

Trade Competitiveness Briefing Paper

Green Trade Opportunities in Agriculture and Forestry for the Commonwealth Countries

Lawrence Othieno



The Commonwealth

Trade Competitiveness Briefing Paper 2024/01
ISSN 2520-291X

© Commonwealth Secretariat 2024

By Lawrence Othieno

The author wishes to acknowledge Neil Balchin, Economic Adviser for the review and valuable insights on the paper.

Please cite this paper as: Othieno, L. (2024), 'Green Trade Opportunities in Agriculture and Forestry for the Commonwealth Countries', *Trade Competitiveness Briefing Paper 2024/01*, Commonwealth Secretariat, London

The Trade Competitiveness Briefing Paper series provides evaluative and strategic research on new and emerging trade issues of relevance to the Commonwealth member countries. The series focuses on the practicalities of addressing these new issues as well as long existing (but still very current) policy challenges in a time-bound, targeted, and effective manner; taking into account both opportunities and challenges that emerge due to changes in global trade landscape. The views expressed here are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent those of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

For more information, contact the Series Editor: Opeyemi Abebe, o.abebe@commonwealth.int.

Contents

1. Introduction	6
2. Food production in the Commonwealth	7
3. Food security in the Commonwealth	9
4. Food trade in the Commonwealth	11
5. Land use and green production in Commonwealth countries	13
6. Forestry production and trade in the Commonwealth	16
7. The opportunities and benefits of green trade for the Commonwealth	19
8. Conclusion and possible interventions	20
Notes	21
References	21
Appendices	23

Executive summary

Transitioning to green trade is a matter of urgency, given the drastic impacts of the climate crisis in several countries across the Commonwealth and world over. These impacts have proved a serious challenge to sustainable development. The climate crisis is reshaping countries' economic and trade prospects, posing a major threat to human survival, future economic growth, and prosperity, especially for countries with high export concentrations in a range of climate-sensitive sectors, such as agriculture, fisheries, and tourism. If not countered, the crisis is likely to significantly destroy the trading capacity and export competitiveness of least developed countries (LDCs) and of small and vulnerable island countries. Urgent actions and supportive measures on adaptation and mitigation are needed to address the increasing risks and challenges the crisis poses.

According to the UK Board of Trade (2021), green trade refers to the exchange of goods, services, technologies, and practices that are environmentally friendly and contribute to sustainable development. Transitioning to green trade is one way to counter the climate crisis, using sustainable production, trade and supply chains and enabling access to affordable technologies and climate finance to support sustainable development.

The objective of this paper is to identify and champion the opportunities in green trade within the Commonwealth, especially in agriculture and forestry. These sectors are critical in tackling the climate crisis and resource degradation. Agriculture and forestry have large environmental footprints; addressing this is critical in nurturing a healthy ecosystem and supporting the sustainable management and use of land, water and natural resources through sustainable production, supply chains and trade.

The study behind this paper conducted analysis of trade performance and prospects in green trade in the two sectors. These covered patterns of food production, food trade, food security, land use, forest production and trade within the Commonwealth. The data used for analysis were sourced from FAOStat and the World Population Review. The period

for the data analysed came from between 2014 and 2021.

Food insecurity in the Commonwealth stood at 13.9 per cent of the total population during the period 2019–2021. Several Commonwealth countries are net food importers. The most moderate and severely food-insecure Commonwealth countries include The Gambia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Sierra Leone, and Zambia. The adoption and transfer of sustainable agricultural technologies, collaboration in knowledge-sharing and co-operation on best agriculture practices for the benefit of LDCs with limited access to new and innovative technologies could support their transition to green production and trade.

Organic certified food production and trade in the Commonwealth is more environmentally friendly than other forms of agriculture and promotes food security more effectively. Trade in certified organic agriculture products, specifically food, has the advantages of market access and growing international demand, which currently exceeds supply. This rise in demand for organic products is driving prices higher than is the case for conventionally grown and processed products. This then represents an opportunity to expand production and create more gainful green jobs. Several countries in the Commonwealth have expansive arable land suitable for sustainable agriculture and forestry, which would enhance green exports. These include Barbados, Belize, Cameroon, India, Malawi, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Togo, and Uganda, among others.

Global demand for forest products, including paper, timber, electric and fencing poles, and furniture, remains high. According to the Commonwealth Secretariat (2023), forest products have contributed to global deforestation, but the relative importance varies depending on the region and the commodity in question.¹ The sustainable management, production and use of forests is central to extending climate benefits, including sustainable sources of energy, biodiversity, and livelihoods.

The importance of healthy forests in the green transition has driven a rise in global standards certification of forest area and chain of

custody certificate holders.² The global certified forest area in 2020 was estimated to be 546.2 million hectares, accounting for 13.8 per cent of the global forest area. In the Commonwealth, the share of forest area is approximately 35.2 per cent of the total land area. There are 16 Commonwealth countries with more than 50 per cent forest area in total land area. In addition, Commonwealth countries that maintained a positive trade balance in wood trade over the period 2018–2021 were those with a high share of forest land. Therefore, sustainable production and trade in forest products remains central to managing climate change while enhancing livelihoods.

The transition to green trade, especially in agriculture and forestry, has convincing economic and environmental gains, which are critical for human survival. However, this will require huge investment, a regulatory framework, and institutional mechanisms to improve efficiency in resource use and environmental protection. The transition will necessitate an enabling environment that supports policy interventions that are cost-effective and that promotes the best means of addressing threats to the environment and human survival.

The agriculture and forestry sector has the potential to become an engine for sustainable development through the creation of millions of green jobs and livelihoods by addressing restrictive trade regimes to enhance green trade. Policy measures that could be of critical

support in the transition to green trade and environmentally friendly production include:

- Develop an effective institutional and regulatory framework to enforce sustainable land use and smart agricultural practices to enhance food production and sustainable forestry.
- Promote certified organic food production, especially for countries with expansive arable land.
- Promote certified forest production, the conservation of natural forests and the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems to ensure sustainable forest product trade.
- Prioritise co-operation and collaboration among countries to foster the transfer and dissemination of sustainable technology, access to resources and the provision of targeted capacity-building initiatives to enhance adaptation to environmentally friendly technologies that will support sustainable production.
- Develop incentive packages, including fiscal policies and interventions and the provision of land and farm equipment, as well as support to research and development on green innovation, to enhance green production and trade.
- Ease restrictions by removing or reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers on cross-border trade on green goods, especially certified agriculture, and forest products.

1. Introduction

For the Commonwealth countries, transitioning to a green economy, or the sustainable production and utilisation of natural resources to combat climate change, remains critical. Green trade opportunities are pivotal in achieving a green economy.³ Trade drives sustainable development,⁴ promotes social inclusion, creates gainful jobs and reduces poverty.⁵ Green trade has significant prospects in areas ranging from renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies to forestry and agriculture. However, if not done right, through sustainable production, it can accelerate environmental, social, and natural resource depletion and degradation (UNEP, 2016).

According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP, 2016), achieving a green economy through trade sustainability requires the alignment of market dynamics and incentives with social and environmental objectives. Trade-related measures such as low tariffs and non-tariff measures are a force multiplier that could help countries reduce the costs of adaptation and mitigation by enabling access to and diffusion of critical environmentally friendly technologies and by creating new market openings for green goods and services.

Several empirical and policy papers have examined the relationship between the green economy and trade and found it to be mutually beneficial. Ahmed et al. (2021) find that the production of clean energy, green innovation and green trade contributes positively to the green economic growth of South Asian economies. Pitkänen (2016) points to the importance of economic viability, public funding, technological development, impact assessments, public policies and regulations, social capital, leadership and co-ordination, and public acceptability and image. According to Can et al. (2022), the presence of green products in a country's trade basket reduces that country's ecological footprint.

The opportunity for green trade is exponential given the incremental rise in the global population, which has significantly increased the demand for consumables and competition for economic opportunities. The sustained demand for food and income could be addressed through the emerging opportunities

in the green economy through trade. The future of the green economy transition and the trade opportunities therein are dependent on each country's specific interventions.

According to the UK Board of Trade (2021), global natural disaster damage over the period 2000–2019 was estimated at US\$3 trillion, while \$44 trillion of economic value is highly or moderately dependent on nature and exposed to nature loss. It also projects that global gross domestic product (GDP) could be 10 per cent lower by 2050 if temperatures rise to 2.6°C above pre-industrial levels versus the Paris-aligned target of 2°C. Persistent high levels of hunger and malnutrition, and unsustainable human activity, have been found to stretch the earth's capacity to respond to climate change, presenting both a challenge and an opportunity for the agriculture sector (UNCTAD, 2011). Agriculture can contribute to mitigating climate change by adopting more sustainable practices and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The transition to a green economy, particularly sustainable agriculture, forestry, and natural resource protection, thus presents a major opportunity to counter climate change risks and hunger. It also provides opportunities to create jobs in the low-carbon economy and promotes green technological innovations (FAO, 2009).

Global trade in environmental goods outperformed global trade throughout 2022, valued at \$1.9 trillion and registering annual growth of 4 per cent (UNCTAD, 2023). The larger share of the export value, accounting for about 55 per cent of the \$1.9 trillion, is attributed to products such as electric and hybrid vehicles, non-plastic packaging, and wind turbines.

While there is a strong economic, environmental, and social case for promoting green trade, several important obstacles remain in many countries. These relate mostly to limitations in access to green technology, infrastructure, and knowledge, as well as in financial resources, regulatory frameworks, enforcement mechanisms and economic infrastructure.

This paper focuses on identifying and championing green trade in agriculture and forestry, which are sectors that are critical in tackling food security, climate change and resource

degradation. Agriculture and forestry have large environmental footprints and thus are critical in nurturing a healthy ecosystem and supporting the sustainable management of land, water, and natural resources (FAO, nd). Unsustainable agriculture and deforestation have contributed significantly to the climate crisis and its effects. Agriculture and forestry can become an engine for sustainable development, as well as creating millions of green jobs and supporting livelihoods to mitigate climate change effects.

This paper analyses sector performances in green production and trade prospects in agriculture and forestry, including in food and wood production, processing, and trade, to provide an illustration of the potential opportunities for a green transition. The study analyses patterns of food production, food trade, food security, land use, forest production and trade within the Commonwealth. The data used for analysis are sourced from FAOStat and World Population Review and come from the period 2014–2021.

2. Food production in the Commonwealth

The projected world population in 2050 will be 9 billion, by which time the agriculture sector will have to produce 60 per cent more food globally (FAO, nd). In most countries, the current trajectory of agricultural practices remains unsustainable, with negative impacts on natural resources and the environment, including deforestation, land degradation and loss in crop genetic diversity and animal breeds (ibid.). These challenges are large at a time when there is growing demand for more food and forest products.

Food production is under severe threat owing to climate change, population pressures and geopolitical disputes, both globally and within the Commonwealth. The years 2016 and 2020 were the hottest on record, continuing a long-term warming trend because of human activities (NASA, nd). As food and agricultural production are largely dependent on nature, unsustainable management, and utilisation of natural resources such as land, water and forestry affect sustainable food and agricultural production (FAO, nd). The rise in global temperature and the mismanagement of

natural resources have affected food production in several Commonwealth member countries. Food prices have risen owing to shortages in supply exacerbated by recent events, including the COVID-19 pandemic and the conflict in Ukraine (Vickers et al., 2020; Zhuawu, 2020; Salamat, 2022). Despite the rise in global food prices in recent years, though, the share of Commonwealth food production in global food production remains low, accounting for only about 12.8 per cent over the period 2017–2020 (Table 2.1).

India is the single largest food producer within the Commonwealth, accounting for about 48.2 per cent of the total value of food production, which translates to about 6.3 per cent of the global value of food production. Several Commonwealth countries are net food importers; only six – Australia, Canada, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, and the UK – accounted for about 76.7 per cent of the total value of food production in the Commonwealth in 2020 (Table 2.2). This indicates a wide gap about addressing food insecurity and points to the need for countries to increase investment in sustainable food

Table 2.1 World food production, 2017–2020

Year	World (\$ '000)	Commonwealth (\$ '000)	Commonwealth share (%)
2017	6,068,775,006	766,379,737	12.6
2018	6,126,536,383	778,472,652	12.7
2019	6,090,907,362	786,407,972	12.9
2020	6,153,737,663	792,660,883	12.9
Average	6,109,989,104	780,980,311	12.8

Source: FAOStat (2022)

Table 2.2 Top 20 Commonwealth countries' food production value, 2017–2020

	2017 (\$ '000)	2018 (\$ '000)	2019 (\$ '000)	2020 (\$ '000)	2020 share (%)
India	361,940,145	378,459,059	384,461,520	387,860,926	48.2
Nigeria	68,699,686	68,089,504	69,588,578	69,184,345	8.6
Pakistan	50,126,778	48,462,854	50,112,268	51,687,202	6.4
Australia	52,224,779	48,992,925	45,364,948	41,876,766	5.2
Canada	33,567,492	33,340,010	33,455,352	34,464,071	4.3
UK	33,419,885	32,947,630	33,880,207	32,279,026	4.0
South Africa	27,284,514	27,246,437	27,418,587	29,108,425	3.6
Malaysia	27,772,073	26,937,131	26,821,223	26,268,764	3.3
Bangladesh	24,567,849	24,524,816	24,618,815	25,217,681	3.1
Ghana	14,222,664	15,037,390	15,079,054	15,760,267	2.0
Kenya	14,858,241	13,741,526	15,172,995	15,802,713	2.0
New Zealand	10,826,110	11,308,575	11,327,155	11,495,854	1.4
Malawi	9,724,022	10,496,410	10,597,143	11,095,139	1.4
Tanzania	8,063,632	8,986,238	9,067,232	9,737,438	1.2
Cameroon	8,184,807	8,228,561	8,417,683	8,501,722	1.1
Zambia	6,356,556	6,153,504	6,110,571	6,412,933	0.8
Mozambique	5,336,837	6,471,569	6,298,879	6,164,756	0.8
Sri Lanka	4,882,965	5,670,165	5,768,809	6,616,700	0.8
Rwanda	3,886,055	3,529,394	3,647,686	3,672,057	0.5
Togo	2,390,877	2,467,960	2,525,246	2,567,904	0.3

Source: FAOStat (2022)

production through the adoption of sustainable technologies, collaboration and knowledge-sharing, and co-operation on best agriculture practices. This should include technology transfer from developed Commonwealth countries and large developing countries like India and South Africa to Commonwealth least developed countries (LDCs), as well as sustainable land use.

The major foodstuffs with the highest share of production value within the Commonwealth are rice, accounting for 12.5 per cent, cattle milk at 9.1 per cent, buffalo milk at 7.8 per cent, wheat at 6.5 per cent, maize corn at 3.3 per cent

and yams at 3.2 per cent (see Table A1 in the Appendix). The dominance of food production in the Commonwealth by only six countries points to a big opportunity for sustainable food production and green trade for member countries that have a considerable share of arable land, such as Belize, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo and Uganda, among others (see Table 5.3).

To promote sustainable food and agriculture, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) (2018) underscored five critical principles with 20 interconnected actions.

Principle 1: Improving efficiency in the use of resources

1. Facilitate access to productive resources, finance and services
2. Connect smallholders to markets
3. Encourage diversification of production and income
4. Build producers' knowledge

Principle 2: Conservation, protection, and enhancement of natural resources

5. Enhance soil health and restore land
6. Protect water and manage scarcity
7. Mainstream biodiversity conservation and protect ecosystem functions
8. Reduce losses, encourage reuse and recycle, and promote sustainable consumption

Principle 3: Improve livelihoods and foster inclusive economic growth

9. Empower people and fight inequalities
10. Promote secure tenure rights for men and women
11. Use social protection tools to enhance productivity and income
12. Improve nutrition and promote balanced diets

Principle 4: Enhance the resilience of people, communities and ecosystems

13. Prevent and protect against shocks: enhance resilience
14. Prepare for and respond to shocks
15. Address and adapt to climate change
16. Strengthen ecosystem resilience

Principle 5: Adapt governance to new challenges

17. Enhance policy dialogue and co-ordination
18. Strengthen innovation systems
19. Adapt and improve investment and finance
20. Strengthen the enabling environment and reform the institutional framework

The principles and actions outlined by FAO are critical in the transition to a green economy and green trade in food items. Sustainable food and agriculture production are of strategic importance in addressing food insecurity,

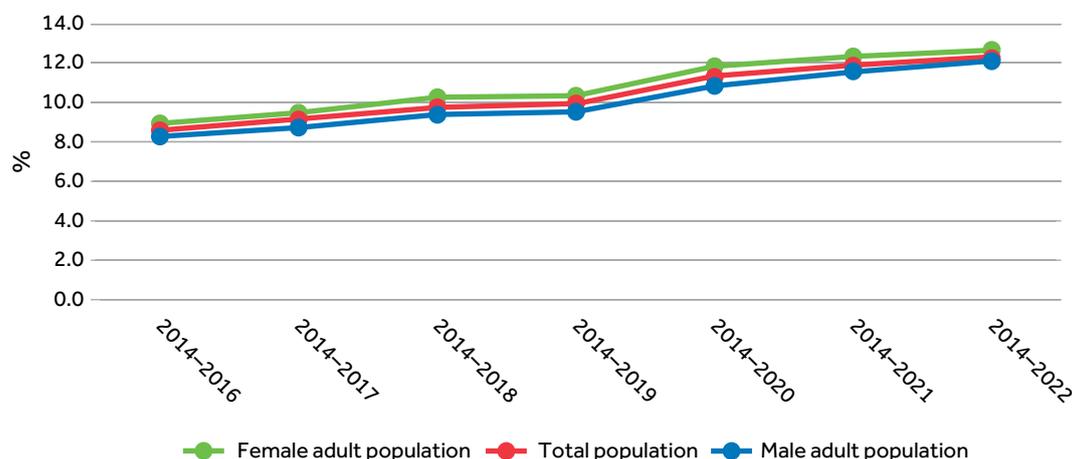
environmental conservation, and protection of natural resources in the Commonwealth. The next sections provide illustrations of the food security status and food trade in the Commonwealth.

3. Food security in the Commonwealth

Food security and rising food prices remain of fundamental concern in Commonwealth countries. The prevalence of food insecurity in the Commonwealth is higher than the global average of 11.9 per cent registered over the period 2020–2022, standing at 13.9 per cent (Figures

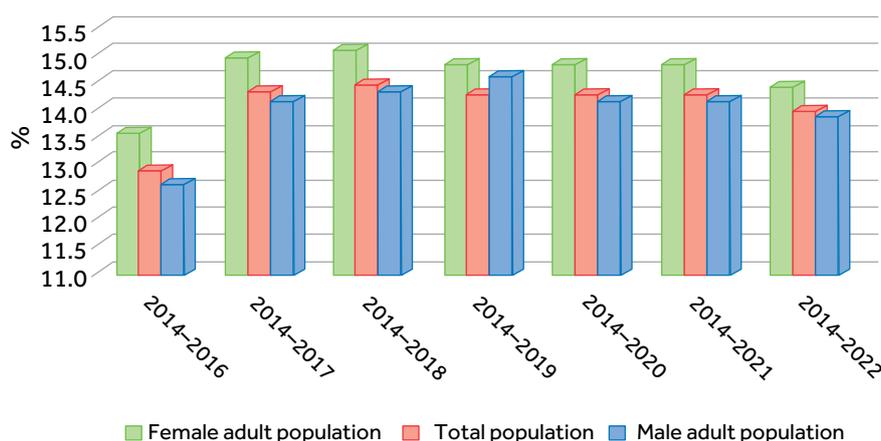
3.1 and 3.2). The worst-affected group in the Commonwealth is the female adult population. Severe food insecurity affects about 12.7 per cent of the total female population globally (Figure 3.1). In the Commonwealth, this rate is almost doubled for some countries: the average

Figure 3.1 Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the world, 3-year averages (%)



Source: FAOStat (2024)

Figure 3.2 Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the Commonwealth, 3-year averages (%)



Source: FAOStat (2024)

share of the female adult population in severe food insecurity stood at about 14.4 per cent in 2020–2022 (Figure 3.2).

The high level of food insecurity in the adult female population is then linked to malnutrition in infants. The relationship between household food security and infant and young child feeding is highlighted in Bwalya et al. (2023). This level of food insecurity within the Commonwealth indicates a food production

and trade gap, which is an opportunity that needs to be tapped through sustainable agricultural production and trade. Implementation of sustainable agricultural production has the potential to significantly improve food security through food trade among Commonwealth member countries.

As Table 3.1 shows, sub-Saharan Africa has the highest proportion of the total population in severe food insecurity.

Table 3.1 Prevalence of severe food insecurity in the Commonwealth, 3-year averages (%)

	2014–2016	2015–2017	2016–2018	2017–2019	2018–2020	2019–2021	2020–2022
Malawi	47.7	48.5	49.7	48.3	49.5	51.0	52.2
Mozambique			40.7	40.7	40.5	40.4	39.6
Namibia	28.8	29.6	30.5	31.3	32.1	32.6	33.0
Lesotho				27.0	29.0	30.9	32.8
Zambia	22.4	23.8	24.1	26.2	28.2	32.6	32.1
Sierra Leone	26.7	32.0	32.6	32.4	32.2	31.5	31.9
Kenya	15.0	17.8	21.6	23.4	24.9	26.1	28.0
Gambia		23.6	23.6	24.6	25.7	27.1	27.0
Botswana	18.4	21.5	22.8	23.1	23.7	25.4	26.7
Cameroon	22.3	26.6	28.2	28.1	27.3	26.7	26.7
Tanzania	20.6	24.8	25.6	24.9	24.4	25.8	26.3
Jamaica	25.3	24.8	24.5	23.0	23.3	23.1	25.6
Uganda	21.5	24.0	25.6	24.9	23.4	23.2	24.9
Nigeria	11.0	12.3	13.6	15.1	17.3	19.8	21.3
Togo	16.1	16.3	15.8	16.9	17.2	18.8	19.4
Eswatini						18.3	18.3
Pakistan	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.6	4.8	8.7	12.9
Bangladesh	13.3	12.4	11.6	10.6	10.5	10.7	11.0
Mauritius	5.2	5.9	6.2	6.8	8.3	9.1	10.5
Average	12.9	14.3	14.5	14.3	14.3	13.9	13.9

Source: FAOStat (2024)

4. Food trade in the Commonwealth

According to UNCTADStat 2022, the value of global food exports grew by about 27 per cent, from US\$1.2 trillion recorded in 2018 to about \$1.7 trillion in 2021, maintaining an average share of about 7.7 per cent in total merchandise exports over the period 2016–2021. Food trade was dominated by fruit and vegetables, accounting for about 22 per cent of the total value of food trade excluding fish, while cereal and its preparations accounted for 16 per cent and meats and meat preparations 12 per cent. The USA remains the leading net food exporter, while China is the major food importer specifically of cereals and meat.

In the Commonwealth, 20 countries accounted for more than 96.7 per cent of total food imports in 2021 (Table 4.1). These imports are largely sourced from outside the Commonwealth, which suggests prospective

opportunities for green food trade (organic food) to fill the food trade deficit within the Commonwealth and address food insecurity.

The market size of global organic food is growing steadily, and this has developed into a more organised movement as the fastest growing food sector globally (Suresh, 2017). The market value was about US\$140.5 billion in 2021 and it is projected to grow from \$157.5 billion in 2022 to about \$366.7 billion by 2029, exhibiting a compound annual growth rate of 12.8 per cent (Fortune Business Insights, 2023). The major markets for organic food include the USA (share of 42 per cent), the European Union (EU) (39 per cent), China (8 per cent), Canada (3 per cent) and Switzerland (3 per cent). The countries with the highest per capita organic food consumption include Austria, Denmark, Luxembourg, Sweden, and Switzerland. Other emerging markets for organic food include Brazil and Indonesia, among others.

The major suppliers of food imports to the Commonwealth include the USA, accounting for 14.9 per cent, Indonesia at 5.6 per cent, Netherlands at 4.9 per cent, France at 4.6 per cent, China 3.7 at per cent, Germany at 3.6 per cent, Malaysia at 3.4 per cent, Brazil at 3.4 percent and Thailand 3.3 at per cent, among others. In the top 20 suppliers of food to the Commonwealth only six are Commonwealth countries, with a share of only 15.4 per cent of the 73.3 per cent (Table 4.2).

The low value of intra-Commonwealth trade in food could be addressed through increasing sustainable food production (organic farmlands and restoration of biodiversity); easing restrictions – both tariffs and non-tariff barriers – on products that are sustainably produced; and supporting the standardisation, certification, labelling and packaging of food produced through sustainable agriculture practices in developing countries.

The countries that import the largest proportion of food in the Commonwealth are also the major suppliers. However, several countries in the Commonwealth recorded steady growth in food exports over the period 2019–2022, mostly registered in 2022 – namely, India, UK, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Pakistan, and Canada, among others.

Table 4.1 Top 20 food importing countries in the Commonwealth, 2019–2022 (%)

	2019	2020	2021	2022
India	23.0	27.6	40.2	35.7
Malaysia	10.5	10.1	8.5	11.3
Australia	6.5	5.7	7.6	10.3
UK	15.0	13.1	9.1	9.6
Canada	12.9	13.2	9.8	9.0
South Africa	7.6	7.4	6.1	6.1
Pakistan	6.1	5.6	4.2	4.9
Singapore	5.3	4.9	4.1	3.7
Ghana	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.3
Sri Lanka	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0
Cameroon	1.9	2.0	1.7	0.8
Kenya	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.7
Tanzania	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.6
Togo	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.6
Malawi	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6
Uganda	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4
Nigeria	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.4
Papua New Guinea (PNG)	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.4
Bangladesh	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Trinidad and Tobago	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3

Source: FAOStat (2024)

Table 4.2 Top 20 import sources of food for Commonwealth countries, 2019–20

	2019 (\$ '000)	2020 (\$ '000)	Average 2019–2020 (\$ '000)	Share 2019–2020 (%)
USA	32,745,361	32,188,253	32,466,807	14.9
Indonesia	11,404,152	12,791,924	12,098,038	5.6
Netherlands	10,094,307	11,123,742	10,609,025	4.9
France	10,101,700	10,007,792	10,054,746	4.6
China, mainland	7,783,423	8,549,798	8,166,611	3.7
Germany	7,684,178	7,916,621	7,800,400	3.6
Malaysia	7,354,681	7,479,828	7,417,255	3.4
Brazil	6,424,051	8,224,296	7,324,174	3.4
Thailand	7,465,718	6,958,631	7,212,175	3.3
Ireland	6,724,036	7,106,099	6,915,068	3.2
India	5,899,559	7,601,274	6,750,417	3.1
Italy	6,470,915	6,945,368	6,708,142	3.1
Argentina	6,127,286	6,585,755	6,356,521	2.9
New Zealand	6,062,062	5,919,587	5,990,825	2.7
Spain	5,544,121	6,193,045	5,868,583	2.7
Australia	5,312,622	5,359,411	5,336,017	2.4
Belgium	4,568,072	4,741,597	4,654,835	2.1
South Africa	4,381,473	4,083,448	4,232,461	1.9
Canada	3,626,879	3,846,177	3,736,528	1.7
Poland	2,951,465	3,674,501	3,312,983	1.5

Source: FAOStat (2022)

Table 4.3 Top 15 food exporting Commonwealth countries, 2018–2021 (%)

	2019	2020	2021	2022
India	14.7	15.6	17.4	21.2
UK	24.3	23.3	21.7	20.8
Bangladesh	12.3	11.8	11.6	11.9
Malaysia	9.9	10.1	9.4	9.4
Pakistan	4.8	6.9	6.5	7.0
Canada	5.5	5.6	5.1	5.1
Singapore	6.3	5.5	5.2	4.8
South Africa	3.9	3.2	2.8	3.3
Australia	4.3	4.3	2.3	3.3
Nigeria	3.4	3.2	3.0	3.0
Ghana	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.3
Mozambique	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.0
PNG	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8
Kenya	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
Cameroon	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.7
Mauritius	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6
Togo	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.5
Cyprus	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.4
The Gambia	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
Sri Lanka	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.4

Source: FAOStat (2024)

Several Commonwealth countries have a negative food trade balance. Table 4.4 shows the 20 Commonwealth countries with the worst food trade balance. However, countries with a negative food trade balance are not necessarily among those with prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the total population (Table A6 in the Appendix).⁶

High levels of food import dependency put several Commonwealth countries at high risk of food insecurity and has worsened their balance of trade. This shows the urgent need to address any impediment to sustainable food production and trade within the Commonwealth. In addition, climate change mitigation and land use and management are vital. Several countries have developed legal and regulatory frameworks targeting the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity for food and agriculture production (FAO, 2022). However, this will require, among other interventions, effective institutional mechanisms and capacity-building through awareness, research, education, and training to promote and support biodiversity for sustainable productivity in agrifood systems.

Table 4.4 Food trade balance of Commonwealth countries, 2018–2021 (\$ '000)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average 2019–22
UK	-29,355,236	-35,733,943	-35,563,511	-41,866,105	-35,629,699
Bangladesh	-11,102,576	-12,060,146	-16,644,566	-15,504,528	-13,827,954
Nigeria	-2,923,730	-3,501,834	-4,504,404	-4,292,066	-3,805,509
Pakistan	367,498	-2,576,353	-4,647,453	-4,140,256	-2,749,141
Mozambique	-620,234	-958,390	-1,340,926	-1,080,959	-1,000,127
Cyprus	-804,540	-704,197	-934,986	-1,104,048	-886,943
Botswana	-758,279	-765,422	-861,092	-902,210	-821,751
Jamaica	-727,579	-600,913	-780,766	-1,074,805	-796,016
Mauritius	-709,506	-622,270	-695,928	-955,296	-745,750
Singapore	942,563	-429,475	-955,316	-2,036,847	-619,769
Trinidad and Tobago	-554,500	-532,176	-592,438	-770,756	-612,468
The Bahamas	-596,978	-455,071	-491,827	-825,130	-592,252
Namibia	-540,273	-560,201	-701,921	-545,393	-586,947
Brunei Darussalam	-499,053	-568,174	-578,233	-609,094	-563,639
Maldives	-557,439	-402,824	-583,277	-688,835	-558,094
Malta	-515,497	-472,428	-544,656	-680,873	-553,364
Gabon	-521,499	-589,789	-549,794	-547,773	-552,214
Sierra Leone	-457,670	-512,714	-555,190	-602,743	-532,079
Cameroon	-433,844	-315,785	-440,729	-802,006	-498,091

Source: FAOStat (2024)

5. Land use and green production in Commonwealth countries

5.1 Land Area

Land remains the only fixed factor of production and is at the core of sustainable food and agriculture, and its continued productivity, especially for food and agriculture, is dependent on its usage and conservation. Stehfest (2019) underscores that land use and land cover are important when exploring future developments and policy options for climate change, biodiversity, food security, ecosystem services and sustainable development.

In the Commonwealth, statistical estimates indicate that, in 2020, about 36.4 per cent of the total land area was agricultural, 35.2 per cent was available for forestry, 21.2 per cent was cropland and 17.1 per cent was under permanent meadows and pastures (Table 5.1). According to the Commonwealth Living Lands Charter, nearly a quarter of the world's land area, including 11 million km²+ of arable land,

is in the Commonwealth.⁷ The Charter underscores the need for member countries to safeguard land resources; co-ordinate actions to address climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation or desertification; and promote climate-resilient and sustainable land management.

Table 5.1 Share in land area in the Commonwealth, 2017–2020 (%)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Agricultural land	36.4	36.4	36.2	36.4
Cropland	21.1	21.1	20.9	21.2
Forest land	35.4	35.3	35.2	35.2
Land under permanent meadows and pastures	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.1

Source: FAOStat (2023)

Table 5.2 Share in agricultural land area in the Commonwealth, 2017–2020 (%)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Cropland	65.2	65.2	65.1	65.3
Arable land	41.0	40.9	40.7	41.0
Land under permanent meadows and pastures	39.1	39.0	39.2	38.9
Agriculture area irrigated	25.6	25.9	32.4	31.5
Land under permanent crops	25.7	25.8	25.8	25.8
Land area equipped for irrigation	10.7	10.6	11.2	11.2
Agriculture land area under organic agriculture	2.8	3.1	3.6	4.0

Source: FAOStat (2023)

This analysis of land use is critical in moving towards a green economy and achieving sustainable trade in green products, especially food and agricultural products. The subsequent subsections further analyse agricultural and forest land in the Commonwealth.

5.2 Agricultural land

Agricultural land use here is categorised into seven types (Table 5.2). Cropland accounts for the most agricultural land in the Commonwealth, at 65.3 per cent in 2020. Agricultural land being farmed organically is at 4.0 per cent. Organic agriculture is fundamental to green trade. As Suresh (2017) says, ‘organic agriculture promotes and enhances agro-ecosystem health, including biodiversity, biological cycles, and soil biological activity’. It is gaining traction because modern agricultural farming practices and chemical applications in farming over the years have resulted in natural habitat imbalance and loss of soil health and led to many hazards, such as decreased groundwater level, soil salinisation, pollution by fertilisers and pesticides, genetic erosion, ill-effects on the environment, reduced food quality and increased costs of cultivation, making farmers poorer from year to year (Suresh, 2010).

Organic production would suit several countries that confront challenges related to high population density and natural disasters arising from climate crisis such as rising sea water levels and droughts. In the Commonwealth, countries with high population density per square kilometre including Bangladesh, Barbados, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Nauru, Rwanda and Singapore (see Table A3 in the Appendix); these can adopt innovative approaches to sustainable food production, including organic production.

According to Willer et al. (2021), 187 countries are farming organically on about 74.9 million hectares of agricultural land managed by at least 3.4 million farmers (ITC, 2023). Organic farming is at the cutting-edge of agriculture, such as in the pasturing of cows, hogs, goats and poultry and crop growing. Estimates show that organic certification is the biggest sustainability standard in terms of both area and product variety, covering about 75 million hectares of agricultural land across the world certified as organic in 2020, representing 1.6 per cent of agricultural land worldwide (ITC, 2023). This indicates great potential for green production and trade in organic products through sustainable land use, biodiversity conservation and organic farming.

Globally, countries with a large area under organic agriculture include Australia with approximately 35.7 million hectares, Argentina with 3.7 million hectares, Spain with 2.4 million hectares, India with 2.3 million hectares, China with 2.2 million hectares and Brazil with 1.28 million hectares (Willer et al., 2021). The countries with the most farmers practising organic farming are India (1.4 million), Uganda (0.21 million) and Ethiopia (0.20 million). In addition to Australia, India and Uganda, other Commonwealth countries with considerable agricultural land under organic farming include Fiji, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tanzania, and Vanuatu. Willer et al. (2021) estimate trade in organic products to be about US\$112 billion in 2019, with major markets being the USA (42 per cent), Germany (11.3 per cent) and France (10.6 per cent). Sterk (2018) found that demand for organic commodities exceeded supply and growth in international demand remained prospective.

Table 5.3 Top Commonwealth countries' agricultural area under organic farming, 2020 (%)

	Agricultural area under organic agriculture	Arable land
Samoa	83.0	22.9
Australia	10.0	8.6
Fiji	6.2	24.7
PNG	6.1	25.2
Sierra Leone	5.6	40.1
Cyprus	4.4	76.4
Togo	3.4	69.4
Tonga	3.2	57.1
Solomon Islands	2.9	17.1
UK	2.7	34.6
Sri Lanka	2.6	48.8
Canada	2.5	66.2
Singapore	2.3	84.9
India	1.5	86.8
Vanuatu	1.1	10.7
Grenada	1.0	37.5
New Zealand	0.8	5.2
Uganda	0.8	47.9
Ghana	0.6	19.9
Kenya	0.5	21.0
Tanzania	0.5	34.2
The Bahamas	0.4	57.1
Belize	0.3	52.3
Malta	0.3	87.4
Rwanda	0.3	63.6
Pakistan	0.2	84.2
Eswatini	0.1	14.3
Nigeria	0.1	50.4

Source: FAOStat (2022)

Table 5.3 shows that the share of agricultural land under organic agriculture *vis-à-vis* the

share of arable land in Commonwealth countries. It is important to note that the share of arable land does not reflect the availability of such land for agriculture, agroforestry, or organic farming.

The share of organic farming remains low in several countries, which could be attributed to biodiversity loss; poor land use, leading to a decline in soil fertility; outbreaks of pests and diseases because of destruction of species habitats; and overexploitation of natural resources. The prospects for organic food production and trade remain enormous within the Commonwealth, however. Box 1 shows how Samoa has, over the years, registered growth in organic farming through its traditional farming practices.

Transitioning to organic farming and trade remains a challenge for most Commonwealth countries, however, owing to extremely high costs of production – yields from organic agriculture in high-income countries are typically lower than those from other production systems (Lampkin, 2010; Ruskin, 2015) – as well as reduced land owing to land fragmentation (yet more land is required to produce the same amount of food as in conventional agriculture).

There are several member countries with considerable potential to increase their share of agricultural land under organic farming – namely, Belize, Cameroon, Canada, Gabon, Malawi, Nigeria, Pakistan, PNG, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, and Zambia, among others. These countries' share of arable land is high and the population density per square kilometre is low, creating opportunities for sustainable agriculture and increased green trade.

5.3 Forest land

In several Commonwealth countries, forest coverage and forest products are dominated by naturally regenerated forest. More than 92 per

Box 1: Organic farming in Samoa

Samoa has a tradition of organic food production. It relies heavily on local resources, natural regeneration of soils, diversity, traditional natural remedies for pests, manual weeding, and low labour input. Products such as cocoa, lime, coconut, banana, mango, pineapple, pawpaw, and ginger have always been planted in the Malaefono organic plantation. Certified market-oriented organic farming started in the country in 1994. The promotion of organic farming was championed by the National Organic Advisory Committee constituted under the Prime Minister's Office in 2006. Certified organic farming by Samoan farmers has been promoted by the government, development partners, the private sector, and non-governmental organisations such as Women in Business Development Incorporated and the Fiji-based Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community.

Source: World Bank (2011)

Table 5.4 Share in forest land in the Commonwealth, 2017–2020 (%)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Naturally regenerating forest	89.9	89.9	89.9	89.8
Planted forest	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.2

Source: FAOStat (2022)

cent of Commonwealth countries are dependent on natural forests, which constituted more than 89.8 per cent of total forest coverage in the respective countries in 2020 (Table 5.4). This indicates high dependency on natural forests for trade, which represents a threat to the

ecosystem and biodiversity but also aggravates climate change. Loss of forest cover leads to land degradation, and thus loss of soil fertility and a drive to desertification.

In only 16 Commonwealth countries does forest land constitute over 50 per cent of total land area. In 19 Commonwealth countries the share of forest land in total land area is below 20 per cent (Table 5.5).

The period 2017–2020 recorded a decline in the share of forest land in total land area for several countries (Botswana, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Singapore, and Uganda, among others). Loss in forest cover diminishes the growth prospects of trade in forest products such as wood and paper.

Table 5.5 Share of forest land in land area in the Commonwealth, 2017–2020 (%)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Guyana	93.7	93.6	93.6	93.6
Gabon	91.5	91.4	91.4	91.3
Solomon Islands	90.2	90.2	90.2	90.1
PNG	79.4	79.3	79.3	79.2
Seychelles	73.3	73.3	73.3	73.3
St Vincent and the Grenadines	73.2	73.2	73.2	73.2
Brunei Darussalam	72.1	72.1	72.1	72.1
Dominica	63.8	63.8	63.8	63.8
Fiji	61.3	61.7	62.0	62.4
Zambia	61.0	60.8	60.5	60.3
Malaysia	58.6	58.5	58.3	58.2
Samoa	58.7	58.5	58.3	58.2
Belize	57.5	57.0	56.5	56.0
Grenada	52.1	52.1	52.1	52.1
Tanzania	53.2	52.7	52.2	51.6
The Bahamas	50.9	50.9	50.9	50.9
Mozambique	47.6	47.3	47.0	46.7
Trinidad and Tobago	44.7	44.7	44.6	44.5
Cameroon	43.4	43.3	43.2	43.0
St Kitts and Nevis	42.3	42.3	42.3	42.3

Source: FAOStat (2023)

6. Forestry production and trade in the Commonwealth

The importance of healthy forests cannot be overemphasised, given their significance to life on land and their contribution to biodiversity,

climate change mitigation (the water cycle and absorption of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere) and sustainable livelihoods through

the sustainable wood trade. There is also potential for domestic value addition by developing processing capacity along the value chain from raw forest products to paper, furniture and others, to contribute to economic development and transformation. Global demand for forest products, particularly paper, timber, electric and fencing poles, and furniture, remains high. The sustainable management and use of forest is central to extending climate benefits through sustainable sources of energy, biodiversity, and livelihoods. It is thus crucial in enhancing green trade in forest products.

The importance of forests in the green trade transition has led to an increase in the global standards certification of forest areas and in the number of change-of-custody certificate holders. The global certified forest area was estimated to cover 546.2 million hectares by 2020, or 13.8 per cent of the global forest area. There are 58,740 chain-of-custody certificate holders covering the 546.2 million hectares (ITC, 2022). This will enhance sustainable trade in forest products, helping mitigate the climate crisis.

In the Commonwealth, the share of forest land in total land area was approximately 35.2 per cent in 2020. Top wood producers in the Commonwealth have less than 50 per cent forest land, except for Malaysia, Tanzania, Zambia, and PNG, as Tables 6.1 and 6.2 show. Meanwhile, Figure 6.1 shows Commonwealth countries' share of forestry production and trade in the world over the period 2018–2022. The highest export shares are of sawn wood, accounting for 19.8 per cent, printing and

Table 6.1 Top 20 wood producers and Commonwealth countries, 2018–2021 (%)

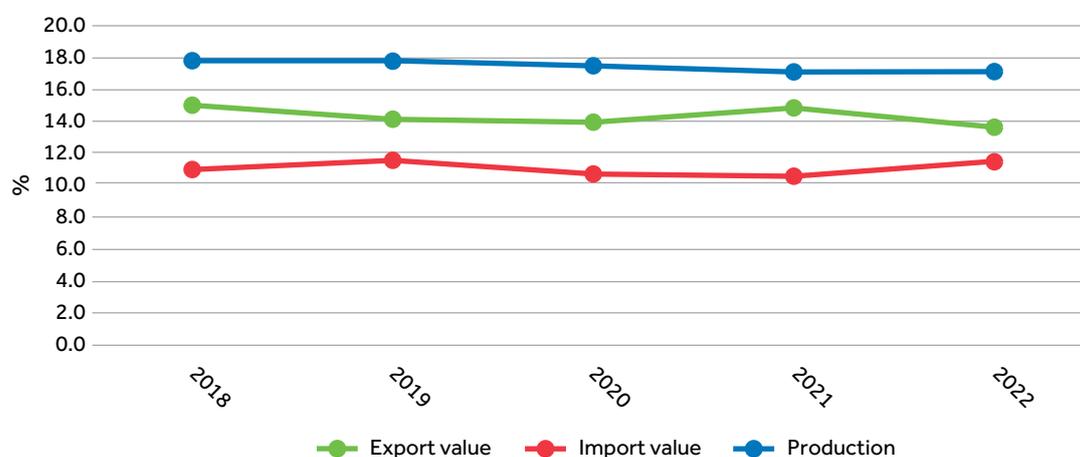
	2018	2019	2020	2021
India	31.1	31.6	31.9	31.7
Canada	20.7	19.4	19.2	19.4
Nigeria	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.2
Australia	5.4	5.5	5.0	4.6
Ghana	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.1
Uganda	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.8
New Zealand	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.4
South Africa	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.1
UK	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.9
Pakistan	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7
Malaysia	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3
Tanzania	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.3
Kenya	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.0
Zambia	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Bangladesh	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9
Mozambique	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Cameroon	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2
PNG	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Malawi	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Sierra Leone	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

Source: FAOStat (2023)

writing paper, at 11.5 per cent, and other paper and paper board at 10.0 per cent.

The major wood producers include India, Canada, Nigeria, Australia, Ghana, Uganda, New Zealand, South Africa, and the UK, among others.

Figure 6.1 Share of Commonwealth forestry production and trade in the world (%)



Source: FAO (2024)

Table 6.2 Commonwealth countries in top 20 wood exporters, 2018–2020 (%)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Canada	54.2	52.7	54.9	58.0
New Zealand	8.2	8.1	8.0	8.6
India	3.5	4.1	4.3	5.9
UK	5.5	6.0	6.0	5.7
Malaysia	5.2	5.8	5.5	5.3
Singapore	6.4	6.6	5.6	4.1
Australia	5.1	5.8	5.2	3.7
South Africa	3.6	3.1	3.7	2.9
Cameroon	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.0
PNG	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.9
Gabon	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.9
Solomon Islands	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.6
Mozambique	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3
Ghana	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3
Sierra Leone	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Tanzania	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Pakistan	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Nigeria	0.7	0.3	0.3	0.2
Eswatini	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Sri Lanka	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: FAOStat (2023)

The wood producers with less than 50 per cent of forest land are also the major exporters and importers of wood (Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, South Africa, and the UK, among others). However, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa have a positive trade balance, implying less importation of wood and high dependency on domestic wood, or the value of wood products exported is higher than that of imported wood, which could be raw materials.

The pattern of wood trade in the Commonwealth is dominated by large economies. The economies with less export value may require know-how on value addition through investment in the value chain, including support to small-scale producers on how to engage in sustainable wood production and trade.

Table 6.4 shows that most countries that maintained a positive trade balance in wood trade over the period 2018–2021 have a relatively high share of forest land – namely, Cameroon 43 per cent, Gabon 91.6 per cent, Guyana 93.6 per cent, Mozambique 46.7 per cent, PNG 79.2 per cent and Solomon Islands 90.1 per cent (see also Table 5.5). This pattern

Table 6.3 Wood imports by Commonwealth countries, 2018–2021 (\$ million)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
UK	28.8	29.6	30.5	28.4
Canada	14.7	15.1	16.2	16.1
India	16.0	16.9	13.1	15.2
Malaysia	7.4	7.8	8.2	8.5
Australia	6.1	6.0	6.6	6.4
Singapore	5.8	5.5	5.1	4.3
South Africa	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.3
Nigeria	1.9	1.6	1.7	3.0
Pakistan	3.0	2.5	2.6	2.7
Bangladesh	2.8	2.1	2.6	2.5
New Zealand	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.1
Sri Lanka	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.5
Kenya	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.4
Tanzania	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
Malta	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Cyprus	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3
Ghana	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.3
Uganda	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3
Zambia	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
Trinidad and Tobago	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: FAOStat (2023)

is ideal for sustainable wood trade, which is critical in managing deforestation and climate change while enhancing livelihoods. It will be vital to provide incentives such as land and farming equipment to wood producers and small-scale growers so they can establish own-wood plantations for sustainability and to eliminate the deforestation of natural forests.

The mismanagement of land use and forest cover have gradually led to low agricultural productivity in several countries, leading to food insecurity. This might be attributed to institutional limitations in enforcing land use regulations covering residential, agricultural, recreation, forestry, transportation, water catchment and commercial land, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and some island countries.

The establishment of effective institutions and land use regulations to promote sustainable land use for agriculture and forestry by Commonwealth countries will address food security risks and enhance trade in food and forest products, which are central in the

Table 6.4 Wood trade balance for the Commonwealth, 2018–2021 (\$ million)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Canada	27,045,502.0	21,374,209.6	20,443,575.6	30,349,360.9
New Zealand	4,357,310.0	3,445,506.0	3,108,887.0	4,670,254.4
Gabon	635,878.0	578,067.0	500,539.0	599,610.0
PNG	886,651.0	757,632.0	591,270.0	587,437.0
Cameroon	876,957.0	757,256.0	534,201.0	580,608.0
Singapore	954,685.0	830,152.0	551,687.0	438,898.9
Solomon Islands	654,465.0	476,064.0	359,618.0	380,460.0
Sierra Leone	98,978.0	118,543.0	113,192.0	148,396.0
Mozambique	219,697.0	197,550.0	57,206.0	134,309.4
South Africa	137,268.0	-225,445.0	319,356.0	108,107.0
Eswatini	46,972.0	78,586.0	70,048.0	75,137.4
Guyana	45,999.0	34,480.0	19,546.0	35,850.2
Gambia	15,517.0	60,163.0	17,974.0	23,843.1
Belize	-12,842.0	-16,936.0	-10,906.0	10,438.4
Ghana	-111,638.0	1,554.0	-26,385.0	9,621.0
Tuvalu	-1,505.0	-1,203.0	-850.0	-292.0
Nauru	-748.0	-697.0	-540.0	-1,637.0
Kiribati	-2,506.0	-2,244.0	-2,646.0	-3,869.0
Vanuatu	-3,246.0	-3,655.0	-6,705.0	-6,498.0
St Vincent and the Grenadines	-6,710.0	-7,335.0	-6,018.0	-7,360.1

Source: FAOStat (2023)

transition to a green economy. For example, Gabon is pursuing a positive approach to promote sustainable forestry management and wood processing through forest finance and carbon credit under REDD+ (Commonwealth Secretariat, 2023). Developing countries in

the Commonwealth need to prioritise sustainable utilisation of natural resources through the development of effective regulations and institutions to promote sustainable production and trade, including carbon credits for agroforestry.

7. The opportunities and benefits of green trade for the Commonwealth

International trade remains the best avenue through which all countries, developing or advanced, can achieve optimal gains from trade in goods and services. This includes access to technology and technological innovations, environmentally friendly goods and services, and sustainably produced green products (such as wood, food and other agricultural products). The need to transition to green trade is urgent, especially in the agriculture sector, which is central to addressing food insecurity and unemployment and enabling sustainable trade.

Sustainable agriculture and forest production provide great opportunities for green trade, ranging from organic food production to wood products, while having the potential to mitigate the climate crisis.

Green trade has great prospects both within the Commonwealth and globally. The potential for growth should drive Commonwealth countries to develop ambitious reforms to regulations and institutional capacity. This will make it possible to enforce environmental measures and roll out climate-smart agriculture practices

and certified forestry to enhance green production and trade.

The Commonwealth countries need to foster co-operation and collaboration on the promotion of open green trade through capacity-building initiatives and knowledge-sharing on green technologies and innovations, access to resources and enhancing adaptation to environmentally friendly technologies that support sustainable agriculture and forest production. This is because green technologies and know-how are not equally and easily accessible or affordable for all countries and regions within the Commonwealth.

Trade in certified organic agricultural products, particularly food, has great potential,

including in terms of market access and growing international demand, which currently exceeds supply. The rise in demand for organic products is driving prices higher than those for conventionally grown and processed products. Rising demand and prices in developed markets represent an opportunity to expand production and create more gainful green jobs. Several countries in the Commonwealth have expansive arable land suitable for sustainable agriculture and forestry, which could enhance green exports: Barbados, Belize, Cameroon, India, Malawi, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Togo, Sri Lanka, and Uganda, among others.

8. Conclusion and possible interventions

The transition to green trade, especially in agriculture and forestry, promises convincing economic and environmental gains that are critical for human survival. However, strategic intervention requires investment, regulatory frameworks, and institutional mechanisms to improve efficiency in resource use and environmental protection. It equally requires an enabling environment that supports policy interventions that are cost-effective and that promote the best means of addressing threats to the environment and human survival.

The agriculture and forestry sector can become an engine for sustainable development through the creation of millions of green jobs and livelihoods by addressing restrictive trade regimes to enhance food trade. Measures that are critical to support the transition to green trade and environmentally friendly production include:

- Develop effective institutional and regulatory frameworks to enforce sustainable land use, smart agricultural practices to enhance food production and sustainable forestry.
- Promote certified organic food production, especially for countries with expansive arable land.
- Promote certified forest production, the conservation of natural forests and the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems to ensure sustainable forest product trade. Adherence to the Commonwealth Living Lands Charter is critical towards the successful achievement of sustainable land use in the Commonwealth.
- Ensure co-operation and collaboration among countries to foster the transfer and dissemination of sustainable technology, access to resources and the provision of targeted capacity-building initiatives to enhance adaptation to environmentally friendly technologies to support sustainable agriculture and forest production.
- Develop incentive packages, including fiscal policies and interventions and the provision of land and farm equipment, as well as support to research and development on green innovation, to enhance green production and trade.
- Ease restriction by removing or reducing tariffs and non-tariff barriers on cross-border trade on green goods, especially certified agriculture and forest products. There is also a need for the Commonwealth developed economies to provide Aid for Trade to target support to developing countries, especially LDCs.

Notes

- 1 According to the Commonwealth Secretariat (2023), international trade is responsible for approximately 20–25 per cent of global deforestation, mainly through the production and export of various ‘forest risk’ commodities in global supply chains.
- 2 Chain of custody certificate holders are organisations that have obtained a chain of custody certification from the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). The FSC is an international non-profit organisation that promotes responsible management of the world’s forests. See <https://uk.fsc.org/what-is-fsc>
- 3 A green economy is one ‘that results in improved well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks, and ecological scarcities’ (UNEP, 2016). A green economy prioritises the health of the people and planet and their interlinkages, encompassing renewable energy, the protection of nature and a circular economy.
- 4 Bacchus and Amrita (2022) highlight the links between trade and climate change, biodiversity, and other aspects of natural ecology. They highlighted the growing recognition and need to align trade policies with environmental sustainability and how the global economy can evolve to support both economic growth and ecological preservation to achieve a sustainable future.
- 5 According to the World Bank (2015, 2021), trade has helped increase the number and quality of jobs in developing countries, stimulated economic growth and driven productivity increases.
- 6 According to FAO, a household is classified as moderately or severely food insecure when at least one adult has reported to have been exposed, at times during the year, to low quality diets and might have been forced to also reduce the quantity of food they would normally eat because of a lack of money or other resources. This is an indicator of lack of food access.
- 7 <https://thecommonwealth.org/our-work/living-lands-charter>

References

- Ahmed, F, S Kousar, A Pervaiz et al (2022) ‘Role of Green Innovation, Trade, and Energy to Promote Green Economic Growth: A Case of South Asian Nations’. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 29: 6871–6885.
- Ali, S (2022) ‘The Russia-Ukraine Conflict: Implications for Food Security in the Commonwealth’. *Trade Hot Topic* 182. London: Commonwealth Secretariat.
- Bacchus, J and S Amrita (2022) ‘Voices on Inclusive Trade International trade for global sustainable development’, available at <https://www.ids.ac.uk/opinions/international-trade-for-global-sustainable-development/>
- Bwalya, R, CM Chama-Chiliba, S Malinga and T Chirwa (2023) ‘Association between Household Food Security and Infant Feeding Practices among women with Children aged 6–23 Months in Rural Zambia’. *PLoS ONE* 18(10): e0292052, available at <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0292052>
- Can, M, M Ben Jebli and J Brusselaers (2022) ‘Can Green Trade Save the Environment? Introducing the Green (Trade) Openness Index’. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research* 29: 44091–44102.
- Commonwealth Secretariat (2023). *Sustainable Production and Trade: Perspectives from the Commonwealth*. London: Commonwealth Secretariat.
- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) (2009) ‘Enabling Agriculture to Contribute to Climate Change Mitigation’. Submission by FAO to the UNFCCC. Rome: FAO.
- FAO (2018) ‘Transforming Food and Agriculture to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SADGs): 20 Interconnected Actions to Guide Decision-Makers’. Rome: FAO, available at <https://www.fao.org/3/CA1647EN/ca1647en.pdf>
- FAO (2022) ‘Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture’. Rome: FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.
- FAO (nd) ‘Sustainable Development Goals: Sustainable Agriculture, available at www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/overview/fao-and-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development/sustainable-agriculture/en/’ (accessed 8 February 2023).
- Fortune Business Insights (2023) ‘Organic Foods Markets Size, Share, Growth and Forecast 2018–2029’, available at <https://www.fortunebusinessinsights.com/industry-reports/organic-foods-market-101470>
- International Trade Centre (2023) The State of Sustainable Markets 2023 Statistics and Emerging Trends, available at <https://intracen.org/file/sustainablemarkets202320231220webpages02pdf>
- Lampkin, N. (2010) ‘Organic Farming Myths and Reality’. *World Agriculture* 1: 46–53.
- NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) (nd) ‘Global Temperature’. *Vital Signs of the Planet*, available at <https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/global-temperature/> (accessed 8 February 2023).
- Pitkänen, K, R Antikainen, N Droste et al (2016) ‘What Can Be Learned from Practical Cases of Green Economy? Studies from Five European Countries’. *Journal of Clean Production* 139: 666–676.
- Poore, J and T Nemecek (2018) ‘Reducing Food’s Environmental Impact through Producers and Consumers’. *Science* 360(6392): 987–992.

- Rustin, S (2015) 'Why Are Organic Farmers across Britain Giving up?' *The Guardian*, 14 March, available at www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/mar/14/why-are-organic-farmers-across-britain-giving-up
- Stehfest, E, WJ van Zeist, H Valin et al (2019) 'Key Determinants of Global Land-Use Projections'. *Natural Communications* 10: 2166, available at <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-09945-w>
- Sterk, R (2018) 'Demand for Organic Still Exceeds Supply for Many Goods'. *Food Business News*, 10 February, available at www.foodbusinessnews.net/articles/12613-demand-for-organic-still-exceeds-supply-for-many-goods
- Suresh, BR (2010) 'Soil Fertility Management in Semi-Arid Regions: The Socio-Cultural, Economic and Livelihood Dimensions of Farmers' Practices: A case of Andhra Pradesh'. PhD Thesis, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Dr B.R. Amedkar University, Hyderabad.
- Suresh, BR (2017) 'Prospects of Organic Farming', in Khan, MS and MS Rahman (eds) *Pesticide Residue in Foods*. Springer International Publishing AG.
- UK Board of Trade (2021) 'Green Trade'. Board of Trade Report 2021, available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1008120/board-of-trade-report-green-trade.pdf
- UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development) (2011) 'Assuring Food Security in Developing Countries under the Challenges of Climate Change: Key Trade and Development Issues of a Fundamental Transformation of Agriculture'. Discussion Paper 211. Geneva: UNCTAD.
- UNCTAD (2023) 'Global Trade Update 2023'. March, available at https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ditcinf2023d1_en.pdf
- UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) (2016) *Green Economy and Trade Opportunities: Country Projects Synthesis Report*. Nairobi: UNEP.
- Vickers, B, S Ali, C Zhuawu et al (2020) 'Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Food Trade in the Commonwealth'. International Trade Working Paper 2020/15. London: Commonwealth Secretariat and FAO.
- Willer, H, J Travniecek, C Meier and B Schlatter (eds) (2021) *The World of Organic Agriculture. Statistics and Emerging Trends 2021*. Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL, Frick and IFOAM-Organics International.
- World Bank (2011) 'Developing the Organic Agriculture Sub-Sector in Samoa'. Final Technical Assistance Report for the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishers. Apia: World Bank.
- World Bank (2015) *The Role of Trade in Ending Poverty*. Washington, DC: World Bank.
- World Bank (2021) 'Spreading the Gains from Trade More Widely'. Press Release, 19 May, available at www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2021/05/19/spreading-the-gains-from-trade-more-widely
- Zhuawu, C, S Ali and H Enos-Edu. (2020) 'COVID-19 and Food Supplies in the Commonwealth'. *Trade Hot Topic* 165. London: Commonwealth Secretariat.

Appendices

Table A1 Gross food production of selected products in the Commonwealth (\$'000)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 average (\$)	2020 share (%)
Rice	96,362,870.0	98,661,710.0	100,167,560.0	101,453,617.0	99,161,439.3	12.5
Raw milk of cattle	69,116,808.0	72,906,369.0	73,337,659.0	72,943,926.0	72,076,190.5	9.1
Raw milk of buffalo	59,122,680.0	62,449,564.0	63,625,823.0	62,922,048.0	62,030,028.8	7.8
Wheat	52,907,179.0	50,414,104.0	50,975,282.0	50,949,901.0	51,311,616.5	6.5
Maize (corn)	24,793,288.0	25,155,717.0	25,870,808.0	27,820,299.0	25,910,028.0	3.3
Yams	26,577,281.0	24,939,302.0	25,067,387.0	25,301,995.0	25,471,491.3	3.2
Cassava, fresh	20,993,687.0	23,222,779.0	22,832,189.0	23,576,251.0	22,656,226.5	2.9
Other vegetables, fresh n.e.c.	20,616,865.0	21,866,791.0	22,224,202.0	21,513,725.0	21,555,395.8	2.7
Mangoes, guavas and mangoosteens	20,168,490.0	21,442,617.0	21,892,294.0	21,448,171.0	21,237,893.0	2.7
Seed cotton, unginned	22,284,679.0	20,032,816.0	21,372,184.0	17,723,075.0	20,353,188.5	2.6
Potatoes	18,125,701.0	18,642,326.0	18,646,971.0	18,805,844.0	18,555,210.5	2.3
Meat of cattle with the bone, fresh or chilled (indigenous)	17,581,408.0	16,661,191.0	17,590,485.0	17,503,418.0	17,334,125.5	2.2
Meat of chickens, fresh or chilled (indigenous)	14,846,294.0	15,598,164.0	15,128,225.0	15,285,347.0	15,214,507.5	1.9
Meat of chickens, fresh or chilled	14,405,715.0	14,837,562.0	14,800,485.0	14,932,084.0	14,743,961.5	1.9
Hen eggs in shell, fresh	13,383,394.0	13,930,212.0	14,753,824.0	15,471,142.0	14,384,643.0	1.8
Rape or colza seed	14,656,016.0	14,325,024.0	13,861,113.0	13,442,254.0	14,071,101.8	1.8
Oil palm fruit	14,408,682.0	13,943,905.0	14,036,311.0	13,745,501.0	14,033,599.8	1.8
Sugar cane	12,839,176.0	13,727,063.0	14,016,485.0	13,619,615.0	13,550,584.8	1.7
Bananas	13,078,058.0	12,966,074.0	12,954,942.0	13,434,718.0	13,108,448.0	1.7
Tomatoes	12,018,132.0	12,446,984.0	12,391,654.0	13,027,570.0	12,471,085.0	1.6
Meat of cattle with the bone, fresh or chilled	12,129,308.0	11,159,959.0	12,032,387.0	11,852,646.0	11,793,575.0	1.5
Oranges	7,279,628.0	7,938,568.0	8,759,887.0	9,027,349.0	8,251,358.0	1
Soya beans	8,951,778.0	7,925,354.0	8,171,989.0	7,498,995.0	8,137,029.0	1

(Continued)

Table A1 Gross food production of selected products in the Commonwealth (\$ '000)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 average (\$)	2020 share (%)
Onions and shallots, dry (excluding dehydrated)	7,602,981.0	7,807,844.0	7,765,894.0	8,686,260.0	7,965,744.8	1
Chickpeas, dry	7,487,573.0	8,488,734.0	7,081,875.0	7,885,360.0	7,735,885.5	1
Groundnuts, excluding shelled	7,075,745.0	8,146,922.0	6,614,634.0	8,436,438.0	7,568,434.8	1
Beans, dry	7,094,895.0	6,966,800.0	6,484,642.0	6,773,144.0	6,829,870.3	0.9
Plantains and cooking bananas	6,509,611.0	6,698,059.0	6,693,952.0	6,782,569.0	6,671,047.8	0.8
Meat of sheep, fresh or chilled (indigenous)	5,906,079.0	6,118,688.0	6,409,042.0	6,388,555.0	6,205,591.0	0.8
Grapes	5,985,066.0	5,757,874.0	5,786,963.0	5,996,233.0	5,881,534.0	0.7
Barley	6,063,274.0	5,183,875.0	5,639,098.0	6,038,721.0	5,731,242.0	0.7
Sweet potatoes	4,994,679.0	4,910,207.0	5,159,120.0	5,375,564.0	5,109,892.5	0.6
Meat of sheep, fresh or chilled	4,843,229.0	5,032,016.0	5,273,907.0	5,195,185.0	5,086,084.3	0.6
Sorghum	4,976,435.0	5,093,207.0	4,817,340.0	4,886,958.0	4,943,485.0	0.6
Cauliflowers and broccoli	4,802,764.0	4,832,750.0	5,047,826.0	4,941,068.0	4,906,102.0	0.6
Apples	4,514,487.0	4,466,952.0	4,619,041.0	5,010,709.0	4,652,797.3	0.6
Meat of goat, fresh or chilled	4,246,502.0	4,346,055.0	4,468,945.0	4,681,851.0	4,435,838.3	0.6
Meat of goat, fresh or chilled (indigenous)	4,232,285.0	4,329,115.0	4,453,030.0	4,664,525.0	4,419,738.8	0.6
Meat of pig with the bone, fresh or chilled (indigenous)	4,060,309.0	4,427,448.0	4,294,750.0	4,210,672.0	4,248,294.8	0.5
Other tropical fruits, n.e.c.	3,734,222.0	3,923,563.0	4,029,891.0	4,116,212.0	3,950,972.0	0.5
Meat of pig with the bone, fresh or chilled	3,732,454.0	4,104,989.0	3,983,572.0	3,912,696.0	3,933,427.8	0.5
Green garlic	2,993,382.0	2,923,195.0	4,749,041.0	4,802,989.0	3,867,151.8	0.5
Other fruits, n.e.c.	3,761,345.0	3,791,805.0	3,843,988.0	3,895,257.0	3,823,098.8	0.5
Peas, green	3,484,710.0	3,538,291.0	3,707,497.0	3,804,910.0	3,633,852.0	0.5
Millet	3,271,588.0	3,404,683.0	3,172,209.0	3,656,317.0	3,376,199.3	0.4
Coconuts, in shell	2,842,851.0	3,594,070.0	3,496,868.0	3,399,861.0	3,333,412.5	0.4
Pigeon peas, dry	3,953,559.0	3,435,999.0	2,735,262.0	3,183,073.0	3,326,973.3	0.4
Chillies and peppers, dry (Capsicum spp., Pimenta spp.), raw	3,430,633.0	3,522,387.0	2,946,347.0	2,903,648.0	3,200,753.8	0.4
Cabbages	3,086,736.0	3,107,330.0	3,150,896.0	3,240,681.0	3,146,410.8	0.4
Shorn wool, greasy, including fleece-washed shorn wool	3,021,368.0	3,070,146.0	2,784,188.0	2,563,738.0	2,859,860.0	0.4

(Continued)

Table A1 Gross food production of selected products in the Commonwealth (\$ '000)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 average (\$)	2020 share (%)
Areca nuts	2,469,533.0	2,647,848.0	3,099,957.0	3,152,865.0	2,842,550.8	0.4
Papayas	2,738,254.0	2,751,490.0	2,770,604.0	2,756,806.0	2,754,288.5	0.3
Lentils, dry	2,824,428.0	2,597,465.0	2,382,334.0	2,750,282.0	2,638,627.3	0.3
Pineapples	2,636,549.0	2,596,857.0	2,599,613.0	2,627,788.0	2,615,201.8	0.3
Natural rubber in primary forms	2,630,321.0	2,397,905.0	2,442,943.0	2,267,892.0	2,434,765.3	0.3
Lemons and limes	1,761,204.0	2,183,001.0	2,395,425.0	2,637,812.0	2,244,360.5	0.3
Tea leaves	1,934,330.0	2,074,233.0	2,010,891.0	2,299,553.0	2,079,751.8	0.3
Ginger, raw	1,543,085.0	2,046,591.0	2,047,495.0	2,195,775.0	1,958,236.5	0.2
Other citrus fruit, n.e.c.	2,134,701.0	1,960,870.0	1,660,878.0	1,653,584.0	1,852,508.3	0.2
Taro	1,838,525.0	1,844,363.0	1,864,404.0	1,793,602.0	1,835,223.5	0.2
Anise, badian, coriander, cumin, caraway, fennel/juniper berries, raw	1,808,786.0	1,778,091.0	1,713,117.0	1,693,026.0	1,748,255.0	0.2
Peas, dry	1,659,621.0	1,469,891.0	1,522,893.0	1,612,139.0	1,566,136.0	0.2
Unmanufactured tobacco	1,478,405.0	1,519,513.0	1,594,246.0	1,569,623.0	1,540,446.8	0.2
Okra	1,374,079.0	1,513,480.0	1,606,217.0	1,614,078.0	1,526,963.5	0.2
Cocoa beans	1,496,627.0	1,452,482.0	1,444,702.0	1,451,436.0	1,461,311.8	0.2
Cow peas, dry	1,409,424.0	1,332,256.0	1,371,026.0	1,449,131.0	1,390,459.3	0.2
Sesame seed	1,337,664.0	1,310,062.0	1,322,809.0	1,374,608.0	1,336,285.8	0.2
Almonds, in shell	1,221,573.0	1,135,863.0	1,380,663.0	1,441,493.0	1,294,898.0	0.2
Cashew nuts, in shell	1,145,925.0	1,304,138.0	1,177,533.0	1,210,521.0	1,209,529.3	0.2
Jute, raw or retted	1,212,478.0	1,209,511.0	1,198,662.0	914,050.0	1,133,675.3	0.1
Other stimulant, spice and aromatic crops, n.e.c.	1,147,195.0	987,346.0	1,041,373.0	1,086,718.0	1,065,658.0	0.1
Oats	1,169,898.0	911,187.0	1,042,693.0	1,097,288.0	1,055,266.5	0.1
Chillies and peppers, green (Capsicum spp. And Pimenta spp.)	1,008,579.0	1,088,387.0	995,579.0	1,076,279.0	1,042,206.0	0.1
Carrots and turnips	1,021,529.0	970,467.0	1,002,973.0	1,057,461.0	1,013,107.5	0.1
Mushrooms and truffles	920,197.0	960,031.0	981,193.0	999,728.0	965,287.3	0.1

(Continued)

Table A1 Gross food production of selected products in the Commonwealth (\$ '000)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 average (\$)	2020 share (%)
Coffee, green	944,523.0	974,262.0	985,120.0	903,697.0	951,900.5	0.1
Strawberries	862,351.0	962,899.0	1,028,351.0	917,494.0	942,773.8	0.1
Other nuts (excl. wild edible nuts and groundnuts), in shell, n.e.c.	849,284.0	889,342.0	930,409.0	985,278.0	913,578.3	0.1
Raw milk of goats	867,498.0	879,690.0	901,214.0	882,455.0	882,714.3	0.1
Sunflower seed	816,665.0	817,907.0	744,244.0	821,767.0	800,145.8	0.1
Natural honey	747,779.0	816,135.0	750,524.0	789,394.0	775,958.0	0.1
Pepper (Piper spp.), raw	697,532.0	803,301.0	757,493.0	754,023.0	753,087.3	0.1
Kiwi fruit	576,639.0	783,958.0	779,633.0	817,257.0	739,371.8	0.1
Raw milk of camel	635,635.0	625,718.0	847,635.0	840,398.0	737,346.5	0.1
Castor oil seeds	674,293.0	765,606.0	588,298.0	896,724.0	731,230.3	0.1
Silk-worm cocoons suitable for reeling	596,756.0	726,364.0	726,364.0	726,364.0	693,962.0	0.1
Other beans, green	581,895.0	587,428.0	568,294.0	643,104.0	595,180.3	0.1
Pumpkins, squash and gourds	564,786.0	580,104.0	577,891.0	620,567.0	585,837.0	0.1
Avocados	411,321.0	505,954.0	548,802.0	561,962.0	507,009.8	0.1
Green corn (maize)	495,672.0	486,392.0	513,432.0	481,412.0	494,227.0	0.1
Eggs from other birds in shell, fresh, n.e.c.	468,998.0	487,239.0	381,255.0	556,741.0	473,558.3	0.1
Pears	480,046.0	464,050.0	441,364.0	454,866.0	460,081.5	0.1
Lettuce and chicory	445,077.0	443,626.0	430,228.0	406,446.0	431,344.3	0.1
Dates	339,902.0	344,831.0	435,791.0	419,101.0	384,906.3	0
Linseed	375,607.0	341,873.0	279,926.0	345,630.0	335,759.0	0
Meat of ducks, fresh or chilled	341,780.0	341,206.0	332,563.0	310,933.0	331,620.5	0
Meat of ducks, fresh or chilled (indigenous)	341,778.0	341,201.0	332,563.0	310,930.0	331,618.0	0
Peaches and nectarines	325,656.0	317,179.0	329,447.0	332,831.0	326,278.3	0

Source: FAOStat (2022)

**Table A2 Gross production value of food in the Commonwealth
(constant 2014–2016 \$' 000)**

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020 share (%)
India	361,940,145	378,459,059	384,461,520	387,860,926	48.2
Nigeria	68,699,686	68,089,504	69,588,578	69,184,345	8.6
Pakistan	50,126,778	48,462,854	50,112,268	51,687,202	6.4
Australia	52,224,779	48,992,925	45,364,948	41,876,766	5.2
Canada	33,567,492	33,340,010	33,455,352	34,464,071	4.3
UK	33,419,885	32,947,630	33,880,207	32,279,026	4.0
South Africa	27,284,514	27,246,437	27,418,587	29,108,425	3.6
Malaysia	27,772,073	26,937,131	26,821,223	26,268,764	3.3
Bangladesh	24,567,849	24,524,816	24,618,815	25,217,681	3.1
Ghana	14,222,664	15,037,390	15,079,054	15,760,267	2.0
Kenya	14,858,241	13,741,526	15,172,995	15,802,713	2.0
New Zealand	10,826,110	11,308,575	11,327,155	11,495,854	1.4
Malawi	9,724,022	10,496,410	10,597,143	11,095,139	1.4
Tanzania	8,063,632	8,986,238	9,067,232	9,737,438	1.2
Cameroon	8,184,807	8,228,561	8,417,683	8,501,722	1.1
Zambia	6,356,556	6,153,504	6,110,571	6,412,933	0.8
Mozambique	5,336,837	6,471,569	6,298,879	6,164,756	0.8
Sri Lanka	4,882,965	5,670,165	5,768,809	6,616,700	0.8
Rwanda	3,886,055	3,529,394	3,647,686	3,672,057	0.5
Togo	2,390,877	2,467,960	2,525,246	2,567,904	0.3
Sierra Leone	2,715,048	2,526,563	2,049,007	2,466,618	0.3
Jamaica	1,671,341	1,659,948	1,503,478	1,378,905	0.2
Cyprus	875,221	849,170	881,925	880,648	0.1
Fiji	546,271	576,792	590,654	565,558	0.1
Guyana	483,465	557,897	511,381	515,373	0.1
Mauritius	461,262	437,036	459,285	406,355	0.1
Namibia	310,776	297,439	273,507	305,777	0.0
Gambia	260,597	253,329	251,219	280,172	0.0
Brunei Darussalam	246,673	252,190	246,462	271,120	0.0
Belize	227,330	212,264	200,343	205,239	0.0
Vanuatu	139,891	140,061	139,585	133,372	0.0
Trinidad and Tobago	130,513	139,611	124,916	137,333	0.0
Malta	175,933	115,789	109,276	113,631	0.0
Samoa	121,164	119,988	109,368	118,962	0.0
St Vincent and the Grenadines	96,615	98,891	104,697	103,804	0.0
Botswana	51,824	85,145	75,214	136,355	0.0
Grenada	83,813	89,927	88,069	84,062	0.0
Singapore	81,887	80,406	84,747	92,121	0.0
Saint Lucia	82,403	84,364	81,558	75,420	0.0
Barbados	55,541	59,414	61,743	58,543	0.0
Antigua and Barbuda	19,271	18,381	18,996	17,362	0.0
Seychelles	16,274	19,021	18,949	18,357	0.0
St Kitts and Nevis	10,891	10,834	10,572	10,324	0.0
Maldives	5,876	5,109	6,225	6,637	0.0
Grand total	777,207,864	789,783,245	797,737,146	804,158,757	100

Source: FAOStat (2023)

Table A3 Population density for Commonwealth member countries, 2022

	Density/km	Density/mile	Population	Total area Km ²
Singapore	8,323	21,556	5,975,689	710
Maldives	1,746	4,522	523,787	300
Malta	1,667	4,316	533,286	316
Bangladesh	1,315	3,406	171,186,372	147,570
Barbados	655	1,696	281,635	430
Mauritius	640	1,658	1,299,469	2,040
Nauru	633	1,641	12,668	21
Rwanda	558	1,446	13,776,698	26,338
India	477	1,235	1,417,173,173	3,287,590
Tuvalu	377	977	11,312	26
Grenada	369	956	125,438	344
Sri Lanka	353	914	21,832,143	65,610
Pakistan	306	792	235,824,862	881,912
Trinidad and Tobago	298	773	1,531,044	5,130
Saint Lucia	295	764	179,857	616
UK	279	723	67,508,936	242,900
The Gambia	267	693	2,705,992	10,689
St Vincent and the Grenadines	267	690	103,948	389
Jamaica	261	676	2,827,377	10,991
Nigeria	240	621	218,541,212	923,768
Uganda	236	610	47,249,585	241,550
Seychelles	233	603	107,118	452
Malawi	216	561	20,405,317	118,484
Antigua and Barbuda	213	552	93,763	442
St Kitts and Nevis	183	475	47,657	261
Togo	163	421	8,848,699	56,785
Kiribati	162	420	131,232	811
Tonga	148	384	106,858	747
Ghana	147	381	33,475,870	238,533
Cyprus	135	351	1,251,488	9,251
Sierra Leone	119	309	8,605,718	71,740
Malaysia	103	268	33,938,221	330,803
Dominica	97	251	72,737	751
Kenya	95	246	54,027,487	580,367
Brunei	85	221	449,002	5,765
Samoa	80	207	222,382	2,842
Lesotho	76	197	2,305,825	30,355
Tanzania	74	192	65,497,748	945,087
Eswatini	70	181	1,201,670	17,364
Cameroon	59	153	27,914,536	475,442
Fiji	51	132	929,766	18,272
South Africa	49	128	59,893,885	1,221,037
Mozambique	42	109	32,969,518	801,590
The Bahamas	41	106	409,984	13,943

(Continued)

Table A3 Population density for Commonwealth member countries, 2022

	Density/km	Density/mile	Population	Total area Km ²
Zambia	27	70	20,017,675	752,612
Vanuatu	27	69	326,740	12,189
Solomon Islands	26	67	724,273	28,896
PNG	22	58	10,142,619	462,840
New Zealand	20	51	5,185,288	270,467
Belize	18	46	405,272	22,966
Gabon	9	24	2,388,992	267,668
Botswana	5	12	2,630,296	582,000
Canada	4	11	38,454,327	9,984,670
Guyana	4	11	808,726	214,969
Australia	3	9	26,177,413	7,692,024
Namibia	3	8	2,567,012	825,615

Source: World Population Review (2022)

Table A4 Share of agricultural land under organic farming and arable land, 2020 (%)

	Agriculture area under organic agriculture	Arable land
Samoa	83.0	22.9
Australia	10.0	8.6
Fiji	6.2	24.7
PNG	6.1	25.2
Sierra Leone	5.6	40.1
Cyprus	4.4	76.4
Togo	3.4	69.4
Tonga	3.2	57.1
Solomon Islands	2.9	17.1
UK	2.7	34.6
Sri Lanka	2.6	48.8
Canada	2.5	66.2
Singapore	2.3	84.9
India	1.5	86.8
Vanuatu	1.1	10.7
Grenada	1.0	37.5
New Zealand	0.8	5.2
Uganda	0.8	47.9
Ghana	0.6	19.9
Kenya	0.5	21.0
Tanzania	0.5	34.2
The Bahamas	0.4	57.1
Belize	0.3	52.3
Malta	0.3	87.4
Rwanda	0.3	63.6
Pakistan	0.2	84.2
Eswatini	0.1	14.3
Nigeria	0.1	50.4

(Continued)

Table A4 Share of agricultural land under organic farming and arable land, 2020 (%)

	Agriculture area under organic agriculture	Arable land
Bangladesh	0.0	80.8
Cameroon	0.0	63.6
Jamaica	0.0	27.0
Malawi	0.0	63.7
Malaysia	0.0	9.6
Mauritius	0.0	87.2
Mozambique	0.0	13.6
South Africa	0.0	12.5
Zambia	0.0	15.9
Antigua and Barbuda		44.4
Barbados		70.0
Botswana		1.0
Brunei Darussalam		29.9
Dominica		24.0
Gabon		14.7
Gambia		72.7
Guyana		33.8
Kiribati		5.9
Lesotho		22.9
Maldives		60.9
Namibia		2.1
St Kitts and Nevis		83.3
Saint Lucia		26.9
St Vincent and the Grenadines		28.6
Seychelles		9.7
Trinidad and Tobago		46.3
Grand total	3.9	40.7

Source: FAOStat (2022)

Table A5 Food trade balance for Commonwealth countries, 2019–2023 (US\$ '000)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average 2019–22
UK	-29,355,236	-35,733,943	-35,563,511	-41,866,105	-35,629,699
Bangladesh	-11,102,576	-12,060,146	-16,644,566	-15,504,528	-13,827,954
Nigeria	-2,923,730	-3,501,834	-4,504,404	-4,292,066	-3,805,509
Pakistan	367,498	-2,576,353	-4,647,453	-4,140,256	-2,749,141
Mozambique	-620,234	-958,390	-1,340,926	-1,080,959	-1,000,127
Cyprus	-804,540	-704,197	-934,986	-1,104,048	-886,943
Botswana	-758,279	-765,422	-861,092	-902,210	-821,751
Jamaica	-727,579	-600,913	-780,766	-1,074,805	-796,016
Mauritius	-709,506	-622,270	-695,928	-955,296	-745,750
Singapore	942,563	-429,475	-955,316	-2,036,847	-619,769
Trinidad and Tobago	-554,500	-532,176	-592,438	-770,756	-612,468
Bahamas	-596,978	-455,071	-491,827	-825,130	-592,252
Namibia	-540,273	-560,201	-701,921	-545,393	-586,947
Brunei Darussalam	-499,053	-568,174	-578,233	-609,094	-563,639
Maldives	-557,439	-402,824	-583,277	-688,835	-558,094
Malta	-515,497	-472,428	-544,656	-680,873	-553,364
Gabon	-521,499	-589,789	-549,794	-547,773	-552,214
Sierra Leone	-457,670	-512,714	-555,190	-602,743	-532,079
Cameroon	-433,844	-315,785	-440,729	-802,006	-498,091
Gambia	-199,343	-199,172	-191,214	-632,597	-305,582
Lesotho	-310,407	-306,981	-210,942	-313,770	-285,525
Barbados	-250,389	-249,173	-251,087	-326,303	-269,238
Rwanda	-111,090	-233,886	-201,210	-488,215	-258,600
Seychelles	-143,262	-175,173	-225,182	-211,583	-188,800
Antigua and Barbuda	-141,934	-122,536	-136,834	-165,956	-141,815
Saint Lucia	-124,768	-114,836	-165,397	-161,226	-141,557
Fiji	-82,120	-105,815	-119,962	-166,771	-118,667
Samoa	-82,223	-89,190	-97,111	-104,840	-93,341
Grenada	-87,469	-76,199	-86,583	-109,189	-89,860
Togo	-67,393	-95,065	-104,380	-61,648	-82,122
St Vincent and the Grenadines	-70,978	-70,281	-83,379	-90,832	-78,868
Tonga	-55,165	-53,793	-72,404	-65,602	-61,741
Solomon Islands	-115,364	-59,022	-33,588	-37,794	-61,442
Vanuatu	-49,965	-43,896	-55,909	-68,974	-54,686
Kiribati	-34,060	-50,208	-68,870	-53,142	-51,570
Dominica	-49,755	-41,928	-42,040	-57,974	-47,924
St Kitts and Nevis	-48,340	-37,697	-39,350	-56,346	-45,433
Ghana	1,536,001	-455,205	-1,041,075	-157,311	-29,398
Belize	-23,633	-29,423	-14,891	-44,412	-28,090
Nauru	-13,029	-13,362	-16,057	-18,454	-15,226
Tuvalu	-6,044	-6,412	-7,565	-9,157	-7,295
Papua New Guinea (PNG)	-151,017	-260,687	134,877	315,953	9,782
Eswatini	221,677	188,172	182,931	-10,188	145,648

(Continued)

Table A5 Food trade balance for Commonwealth countries, 2019–2023 (US\$ '000)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	Average 2019-22
Guyana	186,962	336,812	137,163	93,684	188,655
Zambia	156,640	237,714	368,200	523,200	321,439
Kenya	474,551	648,151	441,981	151,927	429,153
Sri Lanka	611,921	565,931	429,868	260,605	467,081
Uganda	556,266	492,640	368,438	680,373	524,429
Malawi	535,291	373,088	597,697	623,054	532,283
Tanzania	1,040,608	1,121,996	1,333,962	1,000,659	1,124,306
South Africa	2,965,764	3,654,807	4,562,933	5,064,076	4,061,895
Malaysia	4,803,629	5,174,354	9,504,695	11,397,802	7,720,120
Canada	9,895,119	14,406,764	18,444,308	19,527,128	15,568,330
India	14,949,591	19,264,006	21,180,304	19,239,949	18,658,463
New Zealand	19,602,927	19,982,053	22,474,979	22,719,803	21,194,941
Australia	18,723,360	15,316,550	27,200,830	33,385,743	23,656,621

Source: Computed from FAOStat (2024)

Table A6 Prevalence of food insecurity in the total population in Commonwealth countries (%)

	2019–2021	2020–2022	Average 2019–2021 and 2020–2022
Sierra Leone	86.7	89.2	88.0
Malawi	81.3	82.4	81.9
Mozambique	73.7	75.4	74.6
Uganda	72.5	74.2	73.4
Zambia	69.5	73.1	71.3
Kenya	69.5	72.3	70.9
Eswatini	67.0	67.0	67.0
Nigeria	62.9	69.7	66.3
Togo	62.5	62.9	62.7
The Gambia	58.0	60.7	59.4
Tanzania	57.6	58.7	58.2
Namibia	57.9	57.7	57.8
Cameroon	55.8	58.5	57.2
Botswana	55.6	56.3	56.0
Lesotho	54.4	56.7	55.6
Jamaica	50.3	54.4	52.4
Belize	42.3	45.5	43.9
Trinidad and Tobago	43.3	43.3	43.3
Kiribati	41.0	41.0	41.0
Ghana	36.6	39.4	38.0
Pakistan	32.6	42.3	37.5
St Vincent and the Grenadines	33.3	33.3	33.3
Antigua and Barbuda	33.0	33.0	33.0
Bangladesh	31.7	31.1	31.4
Barbados	31.1	31.1	31.1
Mauritius	28.2	32.0	30.1
St Kitts and Nevis	26.9	29.8	28.4
Samoa	23.6	23.6	23.6
Vanuatu	23.3	23.3	23.3
Saint Lucia		22.2	22.2
Fiji	19.3	24.2	21.8
Grenada	22.3	21.1	21.7
South Africa	19.0	20.3	19.7
Tonga	20.4	17.6	19.0
The Bahamas	17.2	17.2	17.2
Malaysia	15.4	16.0	15.7
New Zealand	14.5	15.1	14.8
Seychelles		14.7	14.7
Maldives	13.4	13.4	13.4
Australia	11.9	11.4	11.7
Sri Lanka	10.0	10.9	10.5
Canada	6.5	7.7	7.1
Malta	5.2	7.2	6.2
Singapore	4.6	6.6	5.6
UK	3.5	4.1	3.8

Source: FAOStat (2023)

Table A7 Wood exports by Commonwealth countries (\$ '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Canada	35,279,239.1	29,215,529.0	27,701,131.9	39,254,439.9
New Zealand	5,363,192.0	4,480,381.0	4,030,774.0	5,815,496.1
India	2,295,645.0	2,259,457.0	2,155,702.0	4,023,983.2
UK	3,609,039.2	3,344,670.1	3,044,614.2	3,841,058.9
Malaysia	3,389,188.0	3,210,179.0	2,769,097.0	3,572,320.7
Singapore	4,171,057.0	3,678,886.0	2,838,004.0	2,795,554.0
Australia	3,334,366.0	3,206,410.0	2,602,867.0	2,470,664.1
South Africa	2,373,493.0	1,738,551.0	1,863,018.0	1,955,902.4
Cameroon	965,651.0	842,641.0	626,186.0	672,022.0
PNG	923,302.0	793,141.0	631,370.0	627,322.0
Gabon	653,493.0	592,754.0	512,632.0	611,623.0
Solomon Islands	660,008.0	478,797.0	363,728.0	384,357.0
Mozambique	291,596.0	288,496.0	144,816.0	220,443.7
Ghana	289,627.0	291,130.0	179,932.0	178,810.0
Sierra Leone	112,742.0	132,026.0	125,040.0	160,414.0
Tanzania	76,022.0	85,722.0	91,557.0	135,944.5
Pakistan	196,239.0	85,792.0	81,627.0	133,487.2
Nigeria	463,843.0	164,132.0	154,733.0	118,029.2
Eswatini	95,361.0	107,203.0	96,605.0	110,077.6
Sri Lanka	82,956.0	48,482.0	53,067.0	69,828.9
Namibia	37,255.0	47,968.0	59,097.0	64,715.0
Kenya	63,574.0	43,292.0	44,222.0	62,387.2
Fiji	66,137.0	46,287.0	33,830.0	56,085.0
Uganda	38,339.0	33,021.0	61,164.0	50,666.0
Guyana	60,606.0	46,500.0	34,909.0	50,603.2
Zambia	63,735.0	48,591.0	23,430.0	41,641.2
Trinidad and Tobago	4,351.0	12,608.0	10,420.0	39,766.3
The Gambia	27,434.0	71,969.0	27,342.0	35,922.5
Belize	5,076.0	3,808.0	3,135.0	32,203.1
Bangladesh	30,426.0	19,108.0	27,341.0	27,319.0
Togo	10,169.0	11,591.0	11,838.0	11,827.9
Malta	4,037.8	8,286.7	8,286.7	8,286.7
Mauritius	7,590.0	5,099.0	4,605.0	5,885.0
Rwanda	3,027.0	4,450.0	410.0	5,633.0
Cyprus	5,735.8	3,771.9	3,495.9	5,151.6
Malawi	11,509.0	5,422.0	6,292.0	4,995.0
Vanuatu	2,254.0	1,727.0	546.0	2,600.0
Jamaica	2,649.0	2,070.0	2,479.0	2,584.0
Botswana	2,654.0	2,194.0	2,140.0	2,542.9
Saint Lucia	1,430.0	1,384.0	1,379.0	1,361.0
St Vincent and the Grenadines	1,233.0	1,185.0	1,194.0	1,182.1
Brunei Darussalam	1,279.0	1,546.0	962.0	1,169.7
Samoa	594.0	557.0	1,194.0	1,114.2
Barbados	1,611.0	1,201.0	967.0	1,112.5
The Bahamas	1,931.0	1,486.0	987.0	987.0

(Continued)

Table A7 Wood exports by Commonwealth countries (\$ '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Dominica	740.0	686.0	624.0	647.0
Seychelles	972.0	869.0	597.0	327.0
Tonga	345.0	357.0	306.0	266.0
Antigua and Barbuda	616.0	177.0	154.0	154.0
Lesotho	394.0	399.0	162.0	151.0
St Kitts and Nevis	0.0	0.0	0.0	106.0
Nauru	9.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
Maldives	66.0	20.0	5.0	3.8
Tuvalu	7.0	10.0	6.0	2.0
Grenada	0.0	11.0	4.0	0.0
Kiribati	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grand total	65,083,844.8	55,472,038.7	50,440,032.7	67,671,184.2

Source: FAOStat (2023)

Table A8 Wood imports by Commonwealth countries (\$ '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
UK	16,067,772	15,376,336	13,640,706	15,684,962
Canada	8,233,737	7,841,319	7,257,556	8,905,079
India	8,925,327	8,805,939	5,861,951	8,358,984
Malaysia	4,145,875	4,039,043	3,672,488	4,688,248
Australia	3,418,371	3,124,517	2,945,697	3,549,177
Singapore	3,216,372	2,848,734	2,286,317	2,356,655
South Africa	2,236,225	1,963,996	1,543,662	1,847,795
Nigeria	1,079,720	846,810	738,430	1,678,385
Pakistan	1,655,046	1,274,332	1,143,751	1,477,874
Bangladesh	1,578,310	1,081,112	1,162,359	1,373,920
New Zealand	1,005,882	1,034,875	921,887	1,145,242
Sri Lanka	805,068	601,849	653,125	845,922.4
Kenya	754,243	614,777	647,903	768,442.7
Tanzania	191,055	159,108	135,090	202,106.9
Malta	165,862.5	188,687.8	188,687.8	188,687.8
Cyprus	187,129.7	179,224.3	166,577.3	178,695.7
Ghana	401,265	289,576	206,317	169,189
Uganda	229,694	119,649	163,459	156,531
Zambia	136,823	135,271	109,259	144,836.1
Trinidad and Tobago	164,844	157,469	115,108	141,166.1
Jamaica	123,757	152,442	136,536	141,160
Mauritius	134,743	132,262	98,392	124,895
The Bahamas	45,013	63,183	73,369	94,976
Cameroon	88,694	85,385	91,985	91,414
Botswana	71,317	91,587	83,130	87,306.98
Mozambique	71,899	90,946	87,610	86,134.32
Namibia	88,095	104,386	80,779	79,365
Fiji	81,339	36,620	48,541	77,181.53
Rwanda	33,099	67,803	22,877	70,620.52
Barbados	31,305	28,904	29,181	41,615.43
PNG	36,651	35,509	40,100	39,885
Eswatini	48,389	28,617	26,557	34,940.18
Togo	43,304	25,201	28,539	33,498.23
Maldives	83,218	70,843	29,390	29,078.37
Malawi	32,037	36,166	35,145	27,795
Belize	17,918	20,744	14,041	21,764.72
Samoa	14,024	11,570	10,411	19,960.04
Seychelles	19,487	26,718	21,099	18,448
Lesotho	28,596	26,073	17,544	16,642
Brunei Darussalam	20,862	19,867	16,618	16,597.88
Guyana	14,607	12,020	15,363	14,753.06
Grenada	10,437.1	8,964.1	9,149	14,727.64
Saint Lucia	11,593	12,880	12,297	14,699
Antigua and Barbuda	9,929	13,905	9,161	13,074
The Gambia	11,917	11,806	9,368	12,079.42

(Continued)

Table A8 Wood imports by Commonwealth countries (\$ '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sierra Leone	13,764	13,483	11,848	12,018
Gabon	17,615	14,687	12,093	12,013
Tonga	5,801	4,104	6,932	9,435
Vanuatu	5,500	5,382	7,251	9,098
St Kitts and Nevis	18,505	8,482	8,454	8,966
St Vincent and the Grenadines	7,943	8,520	7,212	8,542.12
Dominica	11,237	7,832	3,894	8,386
Solomon Islands	5,543	2,733	4,110	3,897
Kiribati	2,506	2,244	2,646	3,869
Nauru	757	705	548	1,645
Tuvalu	1,512	1,213	856	294
Grand total	55,861,534	51,966,411	44,673,357	55,162,674

Source: FAOStat (2023)

Table A9 Wood trade balance for Commonwealth countries (\$ '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
UK	-12,458,732.77	-12,031,666.00	-10,596,092.21	-11,843,902.75
India	-6,629,682.00	-6,546,482.00	-3,706,249.00	-4,335,001.05
Nigeria	-615,877.00	-682,678.00	-583,697.00	-1,560,355.88
Bangladesh	-1,547,884.00	-1,062,004.00	-1,135,018.00	-1,346,601.00
Pakistan	-1,458,807.00	-1,188,540.00	-1,062,124.00	-1,344,387.30
Malaysia	-756,687.00	-828,864.00	-903,391.00	-1,115,927.76
Australia	-84,005.00	81,893.00	-342,830.00	-1,078,513.14
Sri Lanka	-722,112.00	-553,367.00	-600,058.00	-776,093.50
Kenya	-690,669.00	-571,485.00	-603,681.00	-706,055.48
Malta	-161,824.71	-180,401.12	-180,401.12	-180,401.12
Cyprus	-181,393.93	-175,452.41	-163,081.37	-173,544.07
Jamaica	-121,108.00	-150,372.00	-134,057.00	-138,576.00
Mauritius	-127,153.00	-127,163.00	-93,787.00	-119,009.95
Uganda	-191,355.00	-86,628.00	-102,295.00	-105,865.00
Zambia	-73,088.00	-86,680.00	-85,829.00	-103,194.88
Trinidad and Tobago	-160,493.00	-144,861.00	-104,688.00	-101,399.73
The Bahamas	-43,082.00	-61,697.00	-72,382.00	-93,989.00
Botswana	-68,663.00	-89,393.00	-80,990.00	-84,764.04
Tanzania	-115,033.00	-73,386.00	-43,533.00	-66,162.35
Rwanda	-30,072.00	-63,353.00	-22,467.00	-64,987.51
Barbados	-29,694.00	-27,703.00	-28,214.00	-40,502.95
Maldives	-83,152.00	-70,823.00	-29,385.00	-29,074.62
Malawi	-20,528.00	-30,744.00	-28,853.00	-22,800.00
Togo	-33,135.00	-13,610.00	-16,701.00	-21,670.29
Fiji	-15,202.00	9,667.00	-14,711.00	-21,096.51
Samoa	-13,430.00	-11,013.00	-9,217.00	-18,845.80
Seychelles	-18,515.00	-25,849.00	-20,502.00	-18,121.00
Lesotho	-28,202.00	-25,674.00	-17,382.00	-16,491.00
Brunei Darussalam	-19,583.00	-18,321.00	-15,656.00	-15,428.21
Grenada	-10,437.10	-8,953.10	-9,145.00	-14,727.64
Namibia	-50,840.00	-56,418.00	-21,682.00	-14,650.00
Saint Lucia	-10,163.00	-11,496.00	-10,918.00	-13,338.00
Antigua and Barbuda	-9,313.00	-13,728.00	-9,007.00	-12,920.00
Tonga	-5,456.00	-3,747.00	-6,626.00	-9,169.00
St Kitts and Nevis	-18,505.00	-8,482.00	-8,454.00	-8,860.00
Dominica	-10,497.00	-7,146.00	-3,270.00	-7,739.00
St Vincent and the Grenadines	-6,710.00	-7,335.00	-6,018.00	-7,360.07
Vanuatu	-3,246.00	-3,655.00	-6,705.00	-6,498.00
Kiribati	-2,506.00	-2,244.00	-2,646.00	-3,869.00
Nauru	-748.00	-697.00	-540.00	-1,637.00
Tuvalu	-1,505.00	-1,203.00	-850.00	-292.00
Ghana	-111,638.00	1,554.00	-26,385.00	9,621.00
Belize	-12,842.00	-16,936.00	-10,906.00	10,438.38
Gambia	15,517.00	60,163.00	17,974.00	23,843.08
Guyana	45,999.00	34,480.00	19,546.00	35,850.18

(Continued)

Table A9 Wood trade balance for Commonwealth countries (\$ '000)

	2018	2019	2020	2021
Eswatini	46,972.00	78,586.00	70,048.00	75,137.43
South Africa	137,268.00	-225,445.00	319,356.00	108,106.98
Mozambique	219,697.00	197,550.00	57,206.00	134,309.37
Sierra Leone	98,978.00	118,543.00	113,192.00	148,396.00
Solomon Islands	654,465.00	476,064.00	359,618.00	380,460.00
Singapore	954,685.00	830,152.00	551,687.00	438,898.89
Cameroon	876,957.00	757,256.00	534,201.00	580,608.00
PNG	886,651.00	757,632.00	591,270.00	587,437.00
Gabon	635,878.00	578,067.00	500,539.00	599,610.00
New Zealand	4,357,310.00	3,445,506.00	3,108,887.00	4,670,254.41
Canada	27,045,502.00	21,374,209.57	20,443,575.60	30,349,360.87

Source: FAOStat (2023)

Table A10 Share of forest land in land area in the Commonwealth (%)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Guyana	93.7	93.6	93.6	93.6
Gabon	91.5	91.4	91.4	91.3
Solomon Islands	90.2	90.2	90.2	90.1
PNG	79.4	79.3	79.3	79.2
Seychelles	73.3	73.3	73.3	73.3
St Vincent and the Grenadines	73.2	73.2	73.2	73.2
Brunei Darussalam	72.1	72.1	72.1	72.1
Dominica	63.8	63.8	63.8	63.8
Fiji	61.3	61.7	62.0	62.4
Zambia	61.0	60.8	60.5	60.3
Malaysia	58.6	58.5	58.3	58.2
Samoa	58.7	58.5	58.3	58.2
Belize	57.5	57.0	56.5	56.0
Grenada	52.1	52.1	52.1	52.1
Tanzania	53.2	52.7	52.2	51.6
The Bahamas	50.9	50.9	50.9	50.9
Mozambique	47.6	47.3	47.0	46.7
Trinidad and Tobago	44.7	44.7	44.6	44.5
Cameroon	43.4	43.3	43.2	43.0
St Kitts and Nevis	42.3	42.3	42.3	42.3
Canada	38.7	38.7	38.7	38.7
New Zealand	37.4	37.4	37.5	37.6
Vanuatu	36.3	36.3	36.3	36.3
Sierra Leone	35.9	35.7	35.4	35.1
Ghana	35.0	35.0	35.1	35.1
Sri Lanka	34.3	34.3	34.2	34.2
Saint Lucia	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1
Tuvalu	33.3	33.3	33.3	33.3
Eswatini	28.7	28.8	28.9	28.9
Botswana	27.5	27.3	27.1	26.9
India	24.0	24.1	24.2	24.3
The Gambia	25.7	25.1	24.6	24.0
Malawi	25.1	24.7	24.2	23.8
Nigeria	24.3	24.1	23.9	23.8
Togo	22.4	22.3	22.3	22.2
Singapore	22.6	22.3	22.0	21.7
Mauritius	19.0	19.1	19.1	19.1
Cyprus	18.7	18.7	18.7	18.7
Antigua and Barbuda	18.9	18.8	18.6	18.5
Australia	17.4	17.4	17.4	17.4
Barbados	14.7	14.7	14.7	14.7
Bangladesh	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5
South Africa	14.2	14.1	14.1	14.1
UK	13.1	13.1	13.2	13.2
Tonga	12.4	12.4	12.4	12.4

(Continued)

Table A10 Share of forest land in land area in the Commonwealth (%)

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Uganda	12.3	12.1	11.9	11.7
Rwanda	11.1	11.1	11.2	11.2
Namibia	8.3	8.2	8.2	8.1
Kenya	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3
Pakistan	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.8
Maldives	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7
Kiribati	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Malta	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4
Lesotho	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Nauru	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Average	35.4	35.3	35.2	35.2

Source: FAOStat (2023)

