



International Sugar Organization

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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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

NIGERIA: Sugar development council supports greenfield sugar projects to increase production

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) plans to bring as many greenfield projects as possible on board to help increase the domestic sugar production and achieve self-sufficiency, according to The Whistler.

This was revealed by the executive secretary of the NSDC, Kamar Bakrin, during a recent talk with journalists, when he provided updates on interventions to address input constraints in the sector.

He cited four Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) for greenfield sugar projects signed last year, which he said are firm commitments backed by credible investors to deliver large-scale production.

SOUTH AFRICA: Sugar sector warns of potential job losses amid tariff review

South Africa's sugarcane industry has warned that a review of the sugar import tariff could result in job losses in the sector if it results in weaker protection against sugar imports, according to IOL.

Sugarcane growers groups SA Canegrowers and the South African Farmers Development Association (SAFDA) both said they plan to participate in the International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa's (ITAC) review process.

However, they added that the outcome must take into account the pressure already faced by domestic producers and potential risks of job losses.

GUYANA: Works start for new sugar refinery in Wales

Works have started for the construction of a sugar refinery at the old Wales Estate site on the West Bank of Demerara, built by the joint venture between Sucro and GAICO Construction & General Services, according to Stabroek News.

Sucro announced the partnership to build the refinery in December 2025. Under the agreement, the joint venture Demarara Sugar Refinery (DSR) will procure, install and commission a used refinery plant sourced from Hamilton, Canada, and install it in Wales.

DSR local partner, Komal Singh, said on Jan. 25 that demolition works of an old sugar state were underway at the site, which would be followed by the foundation for the refinery plant around April/May.

ESWATINI: Exports of sugar and soft drinks rise in December

Eswatini's exports of sugar and sugar products increase 50.3% year-on-year in December 2025 to SZL843.7 million (USD52.7 million), according to the Times of Eswatini.

Exports of soft drink increases 10.2% in the same comparison to SZL1.7 billion, according to the latest Recent Economic Developments (RED) report released by the Central Bank of Eswatini.

Exports of sugar and soft drinks increased significantly, driven by higher shipments to South Africa and the United Kingdom.

NETHERLANDS: Cosun concludes the 2025 beet campaign

Cosun Beet Company concluded its 2025 beet campaign on Jan. 25, with over 7.7 million metric tonnes of sugarbeets processed during the season, according to a [press statement](#) released by the company on Jan. 27, reports Sugaronline.

The season lasted 140 days, with good cultivation results despite challenges from unfavorable weather conditions since late October last year, which extended the campaign.

The average sugar content was 17.1%, and yield rose to 15.6 tonnes per hectare, in line with the record set in 2017. The company harvested 91 tonnes of beets per hectare this season.

The growing season began under favorable harvesting conditions that lasted until around Oct. 20. From the end of October onwards, heavy rainfall across several regions disrupted harvesting operations and, in January, Cosun recorded temporary delays in beet deliveries, which prompted a reduction in processing speed.

"Although the campaign was extended slightly, this did not materially alter the overall positive picture," the company said in a statement.

Cosun said the sugar market remains under pressure, with supply in Europe higher than expected.

The company decided last year to reduce the beet allocation for the 2026 growing year from 100% to 90%, due to high yields and limited sales opportunities.

"We are proud of the excellent results of this campaign, but we also need to look ahead. By focusing on production volume and market balance now, we are ensuring a healthy position for our members and the cooperative in the long term," said Maikel van Bakel, CEO of Cosun Beet Company.

BRAZIL: Petrobras cuts gasoline prices to fuel distributors

Brazilian state-run oil company Petrobras has announced that it will reduce the prices of gasoline type A to fuel distributors by 5.2% from Jan. 27, reports Sugaronline.

The average sales price to distributors will be BRL2.57 (USD0.49) per litre, a decline of BRL0.14 per litre, according to a [statement](#) released by the company on Jan. 26.

Reductions in gasoline prices to fuel distributors may affect ethanol's competitiveness at fuel stations once the price adjustment is passed on to consumers.

Since December 2022, Petrobras has reduced gasoline prices for distributors by BRL 0.50 per litre. Considering inflation during this period, gasoline prices to fuel distributors declined by 26.9% in the period.

NIGERIA: BUA Foods' earnings almost double in 2025

BUA Food has reported a pretax profit of NGN534.8 billion (USD385.2 million) for 2025, up from NGN284.3 billion in 2024, according to Nairametrics.

Revenue increased 18.1% to NGN1.8 trillion, driven by stronger sales across the company's product lines.

Sales of bakery products accounted for 39% of the annual revenue, followed by fortified sugar at NGN571.4 billion, pasta at NGN202.6 billion, non-fortified sugar at NGN184.1 billion, and head rice at N95.6 billion.

BELIZE: BSI launches sales of packaged sugar in the local market

Belize Sugar Industries (BSI), owned by ASR Group, has launched sales of packaged sugar in the domestic market, introducing the Domino brand, according to News5Belize.

Belize has traditionally sold sugar in industrial-sized packages to supermarkets and retailers, who would then package the sugar in smaller clear plastic bags for sale to consumers, according to BSI Finance director Shawn Chavarria.

He said BSI had to wait for the approval of a law amendment earlier this month to start selling pre-packaged brown and white sugar. BSI is selling the packaged sugar at about 15 cents per lb at the mill.

BRAZIL: Gasoline price cut increases uncertainties for sugar and ethanol industry

Brazilian investment bank BTG said in a recent report that the decision by state-run oil company Petrobras to cut gasoline prices has increased uncertainty about the profitability of sugar and ethanol companies in the 2026/27 season, according to a report by news website Exame.

The 5% cut in gasoline prices to distributors, announced [earlier this week](#), reduces the ethanol's competitiveness threshold at fuel stations, which must cost up to 70% of the price of gasoline to be advantageous to consumers.

With cheaper gasoline, the ethanol parity price fell from BRL2.86 to BRL2.79 per litre, putting pressure on the profitability of the sugar and ethanol industry.

BTG estimates this measure to result in a reduction between 6% and 10% in the operating profit (EBIT) of São Martinho, Jalles Machado, and Adecoagro in the next fiscal year.

SOUTH AFRICA: Canegrowers say sugar tariff review must protect rural jobs

Sugarcane producers group SA Canegrowers has urged the International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (ITAC) to protect rural jobs during the review of the sugar tariff regime, reports Sugaronline.

"SA Canegrowers will participate constructively in the review process, and we urge ITAC to ensure that the review process will recognise that rural jobs and livelihoods are at risk, in a country that cannot afford to push more people into poverty," the group said in a [statement](#) on Jan. 26.

ITAC, part of the Department of Trade, Industry and Competition, has announced that it will start a review of the Dollar-Based Reference Price (DBRP).

SA Canegrowers said that it will participate in the review process, expecting a "full and proper regard to be given to the risk facing rural jobs and livelihoods."

"It is critical that the Dollar-Based Reference Price (DBRP) is assessed against the realities of the global sugar market and continues to function as part of a fair South African trade policy. The current DBRP is already not appropriately calibrated to these market realities and has allowed a record surge of imported sugar to enter the country and displace locally grown produce. Not

adjusting the DBRP to a fair level puts rural livelihoods at risk," the group said.

SA Canegrowers said that 177,408 metric tonnes of duty-paid sugar entered South Africa between January and November 2025, compared to less than 3,000 tonnes in the same period in 2022.

The group said that this surge occurred despite the tariff on imported sugar being adjusted to align with the world sugar price and is a clear indicator that the DBRP is outdated.

SA Canegrowers said that a lower DBRP, as defended by the country's beverage industry, may deliver short-term benefits to sugar importers and BevSA members, but would decimate the domestic value chain in the long-term.

FoodNavigator.com

'Elevated' arsenic in candy reveals industry-wide food safety and regulatory risks



Even without enforcement action, publicly released contaminant data could fuel lawsuits, consumer confusion and regulatory scrutiny, while also undermining federal oversight

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2026/01/29/florida-candy-arsenic-findings-signal-broader-food-safety-and-regulatory-risks/>

After GLP-1s, food steps in: Why weight maintenance is the next big opportunity



Former GLP-1 users looking to keep the weight off are a potentially underserved consumer base looking for foods and beverages that will help the 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/>

GLP-1 demand: Are we already seeing a slowdown?



Is enthusiasm for GLP-1 weight-loss drugs starting to fade?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2026/01/23/glp1-demand-are-we-already-seeing-a-slowdown/>

GLP-1 ranges: Should you launch one?



We round up the challenges and opportunities of entering the 'GLP-1 friendly' meals arena

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2026/01/28/should-your-brand-enter-the-glp1-friendly-food-market/>
