CHAPTER 2

PRODUCTION, TRADE AND PRICES OF COMMODITIES

Global production came from two countries in 2017: Indonesia (53 percent) and Malaysia (30 percent). In 2017, the top three producers accounted for 63–65 percent of the production of soybean oil and sunflower oil, and for slightly less than half of the production of rapeseed oil. China was the main producer of soybean oil, with a share of 30 percent in 2017 and the United States of America a distant second with a share of 19 percent. The difference between the first and second producer was much smaller for rapeseed and sunflower oil: Canada led the production of rapeseed oil in 2017, with 16 percent of the world total, just ahead of Germany (16 percent), while Ukraine produced 29 percent of the global sunflower oil production in 2017, with the Russian Federation a close second (26 percent).

The global production of raw sugar reached 182 million tonnes in 2017, up 37 percent compared with 2000, or 49 million tonnes (see Figure 25).

As sugar cane, the main sugar crop, grows in tropical regions, the main producing countries are located there. The largest producing country is Brazil, which increased its share in the world total from 13 percent in 2000 to 22 percent in 2017. It overtook India in 2003, which accounted for 12 percent of the global production in 2017. The other main producers account for 4 to 6 percent of the total production each, with the Russian Federation relying only on sugar beet for sugar production.

PRODUCTION OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES

World meat production reached 342 million tonnes in 2018, up 47 percent, or 109 million tonnes compared with 2000 (see Figure 26). Although many species are raised for their meat, only three accounted for nearly 90 percent of the global production during the 2000–2018 period: pig, chicken and cattle (not taking into account the different breeds for each). Pig meat represented 35 percent of the total in 2018, which is a small decrease compared to its 38 percent share in 2000. With 33 percent of the global production in 2018, chicken meat showed the largest growth in absolute and relative terms (+95 percent, or 56 million tonnes). The share of cattle meat dropped from 24 percent in 2000 to 20 percent in 2018. The market concentration of meat production is not as strong as for primary crops and vegetable oils, even though the top three producers accounted for about...