



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

# Food Transformation Webinar

17 June, 2020

Mary Kenny

---

Regional Initiative Manager on  
Agriculture Trade and Market Integration

FAO Regional Office for Europe and  
Central Asia, Budapest

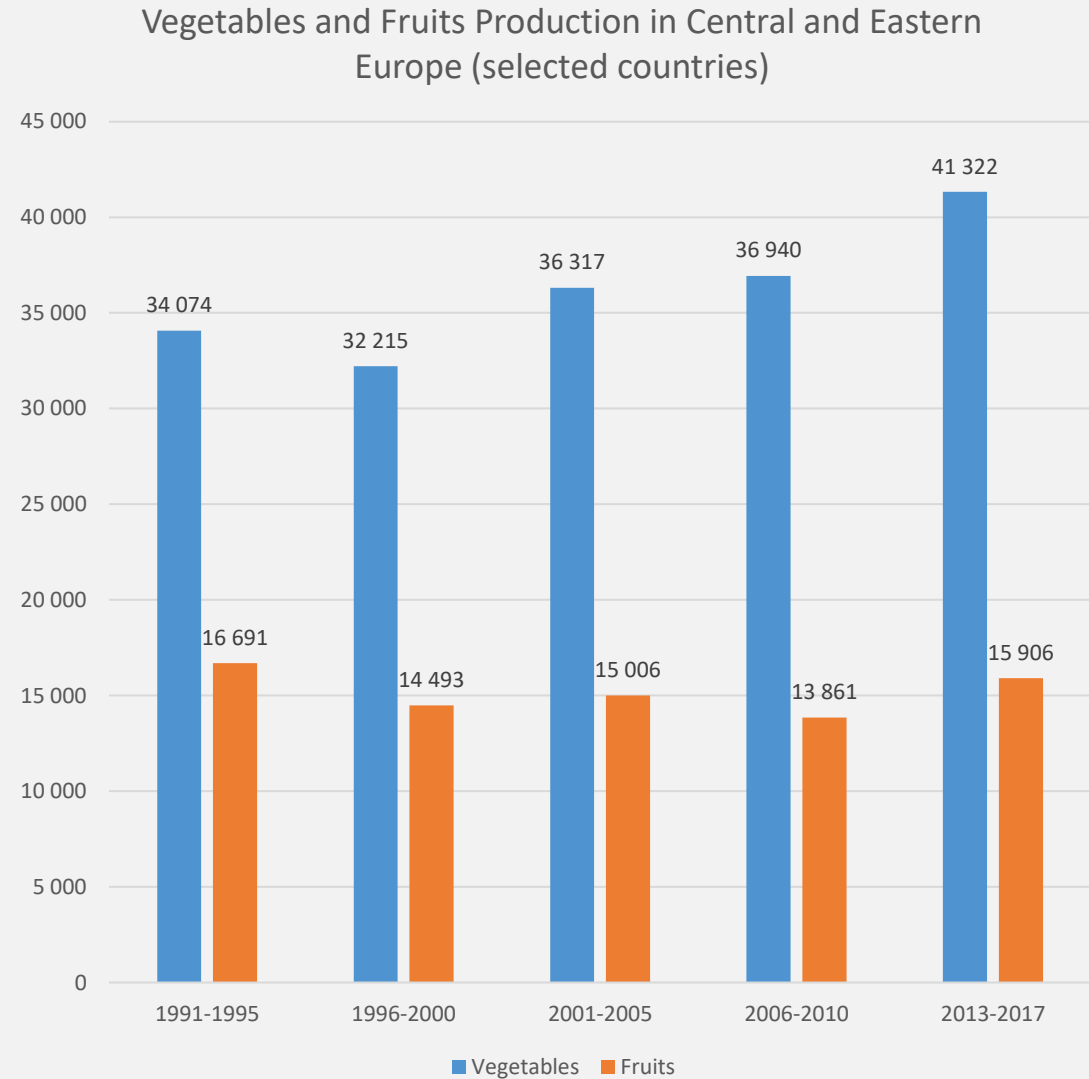
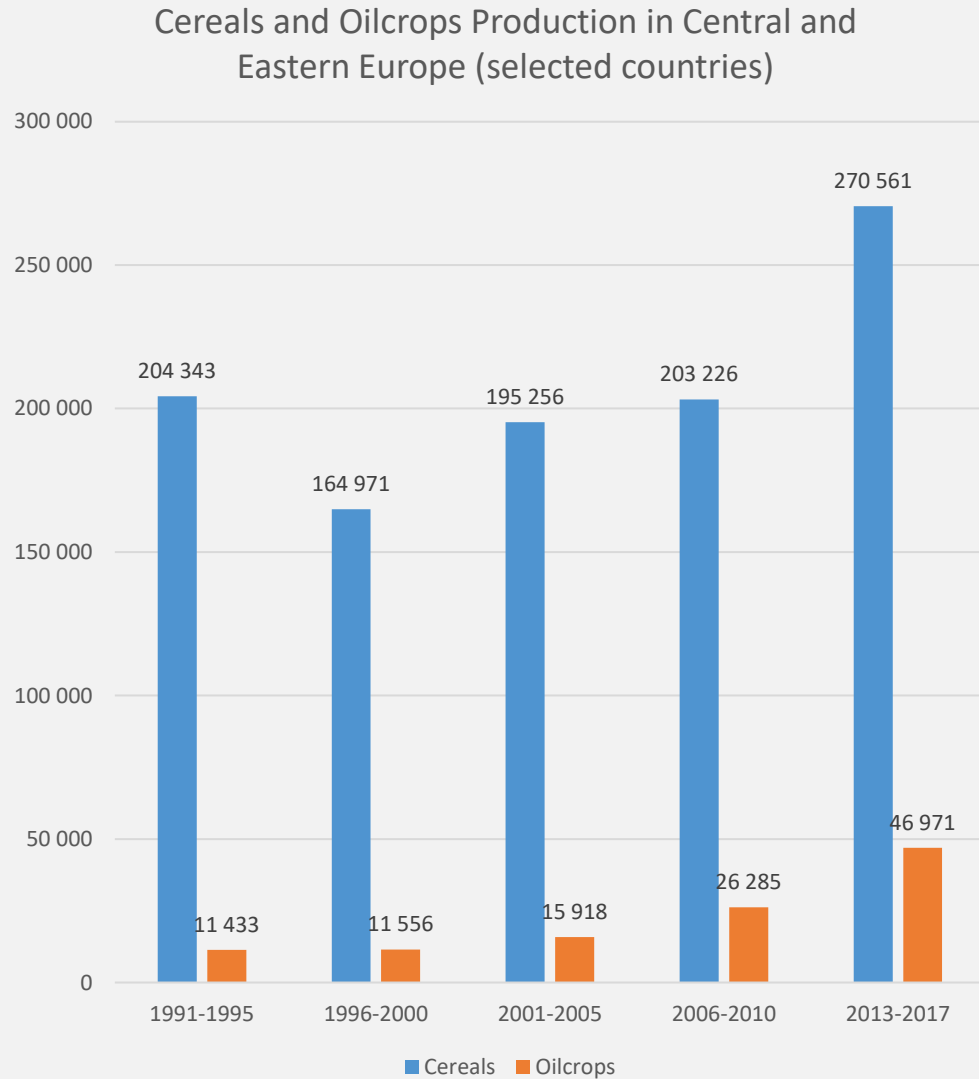


# Focus theme: Structural transformations of agriculture, food systems and food policy in Europe and Central Asia

- **Transformation continues in the region:** large increases in food production, trade and investment liberalization, urbanization, changes in lifestyles and income growth.
- Nearly all countries, increased **availability of diverse foods**, and dietary transition is evident since the early 90s.
  - But this has not translated into improved **quality of diets** (inequalities among socio-economic groups)
- **Public spending in agriculture is low**, relative to the sector's importance to the economy.
- Agriculture is dominated by **smallholders and family farms**, **land fragmentation** continues to be a challenge.
- **Enabling policies** are important to create functioning markets, social protection measures, rural development, sustainable food systems

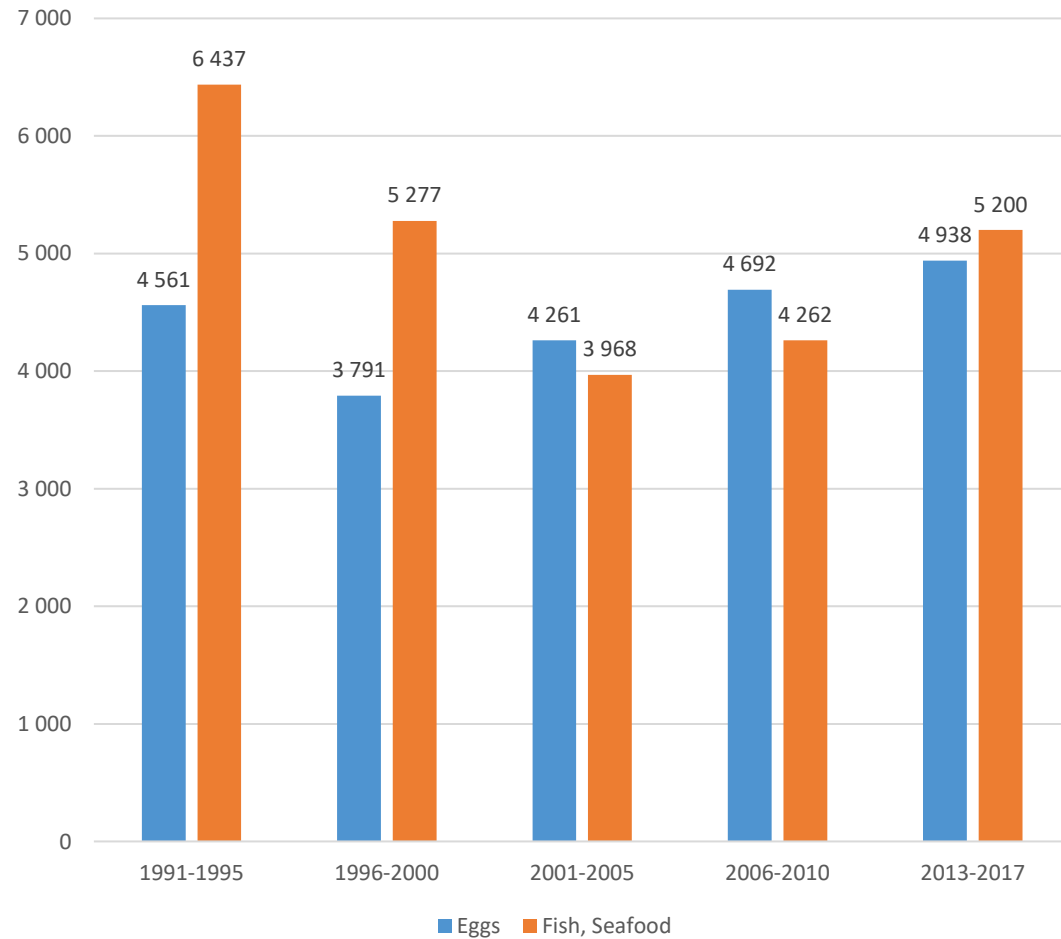


# FAO Food Balance Sheet Data

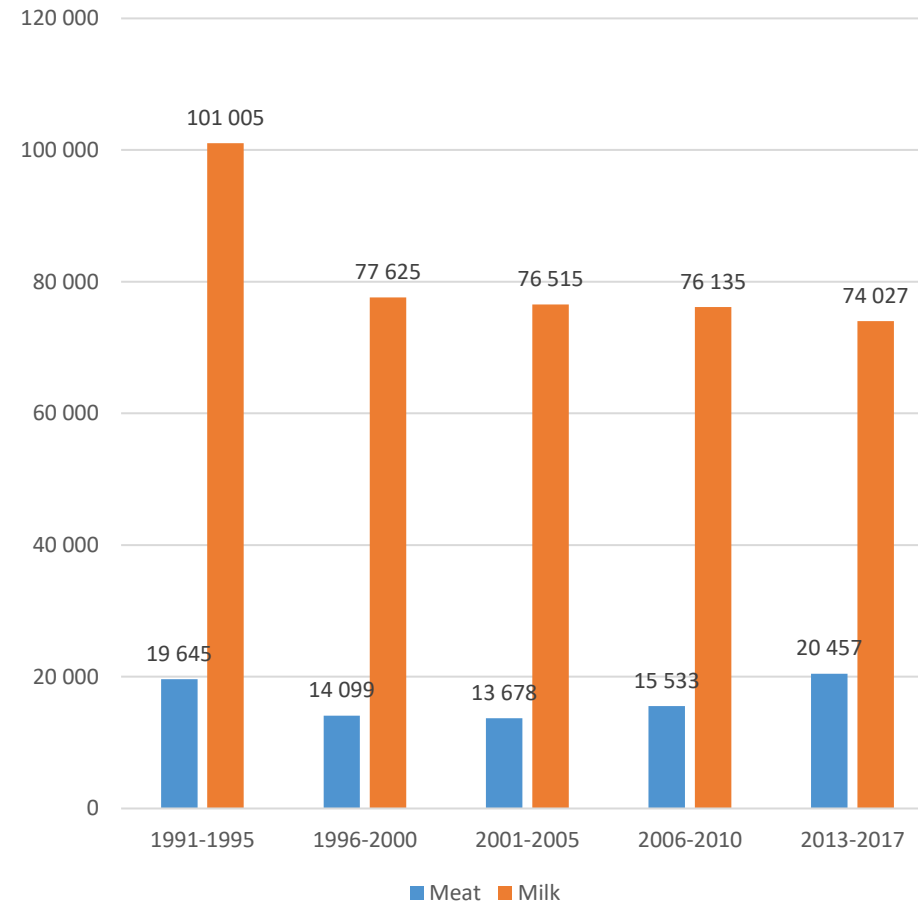


# FAO Food Balance Sheet Data

## Eggs and Fish (seafood) Production in Central and Eastern Europe (selected countries)



## Meat and Milk Production in Central and Eastern Europe (selected countries)



# Global Perspective/Forecast for Wheat, Maize, Rice (AMIS Market Monitor, June, 2020)

- To confirm the trend upwards, and despite the many uncertainties stemming from economic and health implications of the COVID-19 pandemic, the forecasts show stable production and stocks and trade dynamics in 2020/21.

	Wheat (million tonnes)		Maize (million tonnes)		Rice (million tonnes)	
	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21
Production	762.2	758.3	1142.6	1207.1	500.6	508.7
Supply	1034.1	1034.5	1506.6	1569.5	685.2	692.1
Utilization	757.5	754.3	1135.7	1168.7	502.0	510.0
Trade	175.1	177.5	168.0	170.0	44.9	47.6
Stocks	276.2	280.3	362.4	397.2	183.4	182.0

The AMIS Market Monitor gives an international synopsis of major market developments. The analysis is collectively assessed by ten international organizations and entities (the AMIS Secretariat).

[http://www.amis-outlook.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/amis/docs/Market\\_monitor/AMIS\\_Market\\_Monitor\\_current.pdf](http://www.amis-outlook.org/fileadmin/user_upload/amis/docs/Market_monitor/AMIS_Market_Monitor_current.pdf)

Of course, there will be local differences and countries need to continue to assess the situation. In the ECA region, closely watching the south of Europe and effects of drought and next harvests, monitoring of supply of inputs (pesticides, fertilisers, seeds), prices of commodities, price fluctuations, and consumer buying habits.

# Status of food and nutrition security in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region, 2019

Food insecurity/hunger has improved substantially over the past two decades, but challenges still remain.

- **Undernourishment (chronic hunger) is hardly an issue**, with a prevalence of 5-8 percent in six countries.
- The prevalence of **severe food insecurity** shows 1.8% (or 16.5 million people in ECA) in 2018, whereas the world average was 9.2%.
- **Moderate food insecurity** is relatively high in many countries (2016-2018), averaging 15.8 percent of people in the Western Balkans; 6.7 percent in the European Union (world average is 26.4%). Difficulty in accessing safe, nutritious (variety), sufficient food.
- **Overweight and obesity is a major issue.** The prevalence of adult obesity in ECA in 2016 was higher than the world average of 13.2 percent in 49 of the 50 countries in ECA, and more than twice the world average in 14 countries. Moreover, the prevalence of adult obesity was higher in 2016 than in 2010 in all 50 countries.



As agriculture and food systems continue to evolve – and recover from COVID-19 impacts, **investment in sustainable food systems to address the growing overweight and obesity epidemic.** Sustainable food systems not only provide safe, nutritious food, accessible to all, but also address **environment, social, and economic aspects.**

A food systems approach where **private sector plays a key role.** The **consumer** is also a key actor and influences the food system.



Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture  
<http://www.fao.org/3/a-au866e.pdf>

OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible agricultural supply chains  
[OECD-FAO Guidance on Responsible Supply Chains.](#)

## Key resources

- Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition in Europe and Central Asia 2019:  
<http://www.fao.org/publications/card/en/c/CA7153EN>
- Responsible Investment in Agriculture – RAI  
<http://www.fao.org/3/a-au866e.pdf>  
<http://www.fao.org/cfs/home/activities/rai/en/>
- OECD-FAO Guidance on Responsible Supply Chains:  
<https://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/investment-policy/rbc-agriculture-supply-chains.htm>
- FAO resources and highlights on COVID-19:  
<http://www.fao.org/2019-ncov/en/>
- Europe and Central Asia: Regional food market situation and policy bulletin in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, 29 April 2020  
<http://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/ca8869en>  
Second Bulletin in preparation!!!



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations