WHAT DOES THE WAR IN UKRAINE MEAN FOR THE AFRICA-EUROPE PARTNERSHIP?

THE PROBLEM

Whilst the majority of focus on the conflict in Ukraine has been on its impact in Europe and geopolitically, the conflict has had an impact across the world, particularly in Africa.

Energy from Russia, wheat from Russia and Ukraine, and ingredients such as sunflower oil are imported by both Africa and Europe, placing the food and energy securities of both continents under strain.

A successful Africa-Europe Partnership must be strong enough to respond to crises such as these, and build resilience for future shocks.

FOLLOWING RUSSIA’S INVASION OF UKRAINE, GLOBAL COMMODITY PRICES HAVE RISEN TO THEIR HIGHEST LEVELS SINCE 2008.

ENERGY PRICES ROSE BY 7.7% IN FEBRUARY

OIL PRICES ROSE BY 11.5% OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

7.7%

11.7%

Energy prices rose by 7.7% in February, with oil prices rising by 11.5%.

→ 39 countries in Africa are net importers of energy.

→ Russia is the main supplier of oil, coal, and natural gas to the EU.

Food prices rose by 3.9% in February.

→ The price of wheat traded in Chicago jumped by 50% when the invasion began.

OPEC REFERENCE BASKET: DAILY PRICE PER BARREL
(1/02/2022 - 7/03/2022)

Strengthening the Africa-Europe Partnership by focusing on energy and sustainable food systems will protect both continents from future exogenous shocks and price changes.
The AEF sees finding new sources of food and energy as key priorities for the partnership.

The African Development Bank has launched a $1bn plan to boost wheat production in Africa, reaching 40 million farmers.

French President Emmanuel Macron visited Algeria to discuss reviving the project of the Trans-Saharan gas pipeline travelling from Nigeria through Niger and Algeria and into Europe.

"OFF THE SHORES OF MOZAMBIQUE... WE ARE STILL EXPLOITING GAS FOR EUROPEAN CONSUMPTION. IF YOU WERE A MOZAMBIAN WHO DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO ENERGY, AND ONLY 17% DO, SEEING EUROPEAN COMPANIES CONTINUING TO EXPLOIT GAS TO TAKE TO EUROPE... AND SAYING TO AFRICANS YOU CANNOT USE GAS - I THINK IT IS IMPOSSIBLE."

— Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of UNECA

The data for this story were compiled and visualised by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation. View more [here](#).