Africa Agriculture Watch
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AAgWa Crop Production Forecasts Brief Series

Sierra Leone – Rice

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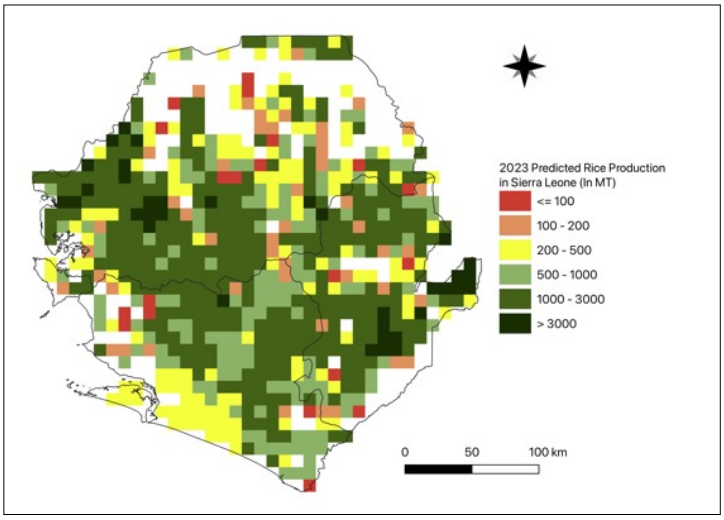
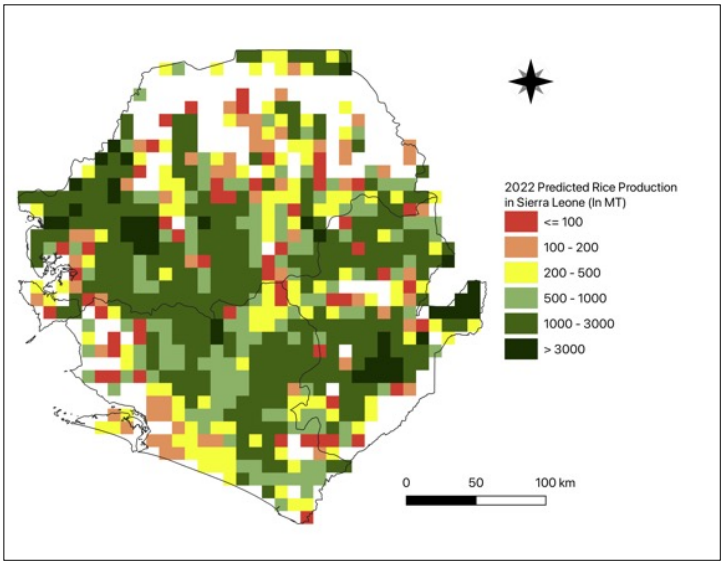
The crop production forecast brief series by AKADEMIYA2063's Africa Agriculture Watch (AAgWa) aims to provide more accurate and timely data on harvest and yields for nine major crops across nearly 50 African countries. The timeliness, wide availability, and easy access to this type of data will allow stakeholders across the value chain to better plan and execute policy and business actions more efficiently. The data published in the briefs are generated through the Africa Crop Production (AfCP) model, an Artificial Intelligence (AI-based) model applied to remotely sensed geo-biophysical data to produce estimates at pixel as well as administrative levels as early as the beginning of every growing season. In Brief 45, we provide forecasts on rice production in Sierra Leone.

Figure 1. *Sierra Leone 2023 rice production forecast.*



Data Source: Africa Agriculture Watch (www.aagwa.org).

Figure 2. *Sierra Leone 2022 rice production forecast.*



Data Source: Africa Agriculture Watch (www.aagwa.org).

In 2023, rice production in Sierra Leone is projected to reach 850,254 metric tons (MT), indicating a 4% increase over 2022 production levels. The most significant production levels are expected to occur in districts, such as Port Loko (Northern), Kailahun (Eastern), Tonkolili (Northern), and Koinadugu (Northern), with production volumes estimated at 102,498 MT, 87,868 MT, 82,644 MT, and 81,343 MT, respectively. In contrast, lower production volumes are observed in districts such as Western Rural (Western), Bonthe (Southern), Pujehun (Southern), and Bombali (Northern), with production values of, respectively, 7,131 MT, 14,836 MT, 38,327 MT, and 62,777 MT.

Moreover, the districts of Tonkolili, Moyamba, Port Loko, and Bombali, are expected to experience the most significant increases of rice production in 2023 compared to 2022, with differences of 5,439 MT, 4,382 MT, 4,148 MT, and 4,090 MT, respectively. These correspond to changes of respectively, 7%, 6%, 4%, and 7%.

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Annex – 2023 Sierra Leone Rice Production Forecast at District level

Provinces	Districts	2023 Production (MT)	2022 Production (MT)	Difference (MT)	Change (%)
Eastern	Kailahun	87868	89736	-1868	-2%
Eastern	Kenema	80215	78806	1408	2%
Eastern	Kono	74566	72348	2218	3%
Northern	Bombali	62777	58686	4090	7%
Northern	Kambia	65903	65837	66	0%
Northern	Koinadugu	81343	77308	4035	5%
Northern	Port Loko	102498	98351	4148	4%
Northern	Tonkolili	82644	77204	5439	7%
Southern	Bo	79773	76497	3276	4%
Southern	Bonthe	14836	10790	4046	37%
Southern	Moyamba	72375	67994	4382	6%
Southern	Pujehun	38327	35538	2789	8%
Western	Western Rural	7131	6338	793	13%
Total		850254	815432	34822	4%

MT (Metric tons): *1 MT is equivalent to 1,000 kilograms.*

Change: *refers to the relative difference and is calculated as (2023 prod – 2022 prod) divided by 2022 prod.*

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