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TITLE: Impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on grain and fertilizer supply: Evidence from Kenya

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ABSTRACT (upto 300 words)

The work examines the impact of the Russia-Ukraine war on grain and fertilizer supply to Kenya as the sixth largest economy in Africa using the Regression Discontinuity estimator on monthly data spanning from January 2017 to August 2022. After controlling for sensitivity and incorporating depreciation of the exchange rate and a dummy on drought as covariates, the results indicate the war has had insignificant impact on imports of grain and fertilizer by Kenya though the impact is negative for grain but positive for fertilizer. The findings have policy implications touching on need for African countries to diversify import sources for grain and fertilizer, enhance productive capacities through investment on irrigation, strengthen diplomatic ties with existing import sources for grain and fertilizer, and invest in climate action to tackle drought incidences.

BIOGRAPHY

Shadrack is a Senior Policy Analyst with the Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPRA), government research and policy Think-Tank in Nairobi, Kenya. He has published extensively on trade and its influence on food and nutrition security. He is also a reviewer of scientific research with several high-ranking journals including the African Development Review. He is trained as an Economist having obtained his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Nairobi, Kenya and PhD at Loughborough University, United Kingdom.

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