaires, compared to the global average response rate. Thus, while the response rate of Africa may have exceeded the world average in earlier years of this period, in more recent years it slipped below the world average for Global Aquaculture production; Regional Capture production; Production of preserved and processed fishery and aquaculture commodities; and Trade of fisheries and aquaculture commodities For the remaining questionnaires, the response rates in Africa are consistently below the world average. It should be noted that the "Trade of fishery and aquaculture commodities" questionnaire is not sent to any country in Africa, so only global figure are included indicatively in the corresponding graph.

Figure 4: Response rates on the eight Fisheries and aquaculture questionnaires in Africa and the world, (2019 – 2024).

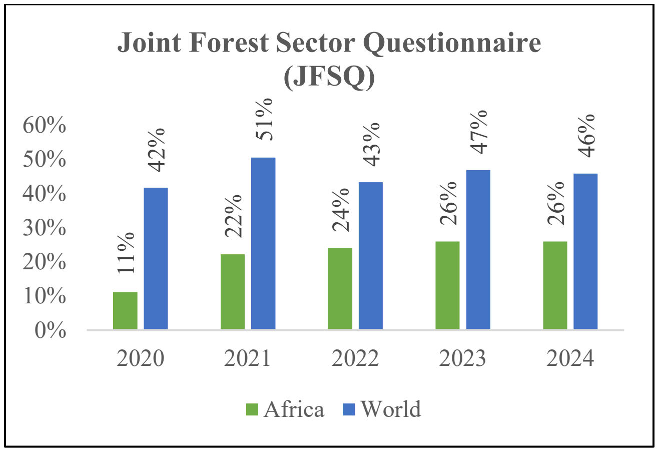


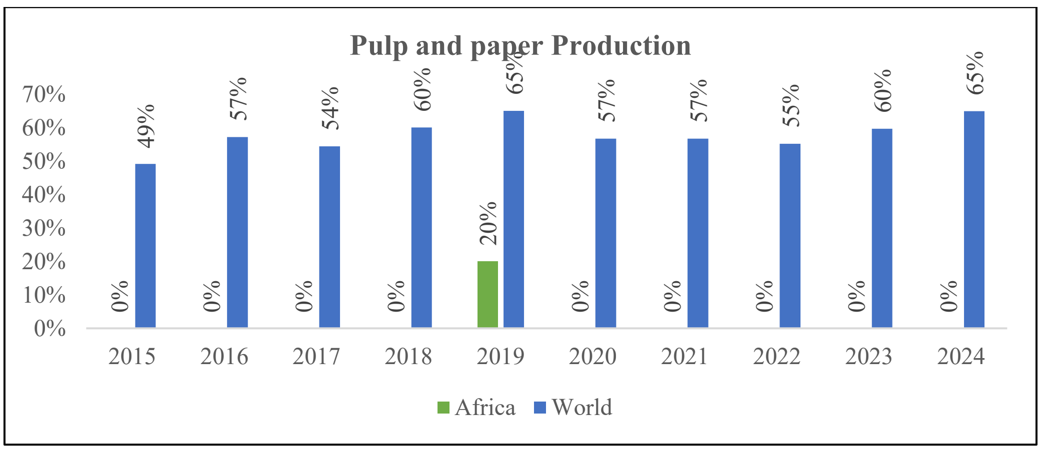


14. The *Joint Forest sector* questionnaire collects data on production and trade of forest products annually. The *Pulp and Paper production* questionnaire gathers data on installed production capacities in pulp and paper industry, production of pulp and paper and utilization of recovered paper, also annually. This questionnaire is only sent to five countries in Africa.

15. Between 2020 and 2024, the average response rate to the Joint Forest Sector questionnaire in African countries remained below the global average, though gradually increased from 11 percent in 2020 to 26 percent in 2024. Of the five countries in Africa that receive the second forestry questionnaire - Pulp and Paper production questionnaire - only one has ever responded, and this has happened only once since 2015, namely in the year 2019.

Figure 5: Response rates on the two Forestry questionnaires in Africa and the world, (2020 – 2024).

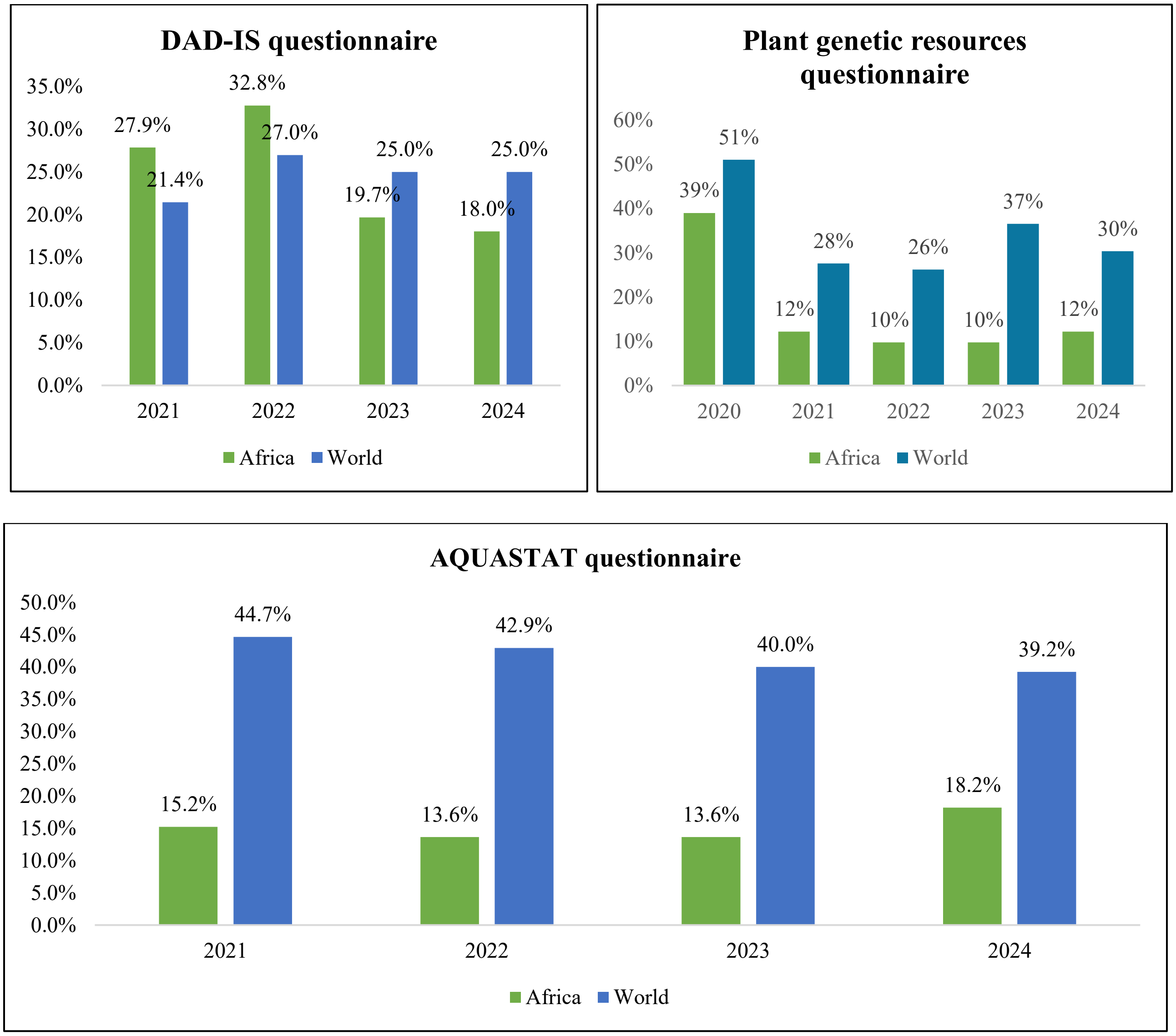




B. <u>Response rates on AQUASTAT, Plant Genetic Resources and DAD-IS over time</u>

16. The AQUASTAT, DAD-IS, and Plant genetic resources questionnaires are essential for gathering data to track and measure progress on numerous national, regional and global commitments, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and SDG targets 2.5 and 6.4, making the response rates to these questionnaires particularly important.

Figure 5: Response rate on Plant Genetic Resources, DAD-IS and AQUASTAT questionnaires in Africa and the world, (2021-2024/25).



17. The Plant Genetic Resources (Second GPA) questionnaire feeds the FAO-WIEWS database, providing official data on the Second GPA implementation and SDG indicator 2.5.1.a. The response rate on this questionnaire remained below the global average throughout the period, and appears to have dropped to very low level after the year 2020, going from 39 percent in that year to a maximum of 12 percent for subsequent years.

18. For the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS), which serves as the data repository for SDG indicators 2.5.1.b and 2.5.2, the average response rate in Africa exceeded the global average in 2021-2022, reaching 33 percent, before dropping to 18 percent in 2024.

19. The third and last questionnaire analyzed in this section is the AQUASTAT questionnaire. AQUASTAT is the FAO Global information system on water resources and agricultural management. It collects, analyzes and disseminates data by country, by region and for the world and plays a key role in the

monitoring of SDG target 6.4. Between 2021 and 2024, the response rates are below the global average of 40-45 percent, but slightly increased in 2024, with 18 percent of African countries filling in the questionnaire compared to 15 percent in 2021.

2.2. Detailed analysis of response rates by sub-sector and across the sub-regions of Africa

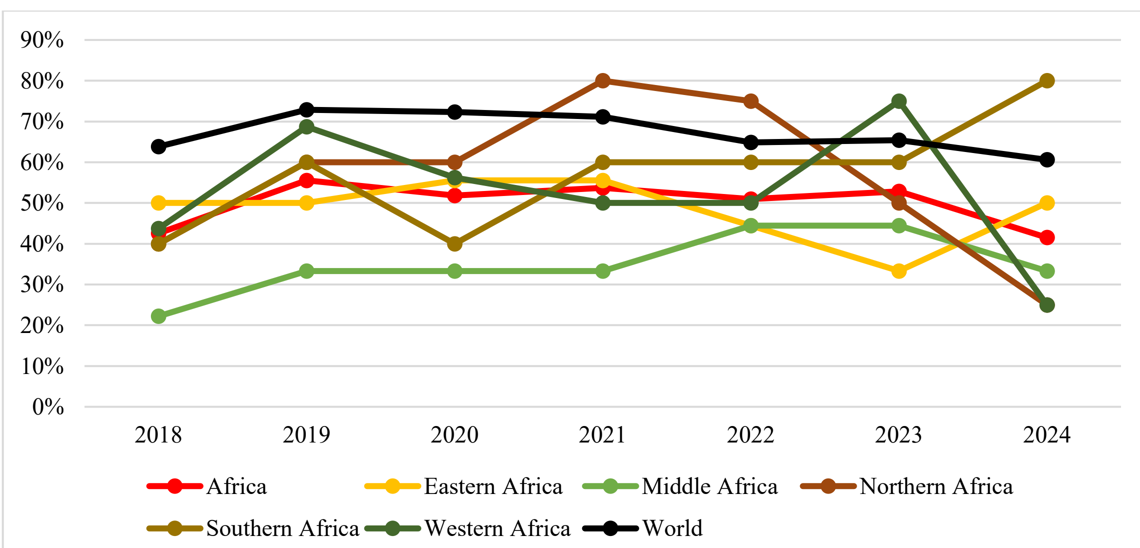
20. Overall response rates can hide differences between sub-sectors and sub-regions. This section aims to highlight these differences to gather more detailed insights, guide discussion, and inform recommendation.

2.2.1. Agriculture domains

A. Agricultural Production questionnaire

21. Between 2018 and 2023, Middle Africa consistently recorded the lowest response rate among all sub-regions, except in 2023, when Eastern Africa reported the lowest rate. The other regions show peaks and troughs. Notably, Northern Africa and Western Africa peaked at 80 percent in 2021, and 75 percent in 2023 respectively. In 2024, the response rate for those regions drastically declined to 25 percent, falling behind Middle and Eastern Africa at 33 percent and 50 percent respectively. Southern Africa recorded the highest response rate at 80 percent, the only sub-region above the global average of 60 percent.

Figure 6: Response rate on the Crop and Livestock Production and Utilization questionnaire across sub-regions, (2018-2024).

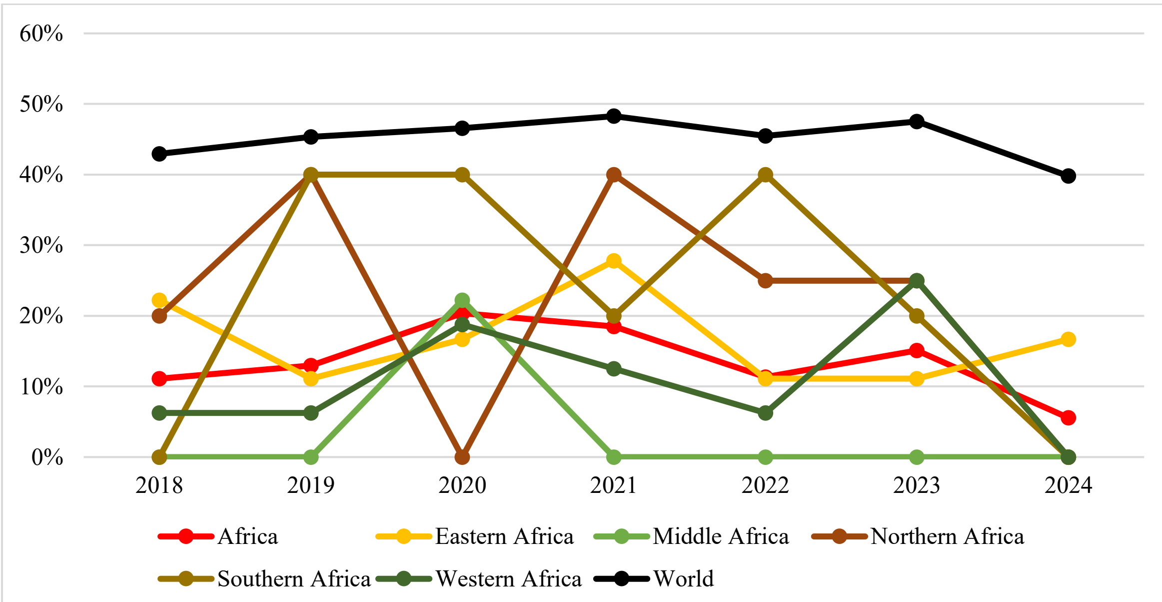


B. Agricultural Inputs questionnaires (land use, pesticides and fertilizers)

22. Throughout the period 2018–2024, the response rates of all African sub-regions to the Land Use questionnaire remained below the global average and exhibited notable fluctuations. No country in

Middle Africa filled in the questionnaire over the period, except in 2020. Southern and Northern Africa recorded the highest rates, reaching up to 40 percent in some years. However, Northern Africa experienced a significant drop in 2020, when none of the countries in the sub-region responded to the questionnaire. Since 2023, a declining trend can be observed across sub-regions. In 2024, no country across all sub-regions responded to the questionnaire except in Eastern Africa, recording a response rate of 17 percent.

Figure 7: Response rate on the Land use questionnaire across sub-regions (2018-2024).



23. Regarding the Pesticide Use and the Fertilizers questionnaires, the results are quite similar. On both questionnaires, we can observe that Northern Africa, Western Africa and Southern Africa, experienced peaks and troughs over the period. On the Pesticide Use questionnaire, those three sub-regions saw a drop in their response rates from 13 – 20 percent in 2023 to 0 in 2024. The same can be observed on the Fertilizers questionnaire with the exception of Western Africa which maintained a low response rate of 6 percent in 2024. Additionally, no country in Middle Africa responded to either questionnaire during the period. On a more positive note, Eastern Africa recorded an increase in response rates, reaching 17 percent for the Pesticide Use questionnaire and 33 percent for the Fertilizer questionnaire in 2024 — the highest rates among all sub-regions.

Figure 8: Response rate on the Pesticide use questionnaire across sub-regions, (2018-2024).

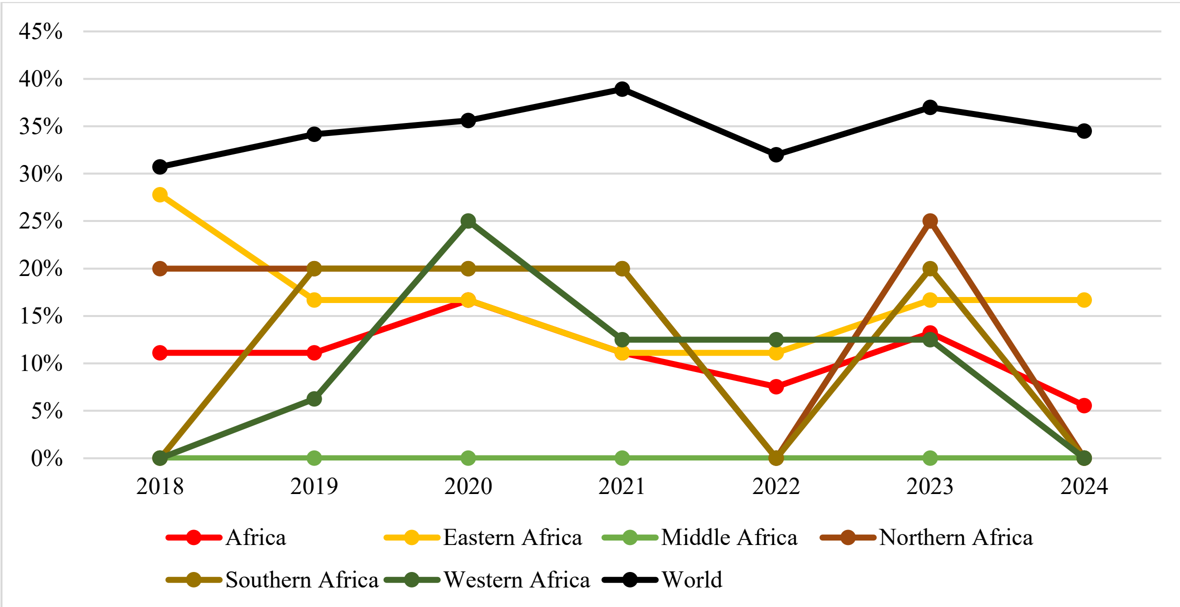
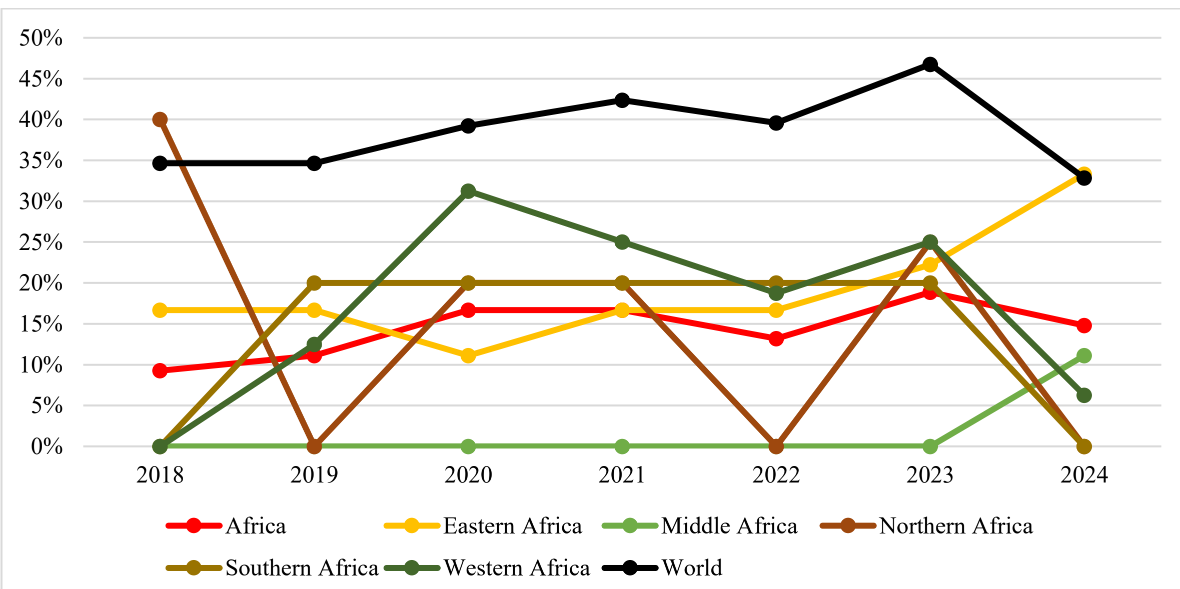


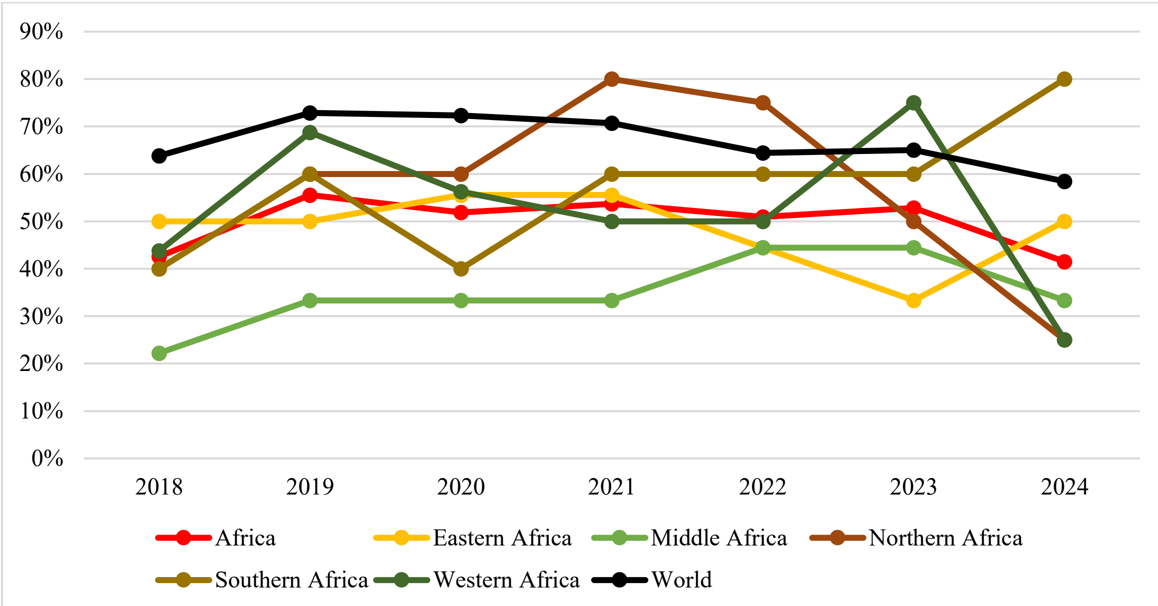
Figure 9: Response rate on the Fertilizers use questionnaire across sub-regions, (2018-2024).



C. Agricultural Producers Prices questionnaire

24. Between 2018 and 2024, response rates to the Producer Prices questionnaire varied across African sub-regions and generally remained below the global average. While response rates in Western, Northern and Middle Africa declined significantly in 2023, Eastern and Southern Africa saw an increase. By 2024, 80 percent of Southern African countries had responded to the questionnaire, whereas Northern Africa and Western Africa recorded the lowest response rates at just 25 percent.

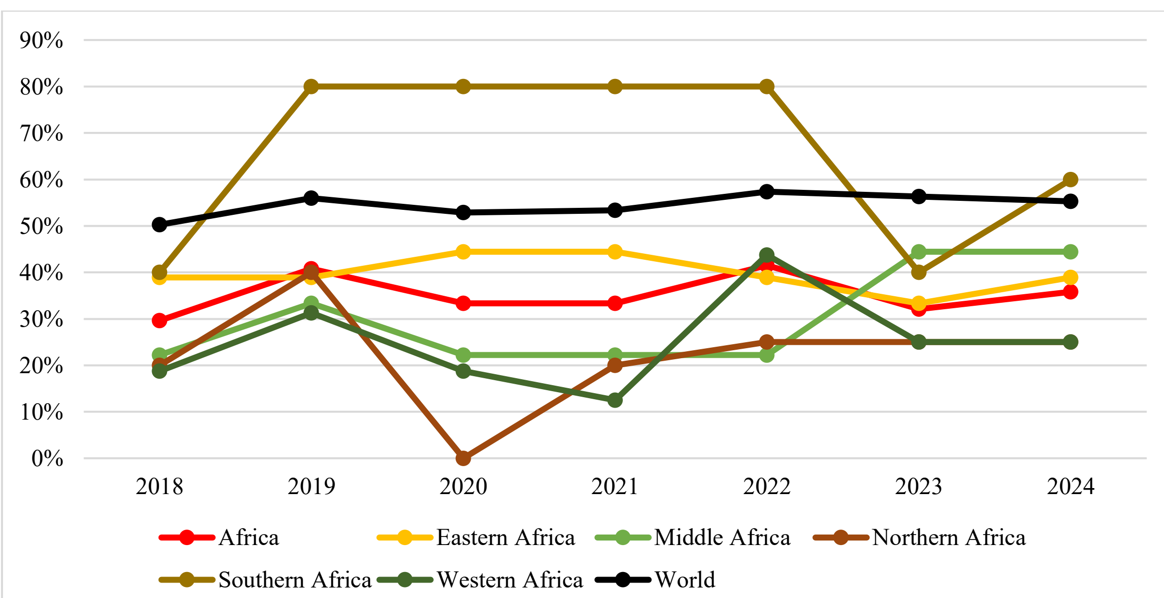
Figure 10: Response rate on Producer Prices questionnaires across sub-regions, (2018-2024).



D. <u>Government Expenditure in Agriculture questionnaire</u>

25. On the GEA questionnaire, between 2019 and 2022, Southern Africa recorded the highest response rates with 80 percent of countries responding to the questionnaire, before experiencing a decline in 2022. The other sub-regions saw peaks and decreases over the period. In 2024, Western and Northern Africa recorded the lowest response rates, while Middle Africa reached 40 percent, and Southern Africa 60 percent placing this sub-region slightly above the global average.

Figure 11: Response rate on the GEA questionnaires across sub-regions, (2018-2024).



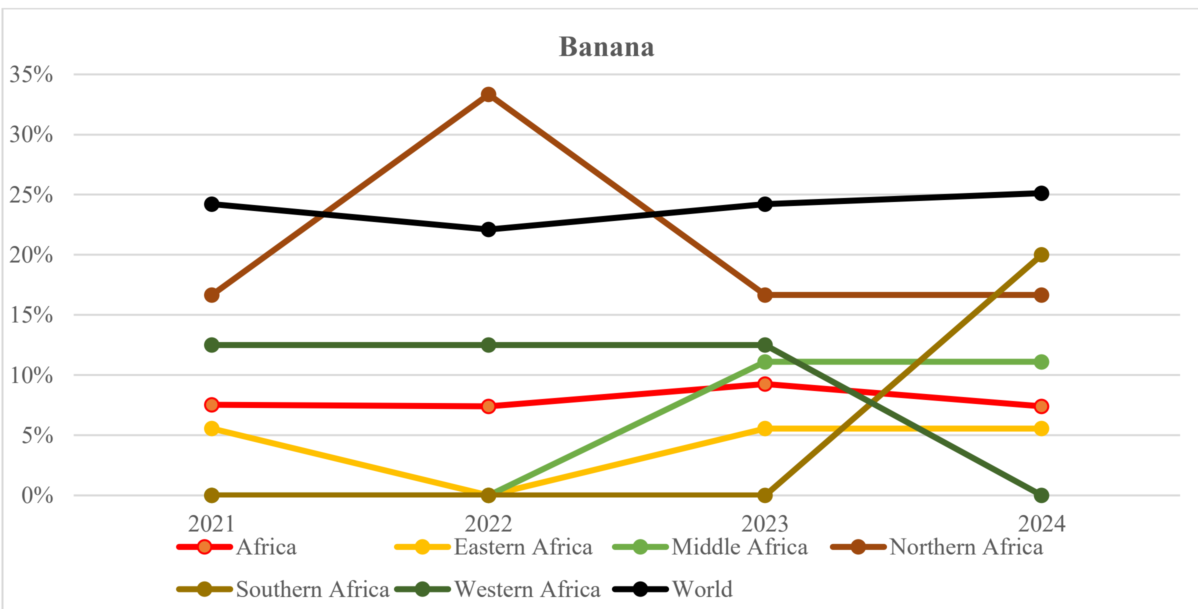
2.2.2. Other domains or systems

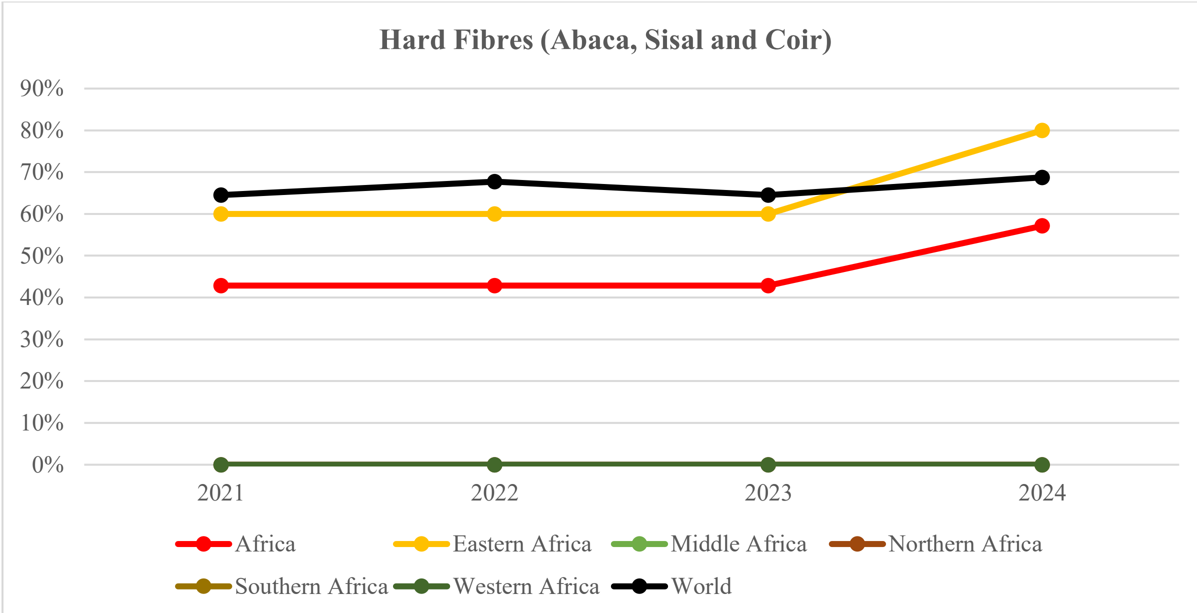
A. <u>Response rates to the Commodity market developments, Forestry and Fisheries questionnaires in 2024</u>

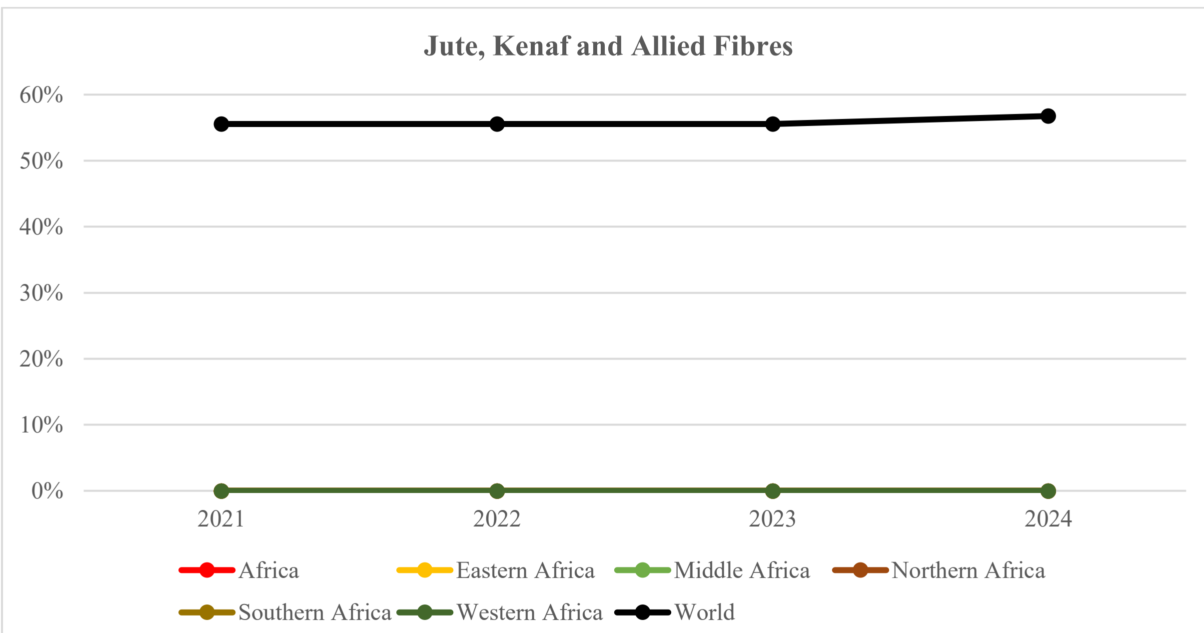
26. Response rates to the commodity market development, fisheries and forestry questionnaires at the sub-regional level are presented at the sub-regional level for the for all available years.

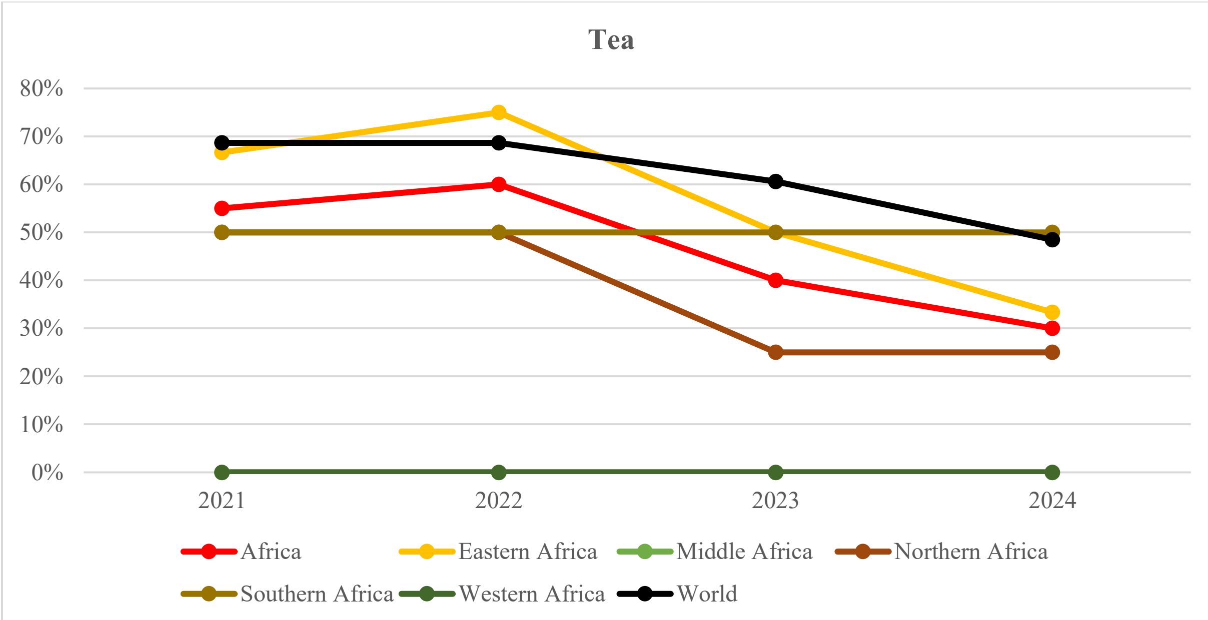
27. Regarding the commodity market development questionnaires, over the period 2021-2024,, for the *Tropical Fruits* questionnaire and *Banana* questionnaires, Northern Africa has generally had the highest response rate, though in 2024 Southern Africa overtook Northern Africa. For the *Hard Fibres* questionnaire, only Eastern African countries responded, whereas no responses were received from African countries for the *Jute, Kenaf, and Allied Fibres* questionnaire.. The *Tea* questionnaire saw the highest response rate in Southern Africa; however, this result should be interpreted with caution, as only two countries received the questionnaire and one responded. . .

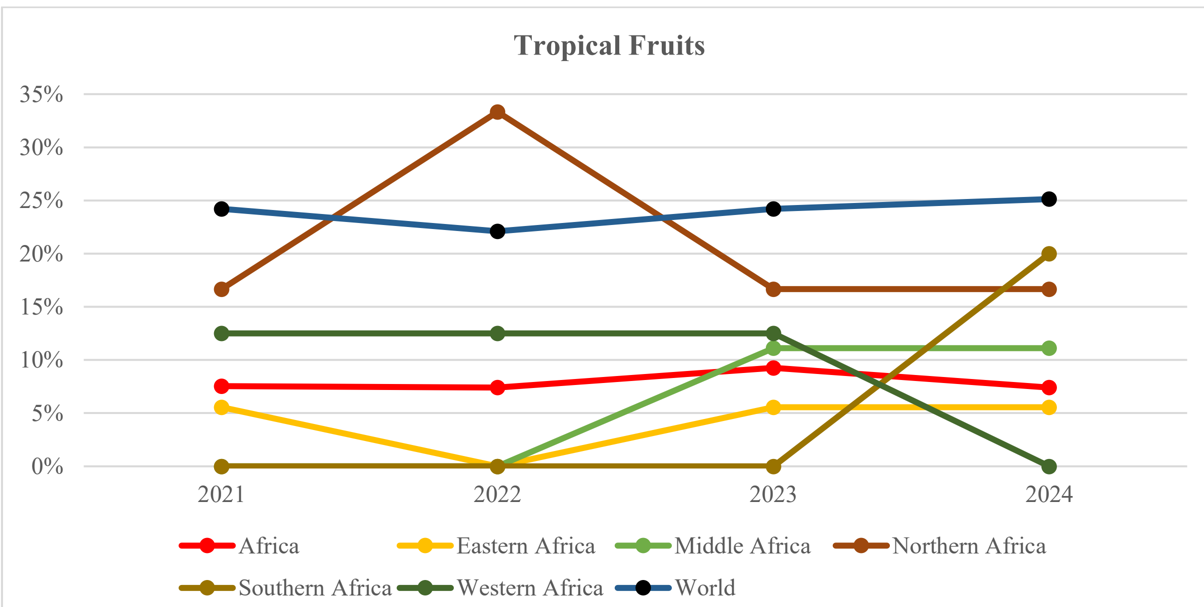
Figure 12: Response rate on the Commodity Market developments questionnaires across sub-regions, (2021-2024).




Hard Fibres (Abaca, Sisal and Coir)
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2021
2022
2023
2024
Africa
Eastern Africa
Middle Africa
Northern Africa
Southern Africa
Western Africa
World

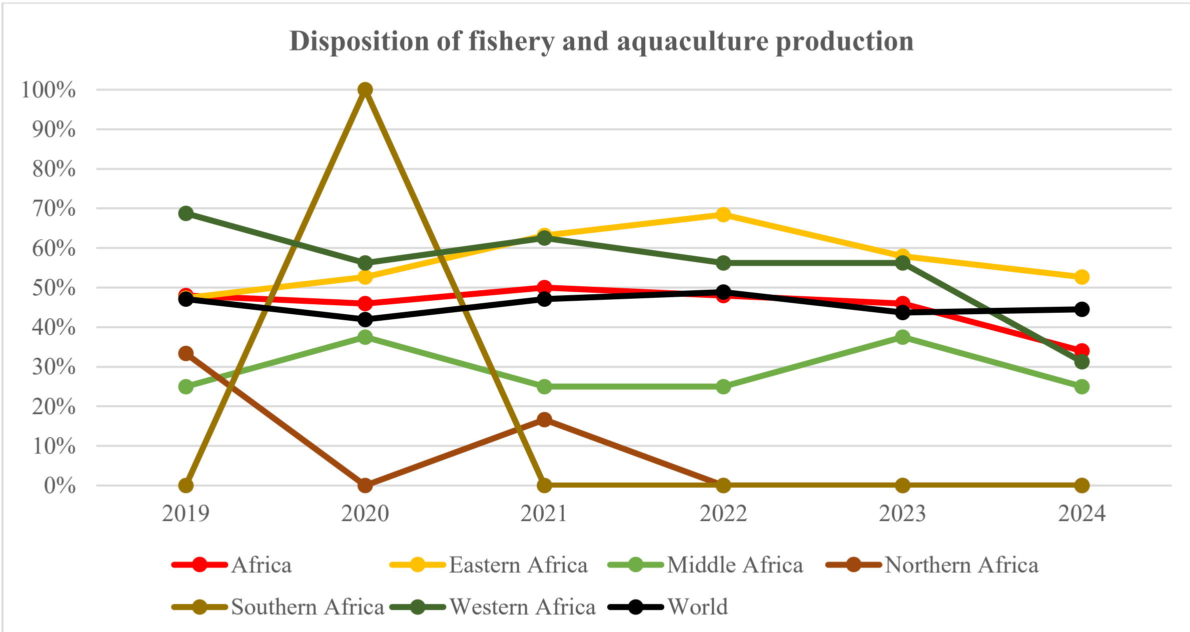

Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2021
2022
2023
2024
Africa
Eastern Africa
Middle Africa
Northern Africa
Southern Africa
Western Africa
World

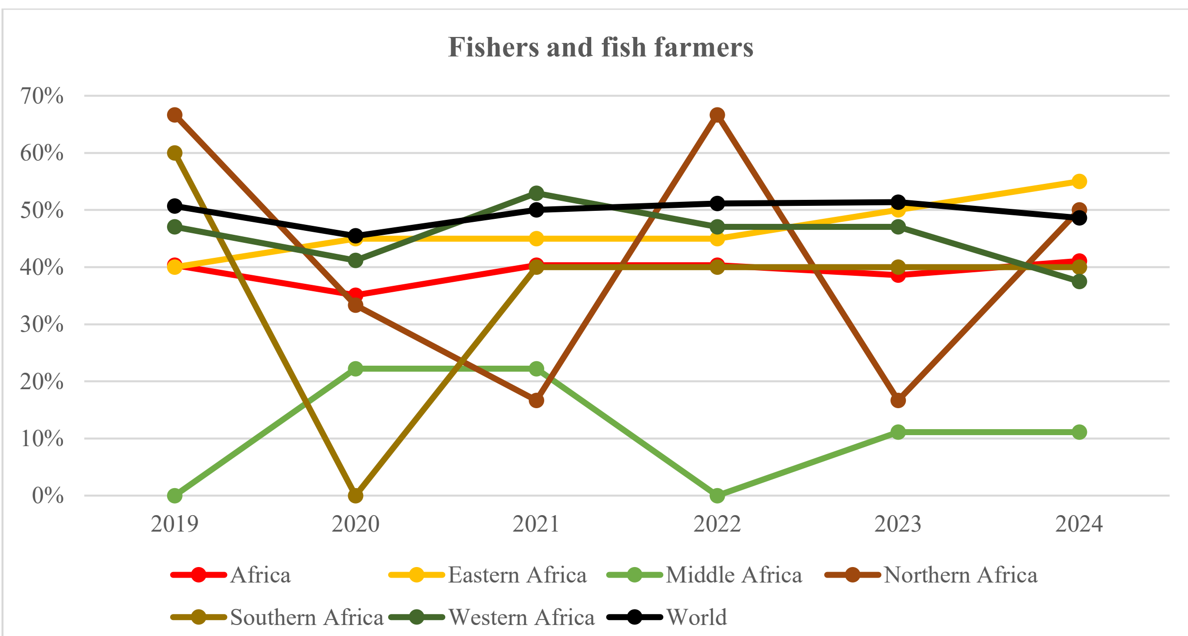


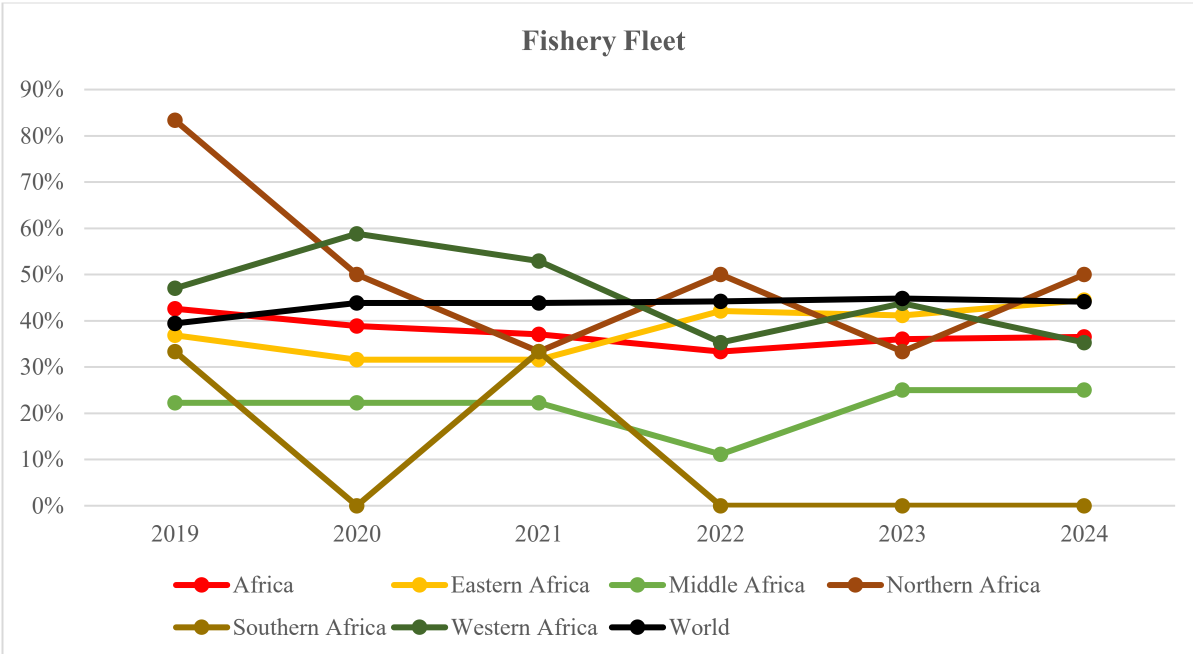


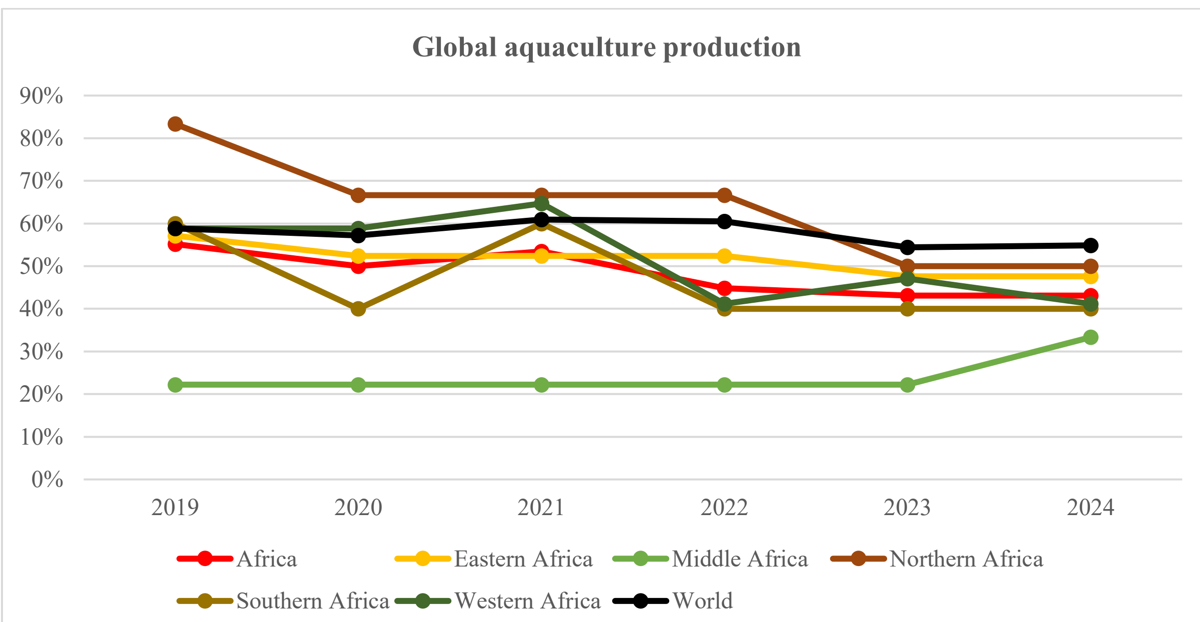
28. Regarding the Fisheries and aquaculture questionnaires, Eastern Africa is generally the sub-region with the highest response rates, although there are exceptions. Similarly, Middle Africa generally has the lowest response rates, though here too there are exceptions for specific questionnaires and years. Southern Africa is not performing well on the Production of preserved and processed fishery and aquaculture commodities, Fishery Fleet and Disposition of fishery and aquaculture production with no country responding in 2024. Northern and Western Africa fall in an intermediate range, with response rates between 15 and 50 percent across the questionnaires.

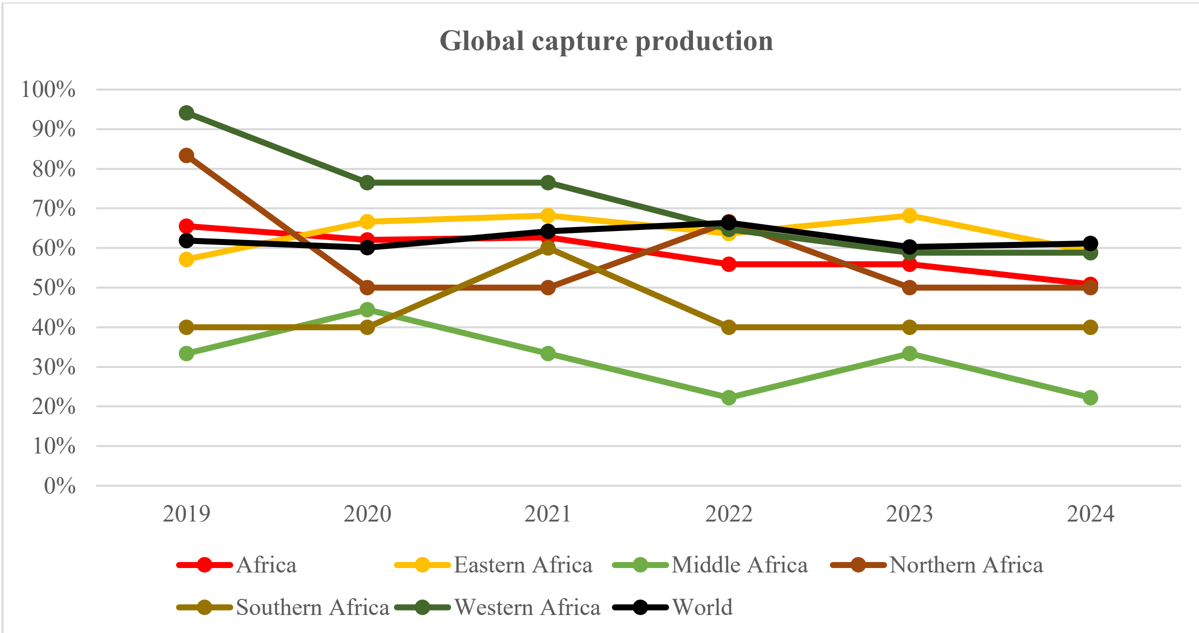
Figure 13: Response rate on the Fisheries and aquaculture questionnaires across sub-regions, (2019 – 2024).

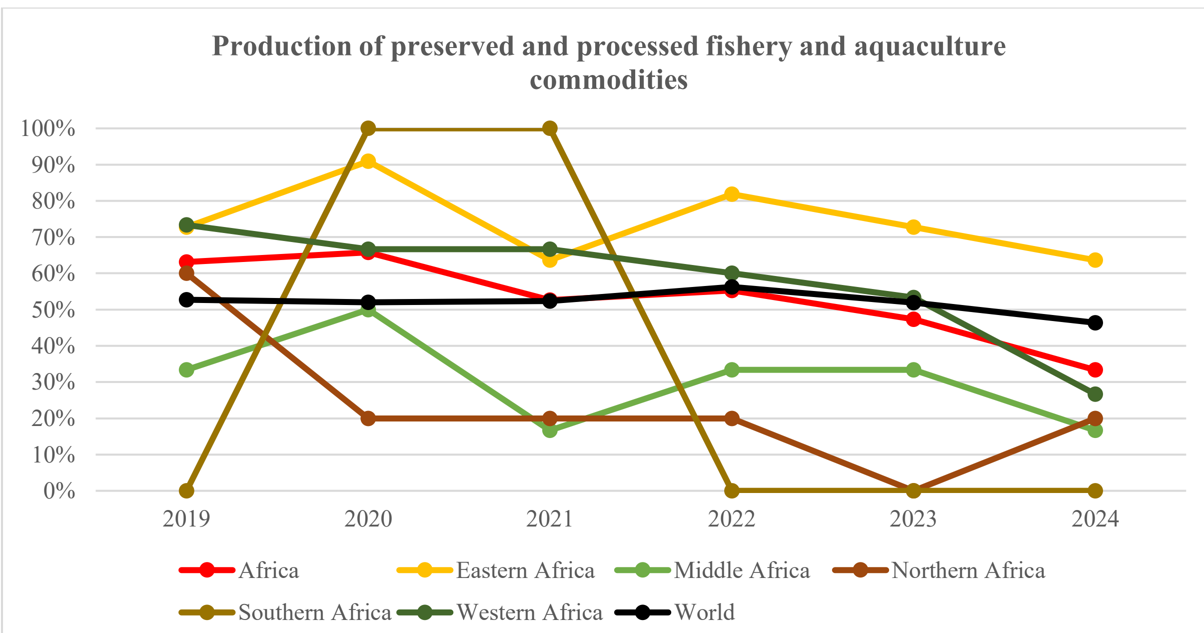


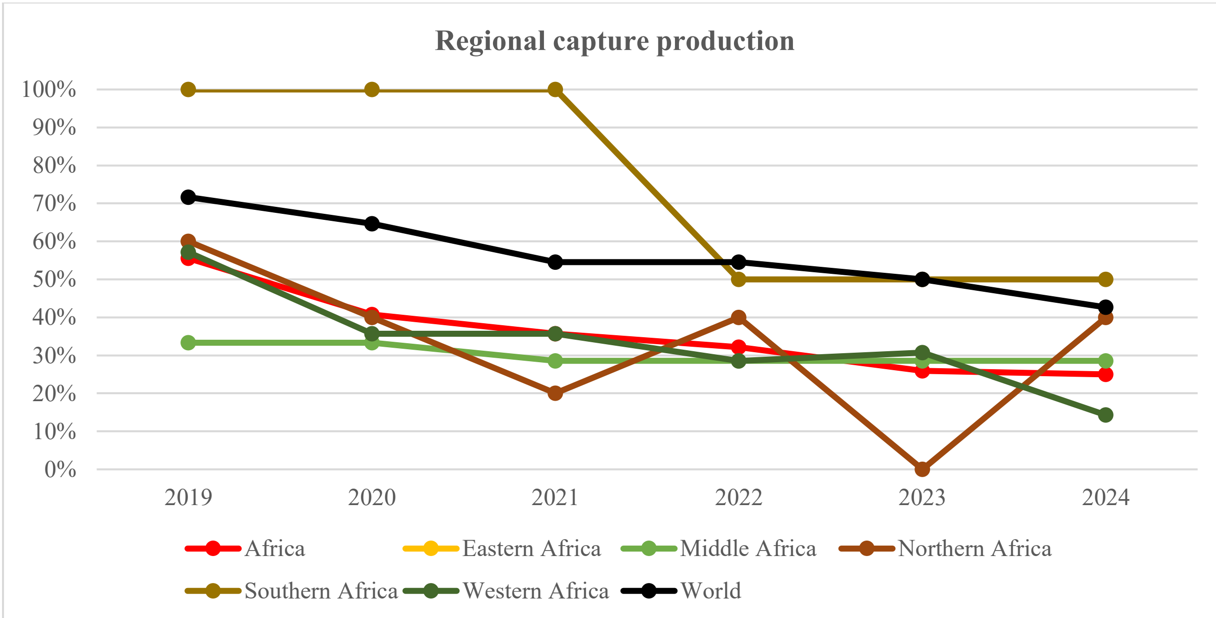



Fishery Fleet
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Africa
Eastern Africa
Middle Africa
Northern Africa
Southern Africa
Western Africa
World


Global aquaculture production
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Africa
Eastern Africa
Middle Africa
Northern Africa
Southern Africa
Western Africa
World


Global capture production
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Africa
Eastern Africa
Middle Africa
Northern Africa
Southern Africa
Western Africa
World

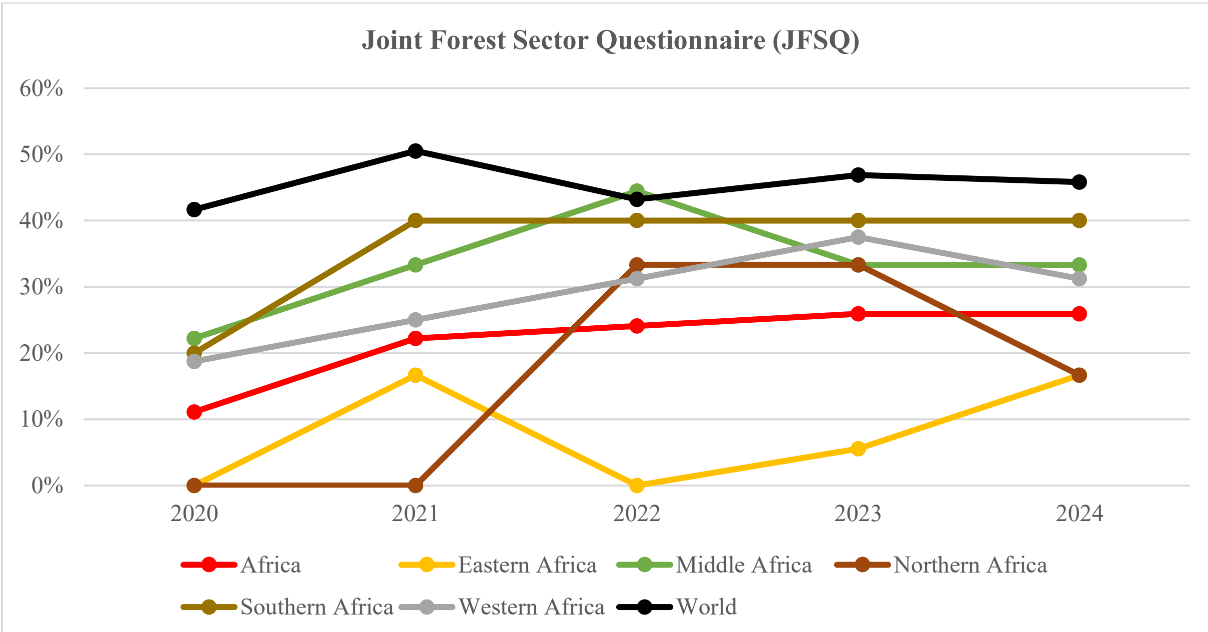

Production of preserved and processed fishery and aquaculture commodities
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
Africa
Eastern Africa
Middle Africa
Northern Africa
Southern Africa
Western Africa
World

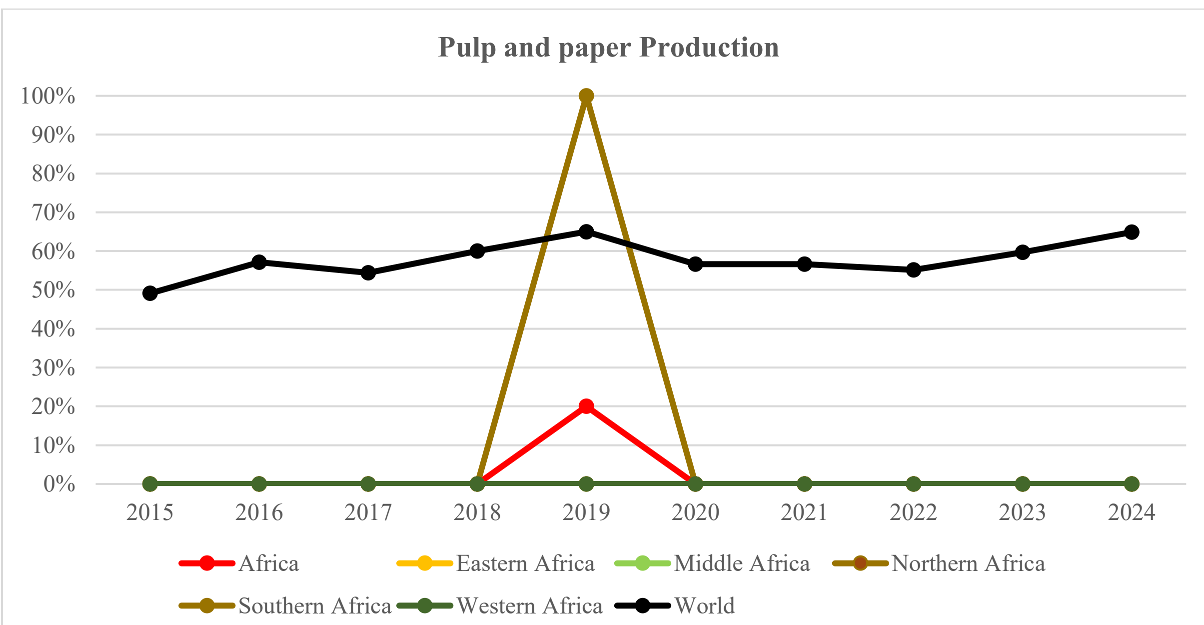


Note: The *Trade of fisheries and aquaculture commodities* questionnaire figure is not represented, as no questionnaires have been dispatched in Africa.

29. Regarding the Forestry questionnaires, one five countries across the continent receive the Pulp and paper production questionnaire sent by FAO, and only one of these (the only country receivng it from Southern Africa) has ever responded once since 2015, namely in 2019. Over the period 2020-2024, Southern Africa generally recorded the highest response rate to the *Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire* at 40 percent for the latest year,, while no responses were received from Northern Africa. The other sub-regions generally improved their response rates over the same period.

Figure 15: Response rate on the Forestry questionnaires across sub-regions, (2020 – 2024, 2015 – 2024).

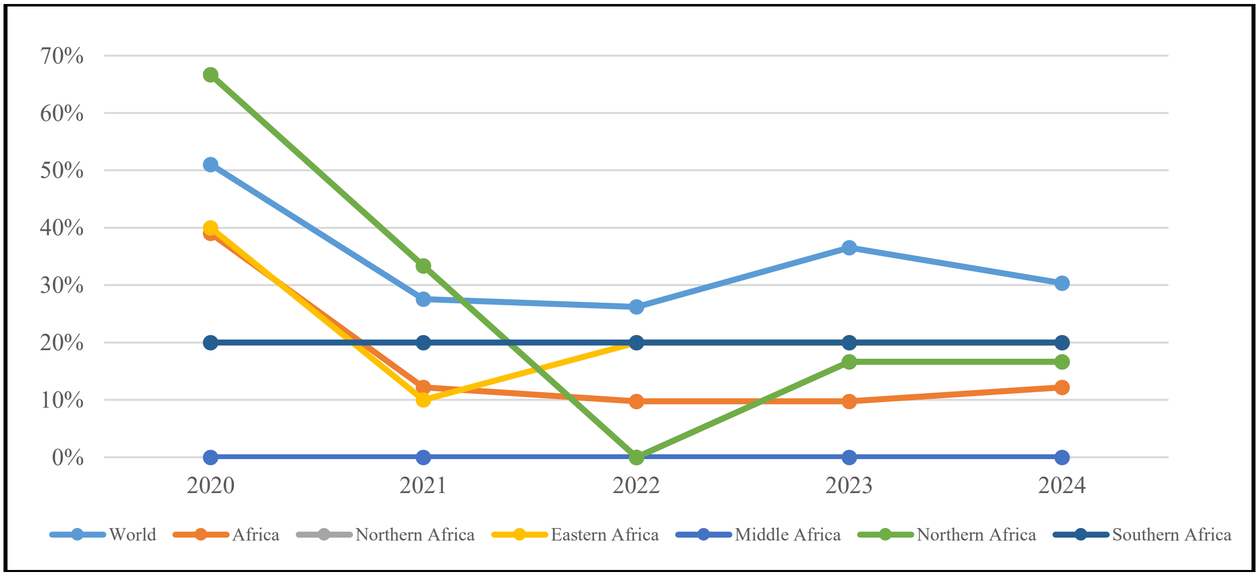




B. Response rates on AQUASTAT, Plant Genetic Resources and DAD-IS over time

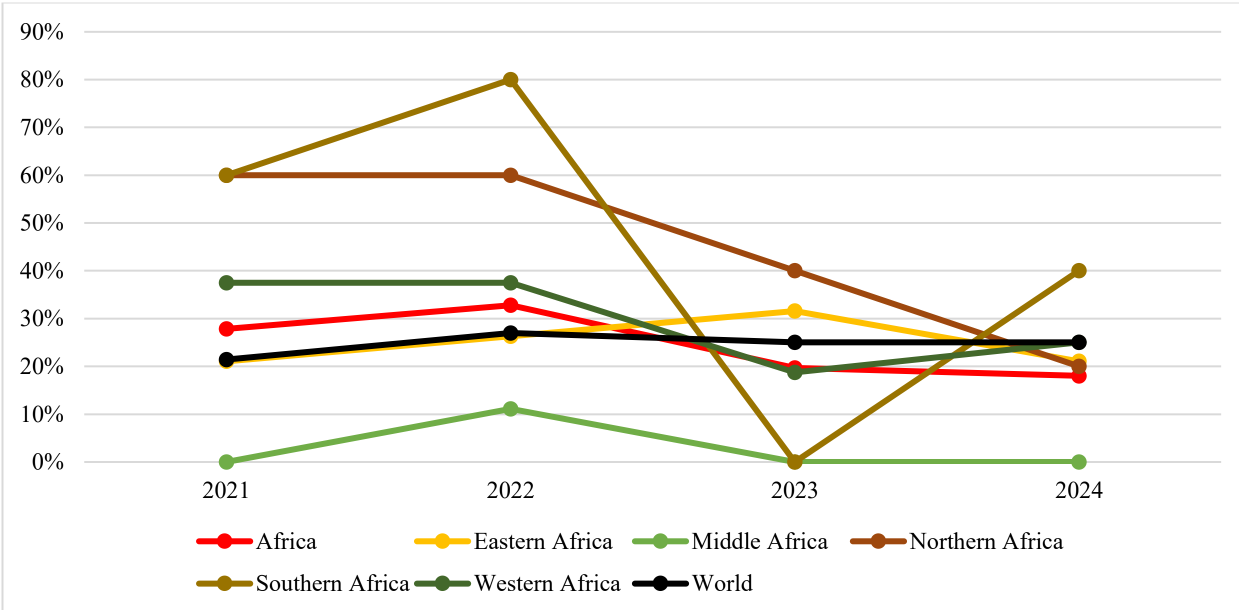
30. Response rates to the GPA questionnaire on plant genetic resources dropped substantially after the year 2020. This drop is most notable in Northern Africa, when had a response rate above the world average in 2020 but dropped to zero percent in 2022, before making only a small recovery in the period 2023-2024. Similarly, Eastern African responded to the questionnaire in 2020, but only 20 percent did so after 2022. Middle African countries provide no data on plant genetic resources whatsoever during this period, while only 20 percent of Southern African countries respond consistently throughout the period.

Figure 16: Response rate on the Plant Genetic Resources (GPA) questionnaire across sub-regions, (2020-2024).



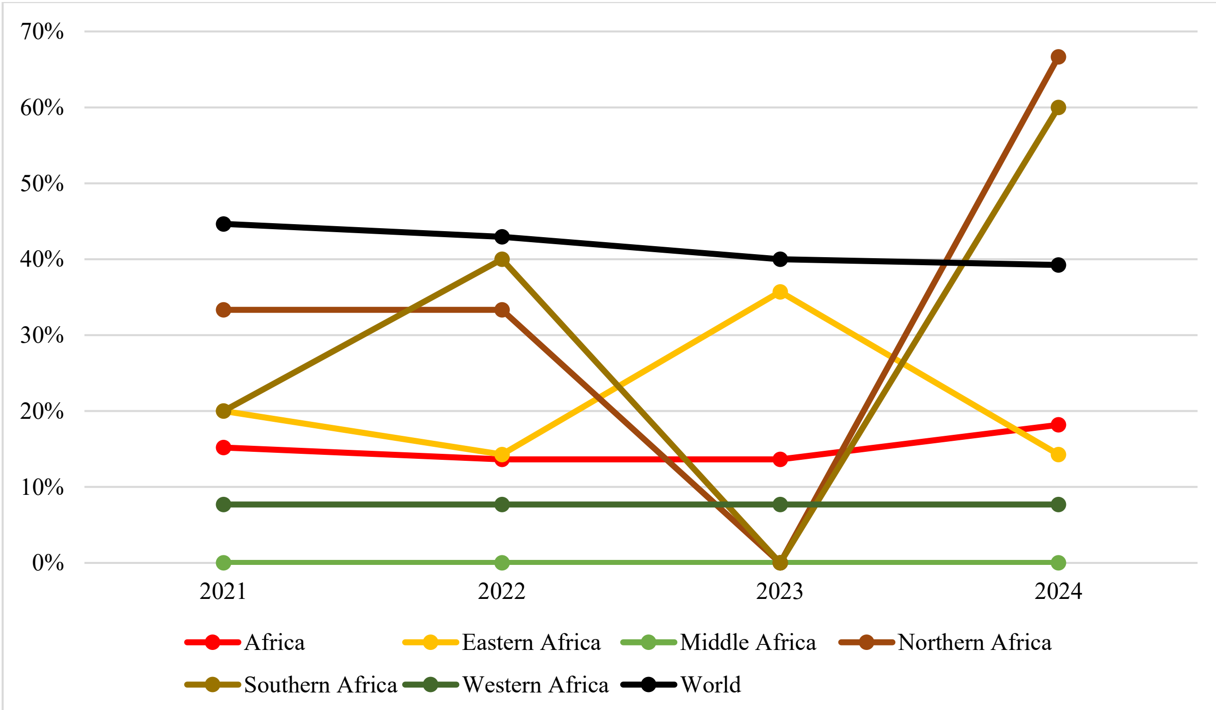
31. On the DAD-IS questionnaire, over the period, the sub-regions experienced a significant drop in their response rate in 2022. The response rates in Southern Africa decreased from 80 percent in 2022 to zero percent in 2023. In 2024, no country responded to the questionnaire in Middle Africa, 20 percent in Eastern and Northern Africa, and 40 percent – the highest rate – in Southern Africa.

Figure 17: Response rate on DAD-IS questionnaire across sub-regions, (2021-2024).



32. Response rates to the AQUASTAT questionnaire declined sharply in Southern Africa and Northern Africa, dropping from 40 percent and 33 percent respectively in 2022 to zero in 2023. In 2024, the response rates increased again in these two sub-regions reaching high levels of 67 percent in Northern Africa and 60 percent in Southern Africa. In contrast, the trend in Eastern Africa was reversed: after an increase from 2022 to 2023, the response rate fell again to just 14 percent in 2024. On this questionnaire, no country in Middle Africa responded over the period.

Figure 18: Response rate on AQUASTAT questionnaire across sub-regions, (2021-2024).



3. Upcoming plans for 2025-27 data collections

33. In 2025, FAO collected data from countries on two new questionnaires: the questionnaire on Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) and the questionnaire on food losses (from production to retail stages). The first questionnaire aims to provide policymakers and other potential users with annually updated indicators on agricultural research and development (R&D) input, focusing on investments and human resources. It will directly feed FAOSTAT data domain on the ASTI[1]. The second questionnaire aims to collect data on food losses, collected or estimated within countries, to increase FAO country-level reporting on SDG indicator 12.3.1a and improve the quality of FAO data on food losses in FAOSTAT data domain on supply and utilization accounts. It collects both official and unofficial loss data that will contribute to better estimate losses, identify causes and critical loss points across commodities and countries.

34. These two questionnaires were not considered in the response rates compiled above as their respective data collection processes were still ongoing at the time of the preparation of this document. Based on the analysis of the responses received from countries, FAO will decide if these data collections will be included in the regular list of data collection processes of the Organization from 2026. As of July 2025, no other new data collections were planned for 2025-27. The full list of data collection activities done by FAO, their related questionnaire and their collection periods is available on FAO statistics website[2].

35. In terms of data collection process, some novelty is expected from 2026 on. Indeed, to improve how FAO interacts with countries for the collection of national data, FAO recently approved, through its

[1] See document RAF/AFCAS/29/9.1 for more information
[2] See here: https://www.fao.org/statistics/data-collection/general/en

Capital-Expenditure programme, a modernization project that will allow the creation of a new data exchange platform. The objective of this platform is to provide a centralized management system for the dispatch and reporting of all FAO questionnaires.

36. FAO will continue to use Excel-based questionnaires for the collection of its data, but the access and reporting to these questionnaires as well as communications between national and FAO questionnaires focal points will be managed within the platform instead of by emails. This will allow for a better archiving system of communications and questionnaire submissions, meaning that any new national focal points will be able to access submissions or information exchanges from any previous data collection campaign. The platform will also produce automated validation reports almost in-real time after uploading the filled questionnaires in the system, allowing AFCAS members and questionnaire focal points to identify and address potential quality issues with the data reported on a more cost-effective matter. It is also foreseen that the platform will provide AFCAS members with their reporting profile overtime, and that by questionnaire and data collection campaign.

37. The development of the platform started in September 2025 and is expected to be fully functional at the end of 2027. AFCAS Members will be invited to pilot test early versions of the platform, participate in consultation processes and provide comments on its various functionalities. A more detailed work planning will be communicated to AFCAS Members in 2026.

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

38. Overall, the average response rate in Africa for FAO annual questionnaires lies below the world average, with uneven distribution by domain and/or across the five sub-regions. Response rates on Agricultural questionnaires decreased since 2018 and are particularly low for the Pesticide and Fertilizers questionnaires (6 percent in 2024).

39. On the Commodity market developments questionnaires, Africa is below the world average in both 2021 and 2024, with low response rates on the Banana and Tropical fruits questionnaires. Similarly, on the fisheries and forestry questionnaires, Africa is below the world average for both years. Regarding the fisheries questionnaires, the highest rate was on the Global Capture Production questionnaire (51 percent), and the lowest on the Regional Capture production questionnaire, in 2024 (25 percent). None of the African countries responded to the Pulp and Paper Production questionnaire and only 25 percent of them responded to the Joint Forest sector questionnaire. Between 2021 and 2024, response rates in Africa remained below global averages for the Plant Genetic Resources questionnaire (stagnating at 70 percent), DAD-IS (dropping from 33 percent to 18 percent), and AQUASTAT (rising slightly from 15 percent to 18 percent).

40. Across the sub-regions, the analysis reveals that response rates on most of the questionnaires of the Agricultural domains, declined significantly in 2023, particularly in Northern, Western and Southern Africa. Middle Africa have the lowest response rates across most of the Agricultural questionnaires, with no countries responding to some of the questionnaires in 2024, followed by Western and Northern Africa. In contrast, Southern Africa has the highest response rates in 2024 to the Crop and Livestock Production and Utilization, Producer Prices and GEA questionnaires.

41. In other domains, Southern Africa had the highest response rates on most of the commodity market developments questionnaires, with the exception of the Hard Fibres questionnaire where Eastern Africa recorded a rate of 80 percent in 2024. No country in Western and Northern Africa have responded to any of the commodity market questionnaires. On the fishery questionnaires, Eastern Africa had the

highest response rates on six of the questionnaires. In contrast, Middle Africa recorded the lowest response rates on most questionnaires, while no country in Southern Africa responded to three of them. Regarding the Forestry questionnaires, no country across the sub-regions responded to the Pulp and paper production. Southern Africa recorded the highest response rate to the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire and Northern Africa the lowest. On the GPA, DAD-IS and AQUASTAT questionnaires, once again, Southern Africa recorded the highest response rates in 2024, while Middle Africa the lowest, zero percent in almost all years.

42. The variation of response rates across the sub-regions of Africa region shows a mixed picture with improvements and deteriorations. A special attention should be given to the Northern and Western African sub-region that persistently registers the lowest response rates on the Agricultural domains and Commodity market developments, Forestry and Fisheries sectors. Middle Africa should also receive a special attention, as the sub-region reports low or zero percent response rates, especially on the Agricultural inputs questionnaires and the GPA, DAD-IS and AQUASTAT questionnaires.

Annex 1 – Number of countries to which the questionnaire is dispatched (latest year)

Questionnaire	World	Africa	Eastern Africa	Middle Africa	Northern Africa	Southern Africa	Western Africa
Land Use, Irrigation and Agricultural Practices	201	54	18	9	6	5	16
Fertilizers	201	54	18	9	6	5	16
Pesticide Use	200	54	18	9	6	5	16
Government Expenditure on Agricultural and related categories	190	53	18	9	5	5	16
Crop and Livestock Production and Utilization	165	53	18	9	5	5	16
Prices received by Farmers: Primary Crop and Livestock Products	166	53	18	9	5	5	16
SDG Indicator 2.4.1	194	54	18	9	6	5	16
Machinery	172	54	18	9	6	5	16
Banana	191	54	18	9	6	5	16
Tropical Fruits	191	54	18	9	6	5	16
Jute, Kenaf and Allied Fibres	37	8	4	0	2	1	1
Hard Fibres (Abaca, Sisal and Coir)	32	7	5	0	1	0	1
Tea	66	20	12	1	4	2	1
Global aquaculture production	215	58	21	9	6	5	17
Global capture production	229	59	22	9	6	5	17
Regional capture production	68	28	0	7	5	2	14
Disposition of fishery and aquaculture production	173	50	19	8	6	1	16
Production of preserved and processed fishery and aquaculture commodities	138	39	11	6	5	2	15
Trade of fishery and aquaculture commodities	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishers and fish farmers	218	56	20	9	6	5	16
Fishery Fleet	161	52	18	8	6	3	17
Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (JFSQ)	192	54	18	9	6	5	16
Pulp and paper Production	57	5	1	0	2	1	1
Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025	228	58	20	9	7	5	17
DAD-IS – SDG 2.5.1b and 2.5.2	252	61	23	9	7	5	17
Aquastat	158	44	14	8	4	5	13
Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture – SDG 2.5.1a and Second GPA	145	41	10	5	6	5	15

Data presented in this table refers to the year 2024, except for the *DAD-IS – SDG 2.5.1b and 2.5.2* questionnaire, which refers to 2025.