



International Sugar Organization

1 Canada Square
Canary Wharf
London E14 5AA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Press Release(26)04
(English only)

26 January 2026

Various sugar related articles

The Executive Director would like to draw your attention to the articles below all of which are relevant to the sugar sector.

Sugaronline Ebriefing

EGYPT: Ministry says country achieved sugar self-sufficiency in 2025

Egypt's Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade informed a government meeting on Jan. 19 that the country achieved self-sufficiency in sugar production in 2025, according to the state-run news agency MENA.

The country has also built a safe strategic stockpile, strengthening the state's ability to address fluctuations or emergency challenges in global markets, according to the news report.

The information was shared during a meeting with Prime Minister Moustafa Madbouli to update on developments in plans to revitalise Egypt's sugar companies affiliated with the Ministry of Supply and Internal Trade.

BRAZIL: Investments in biofuels could total USD20 billion in next decade

Brazil's biofuels industry is expected to invest BRL106.7 billion (USD19.9 billion) from 2026 through 2035 to expand production capacity, driven by new incentives in the Fuel of the Future Law, according to Globo Rural.

This estimate was released by the state-run Energy Research Company EPE, which, at the end of last year, conducted a survey of investments already announced and those planned for 2026-2035.

Around BRL66.2 billion in capital expenditure is projected for the next decade in the ethanol sector, including sugarcane, corn, and second-generation (E2G) ethanol.

Investments in sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and green diesel are estimated at BRL27.9 billion. Another BRL9.5 billion should be invested in biodiesel, BRL3 billion in biomethane from sugarcane waste, and BRL100 million in carbon capture (bio-CCS).

Sugar production in EAEU reaches 6.7 million T

Countries part of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) have produced 6.69 million metric tonnes of sugar so far this season, according to information released by the [Eurasian Sugar Association](#) on Jan. 19.

Since the start of the current season, 49.5 million tonnes of sugarbeet have been processed in the region. A total of 25 of the 75 sugar factories in the EAEU countries continued to produce

beet sugar as of Jan. 19, including 20 sugar factories in Russia, three in Belarus, and two in Kazakhstan.

Russia produced 5.87 million tonnes of sugar, Belarus produced 697,100 tonnes, Kazakhstan produced 54,400 tonnes, and Kyrgyzstan produced 68,000 tonnes.

By the end of January, 12 sugar factories in Russia and all sugar factories in Belarus and Kazakhstan will have completed processing activities, according to the Eurasian Sugar Association.

BRAZIL: BTG Pactual sees limited impact of EU-Mercosur deal for sugar and ethanol sectors

Brazil's investment bank BTG Pactual expects the sugar and ethanol sectors to benefit from the EU-Mercosur deal, but with a limited impact, according to Globo Rural.

For ethanol, the agreement establishes a quota of 650,000 tonnes for Mercosur, of which 450,000 tonnes are tariff-free, and 200,000 tonnes are subject to a tariff of EUR6.4 per hectolitre.

These volumes correspond to more than three times the volume imported by the European Union from Brazil in 2025. But as exports account for about 4% of Brazilian ethanol production, the impact on the local industry will be limited, according to BTG.

The EU-Mercosur agreement also eliminates tariffs on a 180,000-tonne sugar quota for Brazil. Brazilian sugar shipments to the European Union exceeded this limit by 670,000 tonnes in 2025, indicating a limited impact on the sector, according to the bank.

Beverage industry says WHO's call for sugar taxes downplays sugar reduction measures

The International Council of Beverages Associations (ICBA), which represents non-alcoholic beverage companies worldwide, has said that a [recent call](#) by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for governments to increase taxes on sweetened drinks downplays sugar reduction measures adopted by the industry, reports Sugaronline.

"We share the goal of accelerating progress to reduce non-communicable diseases and believe that governments should focus on cost-effective actions backed by strong evidence. That's why it is disappointing to see WHO continue to downplay proven sugar reduction measures such as reformulation and smaller portion sizes in favor of making unproven claims about taxes, which make daily life more expensive and do not help consumers achieve balanced diets," ICBA's executive director, Katherine Loatman, said in a [statement](#).

ICBA argues that more than a decade of global evidence shows beverage taxes have not reduced obesity or improved health outcomes, and that "taxation is not among the most effective measures to address these complex issues."

"For our part, the beverage industry continues to advance collaborative and innovative solutions like broadening access to low- and no-sugar beverage options, supporting transparent labeling, and upholding the highest standards for responsible marketing," she added.

MALAYSIA: Minister says government hasn't decided on whether ending sugar subsidy

Malaysia's deputy domestic trade and cost of living minister, Fuziah Salleh, has said that the government has yet to decide on whether to discontinue the monthly sugar subsidy provided to local sugar producers, according to a news report by Free Malaysia Today on Jan. 21.

She said the government is currently reviewing how to reassess the scheme, which costs MYR42 million (USD10.3 million) a month.

The government has received several proposals on the matter and all available options are being

considered, according to the minister.

INDIA: Punjab authorises sugarcane subsidy

The Punjab government has approved a subsidy of INR68.5 per quintal for sugarcane farmers for the 2025/26 crushing season, according to the Hindustan Times.

The subsidy will be paid on top of the state advised price (SAP) of INR 416 per quintal, which was increased by INR 15 per quintal from the previous season.

In 2025, the Punjab government promised to pay the difference between the fair and remunerative price (FRP) and the SAP to farmers who had taken their produce for crushing at the six privately owned mills in the state.

KENYA: Sugar Board says sugar supply remains stable despite production drop

The Kenya Sugar Board (KSB) has assured that the domestic sugar supply remains stable despite a 25% decline in sugar production in 2025, according to the Eastleigh Voice.

Kenya's sugar production in 2025 dropped to 613,000 metric tonnes, meeting 61% of the local demand. In 2024, production reached 815,000 tonnes.

KSB CEO Jude Chesire said this decline was due to a combination of "weather stress, deliberate protection of future cane, and structural reforms designed to secure the long-term survival of the sugar industry."

SPAIN: Sugar sachets will be banned from bars and restaurants

Sugar and ketchup sachets will disappear from Spanish bars and restaurants from Aug. 12, 2026, following new EU rules banning single use sachets for dine in customers, according to the Euro Weekly News.

This change is a result of the [EU's new Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation \(PPWR\)](#), which applies restrictions on certain single-use plastics, such as individual portions or sachets of condiments or sauces. The regulation aims to reduce plastic waste.

In Spain, businesses are expected to switch to refillable bottles, dispensers or reusable containers, according to the news report.

NIGERIA: Private sector organisation opposes calls for sugar tax

Private sector advocacy group Centre for the Promotion of Private Enterprise (CPPE) has opposed renewed calls for a sugar tax on non-alcoholic beverages, warning that the measure could hurt the local manufacturing sector and the economy, according to Premium Times.

CEO Muda Yusuf said that imposing an additional sugar-specific tax was economically risky amid high inflation, weak consumer purchasing power, and rising production costs.

He added that calls for sugar taxation in Nigeria are often influenced by global policy templates that do not adequately reflect the country's domestic conditions.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Sugar production expected to rise 12% in 2025/26

Sugar production in the Dominican Republic is expected to increase 11.8% year-on-year in the 2025/26 season to 582,563 metric tonnes, continuing to recover after a 22% drop in the 2022/23 season, according to El Dinero.

In the 2022/23 harvest, sugar output decline due to the effects of a severe drought and limitations in production processes.

The production estimate was released in a decree released by the government that approves the start of the sugarcane harvest. The decree indicates that the four local producers in the

country are projected to crush 5.70 million tonnes of sugarcane.

EU-Mercosur agreement expected to take effect provisionally from March – news report

The EU-Mercosur free trade agreement is expected to take effect provisionally from March, despite a challenge at the European Court of Justice, according to Reuters, citing an EU diplomat. He said the agreement, which was signed last week, shall be applied provisionally once the first Mercosur country ratifies it, which is expected to be Paraguay, in March.

The leader of France's CGB sugarbeet producers' group, Franck Sander, rejected the possibility of the accord taking effect provisionally, calling it a "denial of democracy" and "unacceptable", according to Reuters.

FoodNavigator.com

What happens after GLP-1s and why food will matter more than ever



Former GLP-1 users looking to keep the weight off are a potentially underserved consumer base looking for foods and beverages that will help them feel full longer, manage portions and meet their health goals

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2026/01/22/glp-1-limits-create-new-weight-management-opportunity-for-food/>
