

Situation Report on Nepal's Agrifood Systems

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Key messages

In April 2024, Nepal saw a 1.8 percent increase in the prices of food and beverages compared to the previous month. During the same period, the year-on-year inflation rate for food and beverages reached 5.2 percent, surpassing the overall consumer inflation rate of 4.6 percent. The main contributors to the rise in food prices in April were the annual spikes in the prices of spices (22.6 percent) and vegetables (17.0 percent). Moreover, staple food items such as cereal grains, pulses, and legumes also experienced significant price hikes over the course of the year. Food price inflation was highest in the Terai region (5.6 percent) and lowest in the Mountain districts (3.2 percent).

Macroeconomic trends and implications for household economic welfare

Key messages: The year-on-year consumer price inflation in April 2024 fell to 4.6 percent. The highest price inflation was observed for food and beverage prices (5.2 percent) compared to non-food and service categories (4.1 percent). Similarly, the prices of food and beverages were highest in Terai region (5.9 percent), while it was lowest for hilly districts. During this period, basic commodities, such as cereals, pulses, vegetables, spices, and associated products become increasingly less affordable due to rise in their prices. This may affect consumers with lower income. The annual salary index and agricultural labor wage increased by 1.1 and 5.2, respectively, in April 2024, keeping pace with the inflation rate. The trend of annual remittances showed an upward trajectory, with an annual increment of 19.8 percent. Conversely, the number of Nepalese individuals seeking foreign employment declined by 15.1 percent, and the issuance of renewed entry permits decreased by 2.4 percent. These trends suggest a potential shift in the labor market or changes in migration patterns.

Inflation: In April 2024, Nepal witnessed a year-on-year consumer price inflation of 4.6 percent. Notably, food and beverage price inflation reached 5.2 percent, surpassing non-food and service inflation (4.1 percent). Geographically, the highest year-on-year food inflation was in the Terai region (5.6 percent), while the lowest was observed in Mountain districts (3.1 percent) in April. Within the food and beverage category, spices showed the highest year-on-year price inflation at 22.6 percent, followed by vegetables at 17.0 percent. Additionally, staple food products such as cereal grains and their products, pulses, and legumes also experienced significant price increases over one year. However, prices of commodities such as ghee and oil, fruits, meat, and fish declined in April compared to the previous year. The increase in staple food prices, including vegetables and pulses, will require non-agricultural households to allocate a larger portion of their income to food, potentially reducing their spending on other essential goods and services.

Salaries and wages: In April 2024, the year-on-year increase in wage rates was the highest among industrial laborers (10.5 percent), followed by agricultural labor, which saw notable growth of 5.2 percent. Additionally, the year-on-year salary index increased by only 1.1 percent in April 2024. Within the agricultural labor wage rate, the change was more pronounced for female laborers (5.4 percent) compared to their male counterparts (5.1 percent). Although the difference in agricultural labor wages among male and female laborers is small, it is significant, especially if sustained, as it points towards a gradual shift in addressing the long-standing gender-based wage disparity. However, agricultural labor wage rates in April 2024 remained unchanged from the previous month.

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Migration and remittances: Remittance inflows to Nepal increased by 19.8 percent to NPR. 1082.62 billion (USD 8.12 billion)¹ in the first nine months of the fiscal year (mid-July 2023 to mid-April 2024). Additionally, based on nine months data ending mid-April 2023-24². The number of Nepalese citizens seeking foreign employment declined by 15.1 percent, while the issuance of renewed entry permits by the government has also declined by 2.4 percent. The decline in the number of people seeking foreign employment, despite the increasing remittance amount, suggests a shift in the labor market or changes in migration patterns, possibly influenced by higher-paying job opportunities in foreign countries.

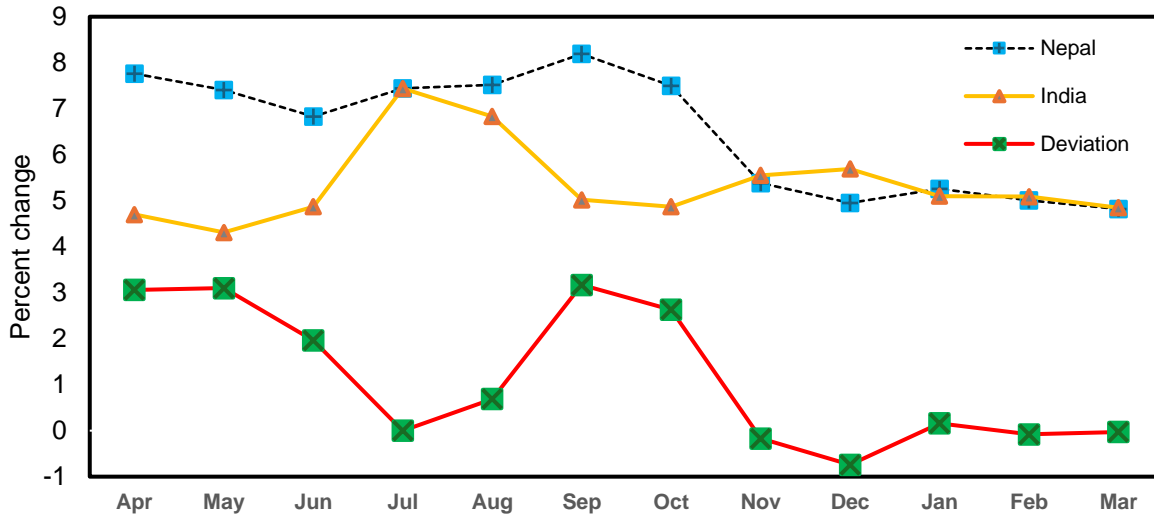


Figure 1: Monthly percent change in the consumer price index (CPI) in Nepal and India. Source: Current Macroeconomic and Financial Situation (Based on nine months data ending mid-April 2023/24), Nepal Rastra Bank

Recent price fluctuation in food commodities and agricultural inputs

Key messages: In April 2024, agricultural input data indicated relatively stable prices for chemical fertilizers in FtF Zol compared to their prices in the previous month. The prices of diesel and petrol, as well as open-pollinated rice, lentil, and onion seeds, declined during the same period. If this trend is sustained, it could reduce production costs during the monsoon season, especially for rice cultivation. In March 2024, the annual price of rice (coarse and medium grain) and animal-based products (fish, eggs, and chicken meat) increased, while the price of wheat, milk, banana, orange, cabbage, carrot, pumpkin, and edible oil decreased. The lower fruit and vegetable prices will benefit consumers, allowing them to spend more on other foods or non-food expenses, but it may negatively impact fruit and vegetable farmers.

¹ 1 USD = NPR 133.3 (Exchange rate as of 23 May 2024)

² Nepal Rastra Bank. 2024. [WWW Document]. Current Macroeconomic and Financial Situation (Based on Nine Months Data Ending Mid-April 2023/24). Available at: <https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nrb.org.np%2Fcontents%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F05%2FCurrent-macroeconomic-situation-Tables-Based-on-Nine-Months-data-of-2080.81-1.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>. [Accessed 28 May 2024].

Agricultural inputs

Fertilizers: CSISA field data indicates that the average price of urea and diammonium phosphate (DAP) remained consistent at NPR 21.5 (USD 0.16) per kilogram and NPR 51.0 (USD 0.38) per kilogram respectively, compared to the previous month (Annex 3). However, the price of muriate of potash (MOP) increased by 1.8 percent. Notably, the price of MOP varied across districts, ranging from NPR 35.5 (USD 0.27) in Kapilvastu to NPR 43.3 (USD 0.32) per kilogram in Banke. If these fertilizer prices are sustained, it may help farmers to reduce production costs during the monsoon season, particularly for rice cultivation.

Spotlight: Recent Wheat Field Fires in Nepal

Several fire incidents were reported which have damaged significant amounts of wheat crops across Nepal. On April 19, 2024, more than 5 hectares of wheat across 15 farms of Babathan of Dodhara Chandani Municipality in Kanchanpur district was affected.³ Additionally, in Joshipur Rural Municipality and Bhajani Municipality of Kailali district, wheat harvested and stored in 0.71 hectares was destroyed by fire. The cause for both incidents was stray electric cables on trees, which then ignited fires.



Figure 2: Wheat fire incidences
Source: Nepali Time, [Photo: Dilsad Alam].

In a separate incident, a fire broke out across Joshipur Rural Municipality and Bardagoriya Rural Municipality of Kailali district, affecting 34.54 hectares of wheat. The fire was believed to have started after a spark left from a neighboring house. Overall, more than 40 hectares of wheat farms have been affected by fire this season in Nepal.

Energy: In May 2024, there was a decrease in the prices of diesel and petrol, while the price of LPG remained stable compared to the previous month. Petrol was priced at NPR 170 (USD 1.28) per liter, marking a 4.5 percent decline from the preceding month. Similarly, diesel was retailed at NPR 154 (USD 1.16) per liter in May 2024, a decline of 3.1 percent in comparison to the previous month. Furthermore, the price of an LPG cylinder remained constant at NPR 1,910 (USD 14.33). This decline in diesel and petrol price, if sustained, could potentially lower the costs for plowing and preparing land for rice cultivation and likely to boost farmers' agricultural profitability.

³ MyRepública. 2024. [WWW Document]. Fire destroys wheat crop in Kanchanpur, Kailali. Available at: <https://myrepublica.nagariknetwork.com/news/fire-destroys-wheat-crop-in-kanchanpur-kailali/>. [Accessed on 31 May 2024].

Seed: Data provided by USAID implementing partners suggests that the average cost of hybrid rice seeds was NPR 556 (USD 4.17) per kilogram, while open-pollinated rice seeds were priced at NPR 90.8 (USD 0.68) per kilogram in April of 2024. Compared to the previous month, the price of open-pollinated rice seeds declined by 5.9 percent, while hybrid rice seeds saw a modest increase of 1.1 percent. Hybrid maize seeds were priced at NPR 517.6 (USD 3.88) per kilogram, significantly higher than per kilogram price of open-pollinated maize seeds NPR 193.6 (USD 1.45). For vegetables, 10 grams of local tomato seeds were priced at NPR 200 (USD 1.50), while hybrid tomato seeds cost NPR 1,632 (USD 12.25). Similarly, there was a notable decline in the prices of lentil and onion seeds by 4.60 percent and 15.0 percent respectively in April 2024 compared to a month before.

Labor: Field data indicate that the wage rate for male agricultural laborers in April 2024 was NPR 646 (USD 4.85) per day while for women, it was NPR 551 (USD 4.14) per day. The ratio of female-to-male wage rates in agriculture was 0.85, indicating a gender disparity. Among the surveyed districts, only Bardia witnessed no gender parity in agricultural wages. The average agricultural wage rates were highest in Surkhet, reaching NPR 750 (USD 5.63) per day. Despite the national increment in female agricultural wage rates over the period, significant disparities persist between male and female labor rates at the field level.

Cereals

In March 2024, the price of rice in Nepal rose substantially compared to the previous year. Coarse rice price increased by 22.6 percent year-on-year, followed by medium grain rice at 14.1 percent. This upward trend for both rice prices was also evident in the Western Provinces, with the price of coarse rice in Sudurpashchim Province experiencing the highest annual increase of 32.5 percent. According to Nepal Retailer Association, wholesalers are responsible for increasing rice price, citing the Indian elections as a pretext⁴. However, wheat flour price in March decreased by 2.8 percent annually and by 1.2 percent in Western Provinces during the same period. Notably, Lumbini Province recorded a significant decline in the wheat flour price, dropping by 25.5 percent annually.

The impact of higher rice prices will benefit surplus producers while net consumers, especially poor and vulnerable households, may face challenges in procuring rice. On the other hand, the impact of decline in wheat flour price could help mitigate inflationary pressures considering rice and wheat are substitute foods. This effect is particularly relevant in Terai region where the food price inflation is highest in April 2024.

Selected horticultural and fruit products

Vegetables: In March 2024, the price of cabbage, carrot and pumpkin declined in Nepal while moderate increase in the price of tomato was observed compared to the previous year. However, a sharp increase in the average price of red potato (15.2 percent) at the national level was observed during the same period. In contrast, the year-on-year price of red potato in Western Provinces declined by 2.4 percent in March. At provincial level, Madesh Province recorded a significant increase in the red potato price, skyrocketing by 93.3 percent annually.

Fruits: In March 2024, the prices of orange and banana declined in both Nepal and Western Provinces. However, the price of apples rose by 13.1 percent in Nepal and 15.8 percent in Western Province in March compared to the previous year. At the provincial level, Koshi Province observed a 46.1 percent decline in orange price, while Gandaki and Lumbini Provinces experienced a

⁴ The Kathmandu Post. 2024. [WWW Document]. Inflation at 30-month low. 2024. Yet food prices refuse to come down. Available at: <https://kathmandupost.com/money/2024/04/08/inflation-at-30-month-low-yet-food-prices-refuse-to-come-down>. [Accessed on 30 April 2024.]

significant increase of about 46 percent during the same period. In March, the prices of all the recorded fruits increased with oranges showing the highest rise of about 19 percent in both Western Provinces and Nepal compared to a month before

Spotlight:

Analysis of data from the National Climate Change Survey

The report of National Climate Change Survey – II (2022)⁵ (sample size 6,520 households with equal or above 45-years old respondent) was released. Results revealed that 44.8 percent of respondents identified drought as being the major climate induced incidence in the last 25 years, followed by flood (13.8 percent), windstorm (9.9 percent), and landslides (7.8 percent). The incidence of drought spells was most prominent in Koshi-Mountain (75.5 percent) and Koshi-Hill (71.6 percent) subregions in east-Nepal. The survey also explored the impacts of these climate-induced disasters on damage to physical infrastructures, economic losses, and food security. Data showed that the incidence of pests and diseases had led to economic losses in 67.4 percent of surveyed households, followed by hailstorm (50 percent), drought (47 percent), and inundation (43 percent). On the whole, 50 percent of respondents reported observing new crop diseases in the last 25 years, and the prevalence of such crop diseases was found to be the highest in the Sudurpashchim-hill sub-region (86 percent). This region also reported the highest incidence of observing new pests/insects in crops (88 percent) while the national average was 54 percent. Similarly, on average 29.8 percent of households observed new diseases in livestock over the last 25 years, but in Sudurpashchim-hill, the share was 72.6 percent.

Results reported that diseases/insects had led to food scarcity in a quarter (25.2 percent) of the surveyed households, followed by field inundation and/or waterlogging (23.8 percent), flooding (18.7 percent), and drought (18.1 percent). Similarly, hailstorms, fire in the settlement, heavy rain and landslides were also identified as important causes of food scarcity in the last five years. The impact of climate change is also observed in the drying up of water sources such as hand pumps, water wells, tube-wells, springs, stone spouts, rivers, rivulets, and tap water. While 43.1 percent respondents reported observing drying of rivers and rivulets in the last 25 years, 38.2 percent observed springs/stone spouts drying up, and 14 percent reported observing the drying up of hand pump/well/tube well. The incidence of drying up of hand pumps/well/tube well was found to be highest in Sudurpashchim-Terai (49.5 percent), and more than three-quarters of surveyed households in the hills of Koshi, Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpashchim provinces reported the drying up of spring water/stone spout sources in their locality.

Milk and eggs

In March 2024, the annual price of milk and egg showed opposite trend in Nepal. The average price of egg increased by 10.3 percent in Nepal and 5.1 percent in the Western Province, while the price of milk declined by 2.6 percent in Nepal and 3.6 percent in Western Province. Monthly price change for both milk and eggs remained comparatively stable during this period. The Dairy Development Cooperation of Nepal attributes change in milk price to an ongoing economic slowdown and increased supply from farmers, resulting in reduced consumption of dairy products and subsequent

⁵ Government of Nepal. 2024. National Climate Change Survey 2022. Thapathali, Kathmandu: National Statistics Office, Office of the Prime Minister, and Council of Ministers.

price drops⁶. Lower milk prices can benefit consumers, especially those who rely on dairy for nutrition. However, it may impact dairy farmers negatively.

Meat and fish

Meat and fish-based products may not be affordable to the poor and vulnerable household as the year-on-year prices of chicken and fish increased significantly by 4.5 and 10.6 percent at national level while rose by 4.5 and 21.2 percent, respectively, in Western Provinces Bagmati Province observed the highest increase in the fish price (25.8 percent), while Gandaki Province witnessed the highest annual increase in chicken price (14.5 percent) in March 2024.

Edible oils

In March 2024, mustard and soybean oil prices declined nationally and in the Western Provinces of Nepal. Mustard oil price dropped by 13.8 percent, while soybean oil price plunged by 17.0 percent compared to the same period of the previous year. A similar trend was observed in Western Provinces, with a significant decline of 13.2 percent for mustard oil and 17.8 percent for soybean oil. In March, the prices of both edible oils remained stable at the national level and in the Western Provinces compared to the previous month.

Acknowledgments

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Data sources

Data sources for this brief include the World Food Program for food prices, Nepal Oil Corporation (noc.org.np) for fuel prices, the Nepal Rastra Bank for the CPI, budget shares from the Ministry of Finance, remittance flows, and other macroeconomic data. The primary data and field reports are provided and undertaken by CSISA across seven districts in USAID FtF Zol.

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⁶ The Kathmandu Post. 2024. [WWW Document]. Dairy farmers to get one-third of outstanding dues by this week. Available at: <https://kathmandupost.com/money/2024/04/09/dairy-farmers-to-get-one-third-of-outstanding-dues-by-this-week>. [Accessed on 15 May 2024].

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

Commodity	Western Provinces					Nepal				
	2023 Mar (NPR)	2024 Feb (NPR)	2024 Mar (NPR)	2023 Mar - 2024 Mar (Percent Change)	2024 Feb - 2024 Mar (Percent Change)	2023 Mar (NPR)	2024 Feb (NPR)	2024 Mar (NPR)	2023 Mar - 2024 Mar (Percent Change)	2024 Feb - 2024 Mar (Percent Change)
Rice (coarse)	61.7	74.7	74.7	21.1	0.0	57.6	69.7	70.7	22.6	1.4
Rice (medium grain)	88.2	101.7	101.8	15.4	0.1	81.3	91.0	92.8	14.1	1.9
Wheat flour	87.8	87.7	86.7	-1.2	-1.1	86.6	85.8	84.2	-2.8	-1.9
Apples	295.0	315.4	341.5	15.8	8.3	280.7	293.0	317.6	13.1	8.4
Bananas*	172.5	155.4	159.2	-7.7	2.5	149.3	136.0	142.6	-4.5	4.9
Oranges	216.8	166.2	197.0	-9.1	18.6	210.9	153.0	181.6	-13.9	18.7
Cabbage	69.5	48.1	44.6	-35.8	-7.2	60.6	45.7	41.7	-31.1	-8.7
Carrots	119.3	93.5	93.8	-21.3	0.4	82.9	78.0	80.9	-2.5	3.7
Potatoes (red)	50.9	47.7	49.7	-2.4	4.2	42.5	44.2	49.0	15.2	10.7
Pumpkin	66.7	67.7	64.2	-3.7	-5.1	64.0	64.6	62.7	-2.0	-2.9
Tomatoes	92.5	85.4	88.8	-4.0	4.1	77.1	65.2	79.3	2.9	21.7
Beans (black)	174.1	199.4	200.4	15.1	0.5	171.5	203.2	206.1	20.1	1.4
Chickpeas	153.8	153.1	152.1	-1.1	-0.7	140.8	140.2	141.6	0.6	1.0
Lentils (broken)	176.6	182.7	179.5	1.6	-1.8	168.0	167.7	166.4	-0.9	-0.8
Oil (mustard)**	321.4	280.8	278.8	-13.2	-0.7	310.0	264.2	267.2	-13.8	1.1
Oil (soybean)**	273.8	224.2	225.0	-17.8	0.3	261.1	211.8	216.7	-17.0	2.3
Milk**	134.5	129.6	129.6	-3.6	0.0	118.7	115.0	115.7	-2.6	0.6
Eggs***	19.7	20.6	20.7	5.1	0.4	18.3	19.8	20.2	10.3	1.7
Meat (chicken)	499.7	525.4	522.3	4.5	-0.6	454.8	467.2	476.7	4.8	2.0
Fish	501.7	605.0	608.0	21.2	0.5	450.2	484.1	497.8	10.6	2.8
Peanut	577.0	442.8	435.6	-24.5	-1.6	384.3	321.7	329.5	-14.3	2.4

*Denotes unit price per dozen, ** denotes unit price per liter and *** denotes unit price per piece. Western Province includes Lumbini, Karnali and Sudurpashchim provinces.
 Source: World Food Programme (March 2024)

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

Commodity	Koshi		Madesh		Bagmati		Gandaki		Lumbini		Karnali		Sudurpashchim	
	Mar 2023	Feb 2024	Mar 2023	Feb 2024	Mar 2023	Feb 2024	Mar 2023	Feb 2024	Mar 2023	Feb 2024	Mar 2023	Feb 2024	Mar 2023	Feb 2024
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024	Mar 2024
Rice (coarse)	28.8	-1.1	19.1	0.6	31.8	8.7	18.6	6.9	18.7	-1.0	16.7	0.2	32.5	0.4
Rice (medium grain)	14.8	1.4	6.3	-2.2	10.0	6.0	13.5	5.7	14.6	1.3	13.0	0.4	21.0	-1.3
Wheat flour	-5.5	0.0	-3.1	-8.1	-7.7	-4.8	-3.9	-1.1	-25.5	0.0	14.2	0.3	-9.0	-4.8
Apples	-5.6	-5.1	17.2	17.2	10.0	14.0	27.5	8.3	22.9	2.6	20.6	12.4	2.6	7.3
Bananas	-3.1	-3.1	-11.1	18.5	5.3	6.4	8.2	3.1	5.7	5.7	-7.5	0.8	-17.3	4.9
Oranges	-46.1	24.4	NA	14.3	-8.9	8.9	45.5	14.3	46.4	7.7	-26.1	7.6	-12.5	21.7
Cabbage	-30.3	21.1	-21.4	0.0	-4.0	-17.1	-37.5	-37.5	-9.6	-21.1	-45.9	-4.5	-20.5	-5.0
Carrots	-2.7	2.9	100.0	60.0	21.6	14.3	5.3	-50.0	26.7	0.0	-31.3	-8.7	65.1	25.0
Potatoes (red)	57.1	32.0	93.3	61.1	37.8	5.3	0.0	-20.0	-9.8	-3.5	-13.7	9.8	32.5	0.0
Pumpkin	6.2	-5.6	12.5	20.0	7.1	15.4	-17.2	-25.0	-19.4	-3.8	-6.8	-2.2	12.5	-10.0
Tomatoes	34.5	62.5	21.1	109.1	5.9	38.9	-11.1	9.1	36.7	45.8	-18.2	-10.8	19.4	28.0
Beans (black)	44.0	12.5	11.5	-9.4	24.7	2.7	25.4	5.0	15.9	-1.3	23.2	2.2	1.0	-1.4
Chickpeas	1.3	2.5	12.5	0.0	8.4	1.0	-15.0	2.0	-4.1	0.5	3.7	0.5	-7.7	-3.6
Lentils (broken)	-3.0	10.3	-4.4	-2.3	-1.2	-2.2	-15.5	-14.7	-4.8	-4.6	7.3	0.8	-3.4	-4.3
Oil (mustard)	-14.9	-0.6	-8.0	6.2	-9.8	5.9	-30.8	-6.2	-27.9	-5.6	-0.2	1.0	-24.2	-1.0
Oil (soybean)	-21.7	5.0	-11.6	10.9	-15.8	1.3	-16.0	-4.5	-26.5	-4.2	-12.6	3.1	-19.7	-1.1
Milk	-2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2.1	-6.2	-7.7	0.0	-5.7	0.0	-4.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eggs	5.0	1.6	24.4	3.7	27.7	14.3	16.1	-14.3	-3.8	0.0	11.6	0.7	0.0	0.0
Meat (chicken)	5.6	-3.6	1.8	12.6	-6.9	-3.9	14.5	5.6	3.6	-2.4	3.2	1.4	7.7	-3.0
Fish	-10.0	-2.2	0.0	46.7	25.8	11.8	-12.5	-30.0	0.4	2.5	25.1	0.0	-17.6	0.0
Peanut	3.3	0.0	-5.9	0.0	-2.3	9.2	27.0	-11.3	-2.6	-2.6	-36.3	-1.5	NA	NA

NA indicates data not available.

Source: World Food Programme (March)

Annex 3: Unit prices of key agricultural inputs in April (in NPR) and percent change compared to March 2024

Inputs	Unit Price in NPR (April 2024)							Mar 2024 Average Price (NPR)	Apr 2024 Average Price (NPR)	% change Mar - Apr 2024
	Banke	Bardiya	Dang	Kailali	Kanchanpur	Kapilvastu	Surkhet			
Fertilizer										
Urea (Kg)	20.6	23.2	20.5	22	22.8	19	22.5	21.5	21.5	0.0
DAP (Kg)	49.4	52	51	52.3	52.5	47.5	52.3	51	51	0.0
Potash (Kg)	43.3	38.6	40	39	39.7	35.5	41.3	38.9	39.6	1.8
Seed										
Rice OP (Kg)	71.6	70	190	70	71.5	92.5	70	96.5	90.8	-5.9
Rice hybrid (Kg)	537.5	550	555	550	575	575	550	550	556.1	1.1
Maize OP (Kg)	166.7	193.3	200	140	200	180	275	181.9	193.6	6.4
Maize hybrid (Kg)	766.7	416.7	425	650	300	565	500	562.6	517.6	-8.0
Wheat Price (Kg)	73.3	57	105	75	85	85	75	82.2	79.3	-3.5
Lentil Price (Kg)	300	160	500	250	233	225	250	287.2	274	-4.6
Cauli OP (Kg)	5750	5300	7500	6500	7000	2750	12500	7146.4	6757.1	-5.4
Cauli hybrid (Kg)	47500	73333.3	40000	60000	62500	50000	42000	54114.3	53619	-0.9
Tomato OP (Kg)	6000	7500	12000	9000	9000	80000	16500	10005.7	20000	99.9
Tomato hybrid (Kg)	60625	31750	26500	10750	285000	200000	192500	172361	163196	-5.3
Onion seed (Kg)	2025	1100	1250	750	700	1400	1100	1398.6	1189.3	-15.0
Onion seed Nepali (Kg)	1000	900	2550	5000	3500	850	3500	2403.6	2471.4	2.8
Labor										
Agricultural Labor Male	600	600	633.3	666.7	600	625	800	638.1	646.4	1.3
Agricultural Labor Female	350	600	600	533.3	500	575	700	549	551.2	0.4
Non-Agricultural Labor	550	600	700	966.7	1000	650	800	816.7	752.4	-7.9
Non-Agricultural Labor Female (day)	350	600	600	533.3	600	625	720	559	575.5	3.0
Irrigation										
Irrigation (hour)	200	300	300	400	85	325	800	353.8	344.3	-2.7
Tractor										

Inputs	Unit Price in NPR (April 2024)							Mar 2024 Average Price (NPR)	Apr 2024 Average Price (NPR)	% change Mar - Apr 2024
	Banke	Bardiya	Dang	Kailali	Kanchanpur	Kapilvastu	Surkhet			
Tractor (hour)	2000	3000	2620	2400	3400	2366.7	980	2538.3	2395.2	-5.6
Fuel										
Deisel (liter)	158	165.3	160.5	159	164.5	167	168.8	159.6	163.3	2.3
Petrol (liter)	175	179	177	176	185	177	178	173.2	178.1	2.8

NA denotes item is not sold in any nearby shop, agrovet or cooperative.

Source: CSISA field data, March 2024

Annex 4: National Consumer Price Index (April 2024)

Groups & Sub-Groups	Weight %	2021/22		2022/23		2023/24 ^P			% Change			
		Mar/Apr	Feb/Mar	Mar/Apr	Feb/Mar	Mar/Apr	3 Over	3 Over	5 Over 3	5 Over 4		
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	5 Over 3	5 Over 4		
Overall Index	100	147.34	157.02	158.77	164.58	166.09	7.76	1.12	4.61	0.92		
Food and Beverage	43.91	144.12	150.34	154.11	159.26	162.14	6.93	2.51	5.21	1.81		
Cereal grains and their	11.33	131.60	149.50	149.66	160.48	161.02	13.72	0.11	7.59	0.33		
Pulses and Legumes	1.84	121.01	124.77	124.71	138.78	138.35	3.06	-0.05	10.94	-0.31		
Vegetable	5.52	129.45	118.99	130.80	135.73	153.02	1.04	9.92	16.99	12.74		
Meat and Fish	6.75	154.34	151.83	155.46	153.33	155.33	0.73	2.39	-0.09	1.31		
Milk products and Eggs	5.24	150.15	156.82	165.72	167.96	167.81	10.36	5.67	1.26	-0.09		
Ghee and Oil	2.95	201.55	187.46	185.14	165.35	166.45	-8.14	-1.23	-10.10	0.67		
Fruit	2.08	153.71	165.16	170.63	168.91	169.12	11.00	3.31	-0.88	0.13		
Sugar and Sugar products	1.74	139.22	146.39	146.92	155.03	155.39	5.53	0.36	5.77	0.23		
Spices	1.21	126.69	141.69	145.28	181.61	178.16	14.67	2.53	22.64	-1.90		
Non-alcoholic drinks	1.24	140.92	149.77	150.63	159.48	159.76	6.89	0.57	6.06	0.18		
Alcoholic drinks	0.68	188.73	205.29	205.29	216.10	216.10	8.78	0.00	5.27	0.00		
Tobacco products	0.41	173.25	192.01	192.01	193.73	193.73	10.83	0.00	0.90	0.00		
Restaurant and Hotel	2.92	150.72	171.08	172.84	182.35	182.64	14.68	1.03	5.68	0.16		

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