

Short term outlook for the fertilizer market Supply, demand and price trends

Stephen Mitchell and Mounir Halim, Argus Media Ltd Avignon November 2017

### Nitrogen

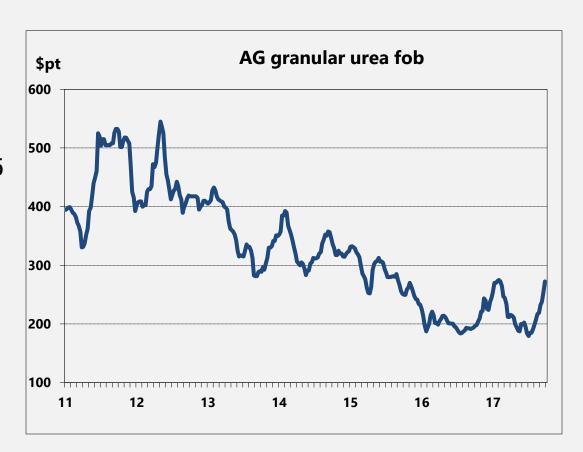
- recovery phasePhosphates
- Morocco vs Saudi Arabia Potash
- overcapacity

# Nitrogen

- recovery phase

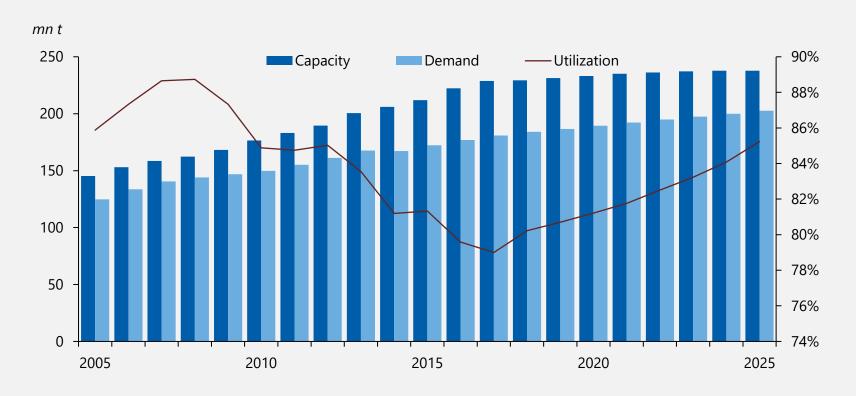
### Where we are today - Nitrogen

- Slow recovery phase beginning, after five year down-trend
- Market floor \$180-185 fob in 2016 and 2017
- Chinese exports unprofitable in 2016
- Seeking a new equilibrium to absorb US capacity in 2017





### **Urea Supply-Demand Balance**



— Argus FMB Strategy Report 'World Urea Outlook to 2030



### Nitrogen Supply-Demand Outlook

#### Urea capacity growth is slowing

Major expansion phase is almost complete Closures in China and elsewhere balancing new capacity

#### Capacity utilisation forecast to rise

This should permit higher average prices than in 2016-17

Utilisation not expected to reach 2012 level

#### Demand growth is modest, averaging about 1.5pc a year

Many markets are mature, growth concentrated in a few regions and non-fertilizer uses

Urea capacity	mn tonnes
2012	190
2017	229
2021	235
Capacity Utilisation	percent
2012	85
2017	79
2021	82
Urea demand	mn tonnes
2012	161
2017	181
2021	192



#### Firm (non-China) large-scale urea projects

#### Granular urea m t/yr

	Company/location	M t/yr	status
2017			
Iran	NPC, Pardis 3	1.1	On-stream
Bolivia	YPFB, Cochabamba	0.7	Ramping up
Russia	PhosAgro, Cherepovets	0.5	On-stream
US	Koch, Enid	1.0	Ramping up

2018			
India	BVFCL, Namrup Assaam (net urea)	0.6	
Turkmenistan	Turkmen Chemical , Garabogaz	1.2	
Azerbaijan	SOCAR, Sumgait	0.7	
India	Chambal, Gadepan	1.4	
Nigeria	Dangote Phase 1	1.2	
Total expansions 2	2017-2018	9.4	
Closures predicted	in China 2016-2017	8.2	
Closures elsewher	e	1.0	

Argus FMB Strategy Report: World Urea Outlook to 2028



## 2019 and beyond

- Iran Lordegan project under construction
- 1.1mn t/yr gran urea

- Nigeria Dangote project under construction
- 2 x 1.27mn t /yr gran urea

- India proposed revival of sick units
- Indeterminate

 Russia - Nahodka project construction start in 2018

2mn t/yr gran urea

- Brunei EPC contract signed for ammonia-urea unit
- 1.1mn t/yr gran urea



### Nitrogen Supply - Energy

- Supply developments are driven by energy costs, except for a few import substitution units, e.g. India
- Gas prices have been converging in a low oil price world and are likely to remain low
- This is led to lower-than-expected nitrogen fertilizer prices
- Companies are continuing to launch ammonia-urea projects, despite current pricing, where there is low-cost gas - below \$2.50/mnBtu



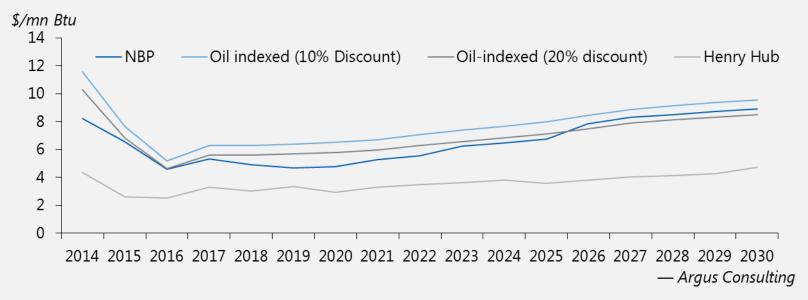
### Natural Gas price convergence

 Oil price decline and the globalization of natural gas markets - via a flood of new LNG supply - have been key





#### Henry Hub and northwest European gas prices to 2030



Shale gas glut pushes US LNG exports to Europe US LNG exports leading to convergence with European and other global gas markets

Slow oil price recovery and growth in LNG keeps gas prices low to 2020. Post-2020: rising oil prices and lower global gas surplus (decline in EU gas production and growing gas-based power in China & India) will drive up global gas prices



### Oil: Structural shifts in ammonia and urea pricing

- +/- \$15/bl shift in long-term oil prices leads to +/- \$35/t in ammonia prices
- +/- \$15/bl shift in long-term oil prices leads to +/-\$25/t shift in urea prices
- New long-term oil price \$70/bl in constant dollar terms is \$40/bl below expectation in 2014...Therefore structural break in oil pricing results in:
  - \$90-95/t downward shift in ammonia
  - \$60-65/t downward shift in urea prices



### Nitrogen demand

- Consumption growth concentrated in key sectors
- Urea consumption estimated at about 176mn tonnes in 2016
- Long-term average growth in urea demand 1.4pc a year
- Equivalent to 2.5mn product tonnes annually
- Agricultural demand has reached a plateau in many countries
- But some large markets continue to grow, as does industrial usage

#### **Growth areas**

- Eastern Europe/FSU
- Brazil
- Argentina
- Africa
- Non-fertilizer uses



#### Growth areas - FSU/Eastern Europe

- Russia
- Sanctions forced the expansion of Russian agriculture
- AN deliveries up 24pc in 2016 to 4.1mn tonnes
- Increased AN production in Russia has not resulted in increased exports
- Urea production up 1mn t in 2016 to 7.2mn t, for export

- Eastern Europe
- Urea imports up 30pc in 2016

	2015	2016
Bulgaria	299	341
Romania	196	461
Serbia	175	324
Hungary	100	125
Slovenia	27	42
Slovakia	134	154
Czech	300	336
Total	1,230	1,782



#### Growth areas - 2

- Brazil/Argentina
- Record imports in Brazil in 2016 4.6mn t. Up from 3mn t 2012
- Consumption 5.5mn t and rising
- Domestic production 1mn t, Project on hold
- Argentina recovering as agri outlook improves
- Growth 5-8pc forecast

- Non-fertilizer uses
- Currently estimated at about
  12pc of total urea consumption
- Approx 21-22mn tonnes a year
- Forecast to grow to 16pc of total urea consumption over the long term - 33-34mn t
- Main driver is adoption of DeNOx technology in vehicle engines, power plants and shipping



#### **Urea Trade**

- Decline in US and Indian imports balanced by rises elsewhere
  - Top 10 import markets account for approx 61pc of world trade
  - Six out of ten increased imports in 2016-17
  - Turkey, Australia and probably Thailand will fall in 2017-18
- Indian imports static, but US will fall further

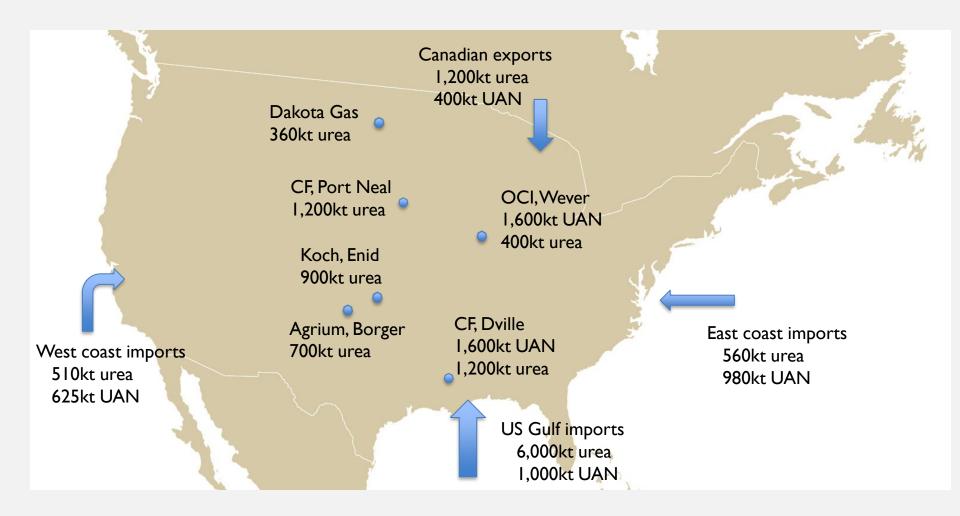
Top 10 urea import markets				
000t	2015-16	2016-17		
US	8,299	6,907		
India	8,474	5,481		
Brazil	3,463	4,975		
Australia	1,795	2,613		
Thailand	2,048	2,650		
Turkey	1,915	2,645		
Mexico	1,370	1,722		
France	1,567	1,520		
South Africa	840	831		
South Korea	780	801		
Total	30,551	30,145		



Key market developments

#### US market evolution

- new production will have most impact in 2017-18





### Imports have to fall in 2017-18

- but where from?
- Industry estimates are that imports need to fall 2.5mn t from 2016 level
- Total non-AG imports were about 2mn t in 2016
- AG shipped 3.75mn t to the US in 2016, 52pc of total imports
- Low cost producers in the Middle East will seek to maintain a market share

US urea imports by vessel		
2013	5,311kst	
2014	6,928kst	
2015	7,032kst	
2016	5,988kst	
2017 Jan-Sep	4,540kst	
Source: US Dept of Commerce		



# Indian imports shrank in 2016

#### - and may fall again in 2018

- Sales fell 7.5pc in 2016-17, first time for many years
- Imports via DOF tenders fell to 3.4mn t last year
- Production stable, new capacity still 1-2 years off
- New DBT roll out could affect sales, trials have seen falls of 10-20pc in offtake

India: urea production, sales, imports - mn tonnes			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18 forecast
Production	24.5	24.2	24.2
Imports	8.5	5.5	6.0
Sales	32.0	29.6	30.0
Stocks	0.93	1.3	1.5
Source: FAI	*April-February		



### China's capacity falling

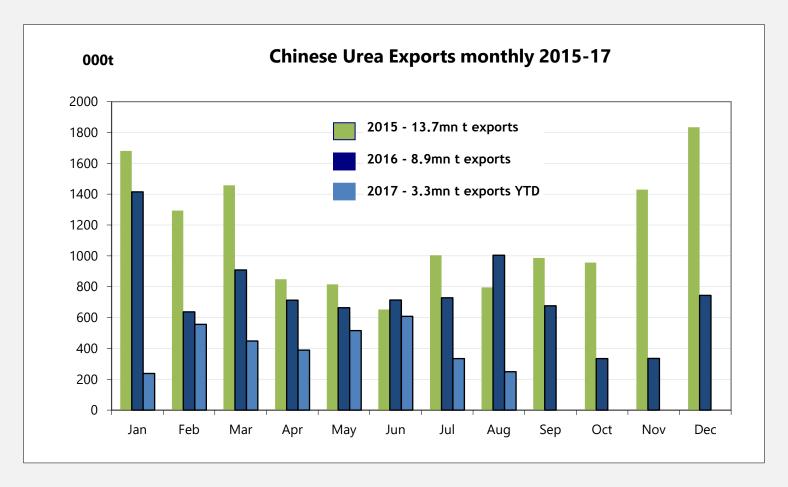
- high cost plants closing

- Capacity peaked in 2014, 70pc coal-based
- Old, inefficient plants are being closed permanently
- Production fell to 62mn tonnes in 2016, 77pc operating rate at the active units
- Urea demand estimated at 50mn tonnes in China

Chinese urea capacity/output - mn tonnes			
	2015	2016	2017
Capacity	80.23	80.63	77.10
Production	70.59	61.92	
Closures	3.94	4.33	5.00
Start ups	3.98	0.80	0.30
Source: CNFIA			



### Exports shrink nearly 5mn t in 2016





#### China coal prices

- cost of coal up \$30-40/t to fert plants







# Price Outlook

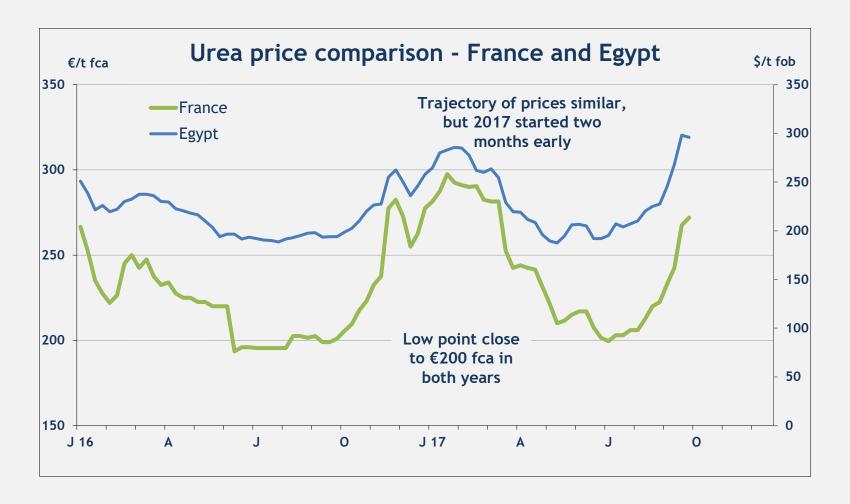
#### Average prices higher in 2017

- oversupply mitigated by lower Chinese exports
  - Prices bottomed out at similar low to summer 2016
  - Higher energy costs expected to keep floor above \$200 fob China in future
  - Highest prices of the year in January and Q4
  - Readjustment to new capacity means US market is lagging
- Further improvement in prices foreseen 2018 onwards

AG gran urea average	\$pt fob
2011	448
2012	433
2013	349
2014	329
2015	281
2016	206
2017 YTD	227



#### Prices following the same seasonal pattern





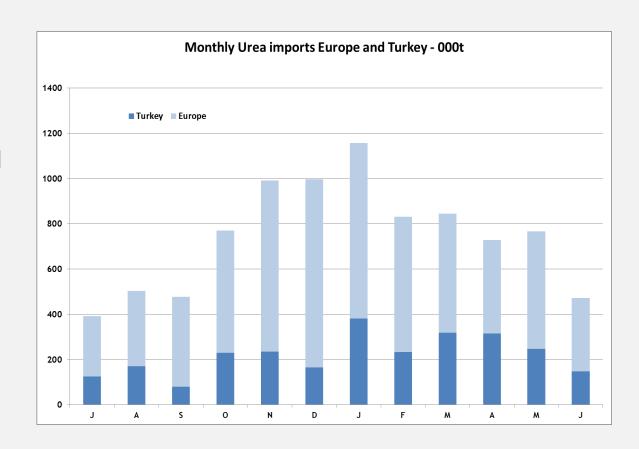
### European imports close to 7mn t annually

Europe and Turkey account for nearly 20pc of world trade

Peak imports around 1mn t/month

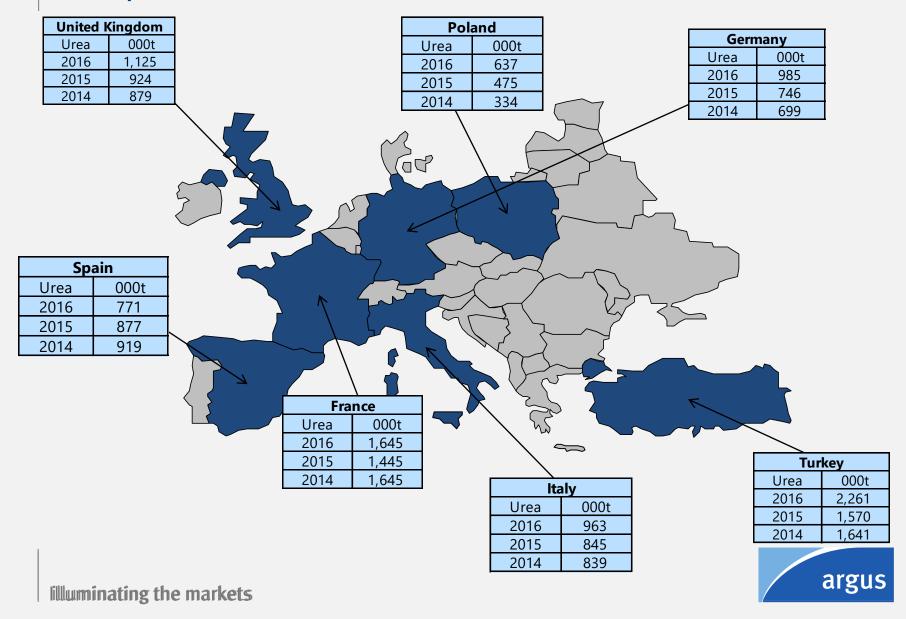
80-85pc of Egyptian exports move to Europe and Turkey

Forward selling a feature of European markets





### Europe



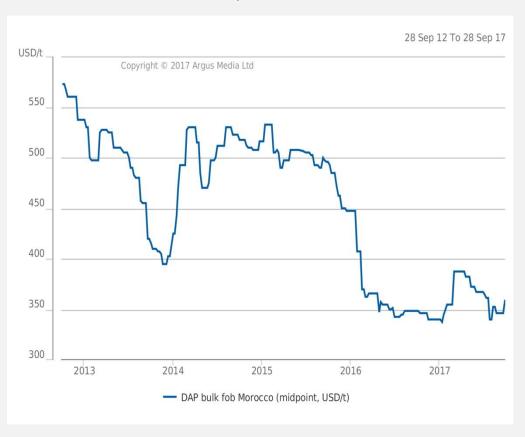
# Phosphates

- Morocco vs Saudi Arabia

### Where we are today - phosphates

- Supply consolidating in China & US
- OCP Morocco and Saudi new superpowers
- Trader influence receding as producers sell direct or invest down supply chain
- Market oversupplied rise of China and stagnating Indian DAP market
- Price floor reached January 2017 at \$340/t fob
- China talks of environmental curbs leads to market rebound

#### **DAP Morocco fob**



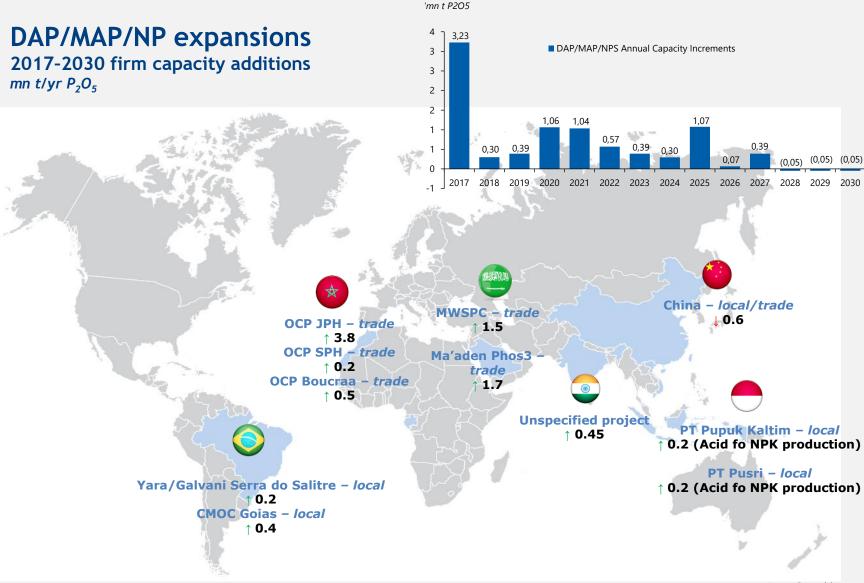


Copyright © 2017 Argus Media Ltd. All rights reserved.

# Outlook for phosphate market set by expansions in Morocco and Saudi Arabia

- OCP will add 4.5mn t P2O5 in new capacity
- Ma'aden will add 3.2mn t P2O5 in new capacity
- Global demand for DAP/MAP currently approx 26mn t P2O5, trade 12mn t P2O5
- Demand forecast to rise at 1.1pc/yr long-term, concentrated in South America, South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa
- Major swing factors India and Latin American import purchases and Chinese exports

argus

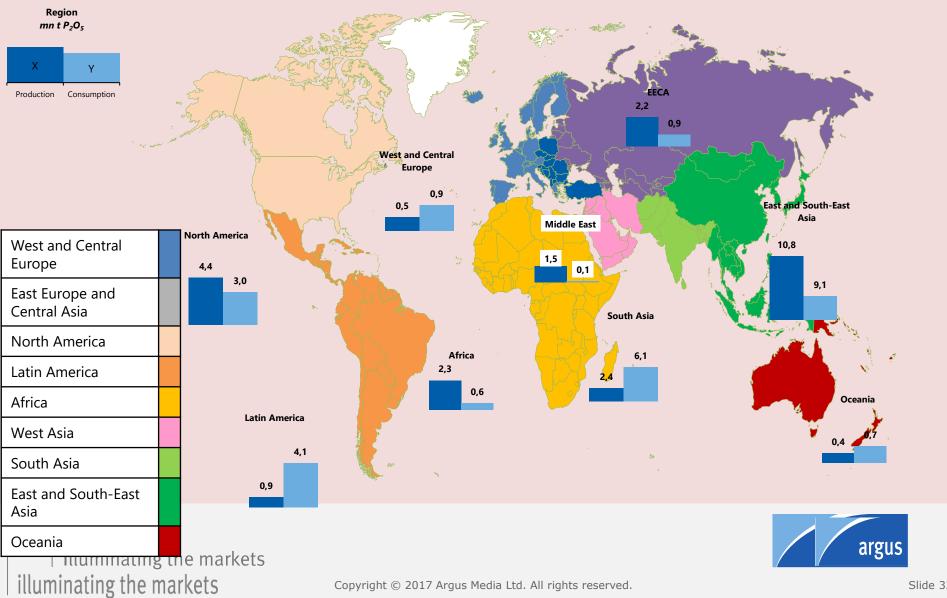


Argus Consulting

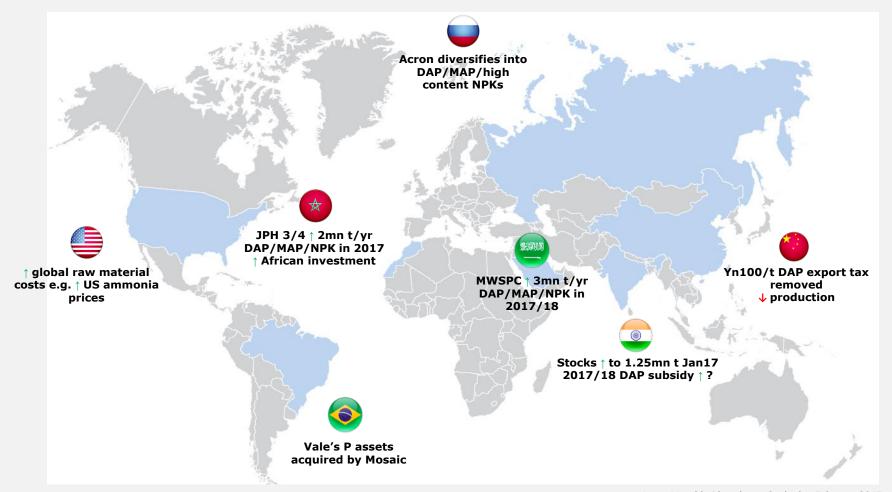


# 2016 global DAP/MAP production & consumption

 $mn t P_2O_5$ 



# Factors affecting short term supply/demand balance from 2017 - DAP/MAP



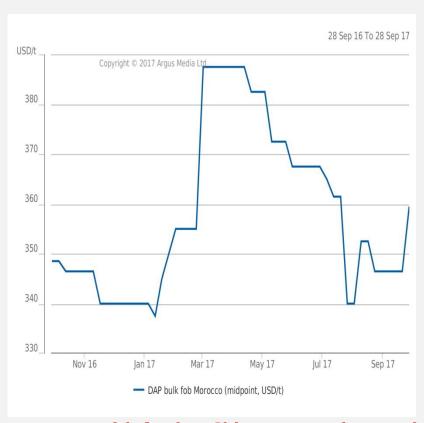
Argus Monthly Phosphates Outlook – February 2017

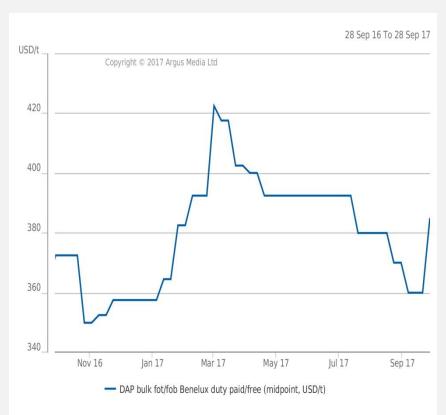


#### Phosphate prices

#### Morocco fob and NW Europe fca

#### ... rate of new capacity utilisation in Morocco/Saudi Arabia will be key to shaping prices





...with further Chinese restraint required to balance the market



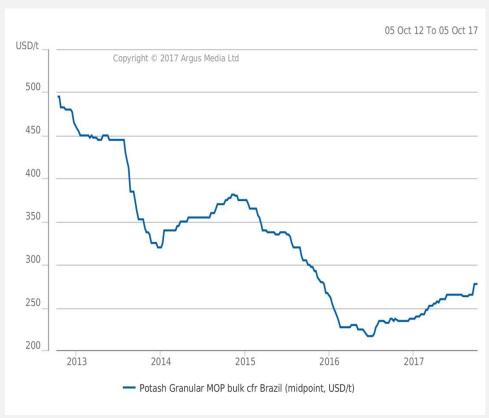
## Potash

- overcapacity

### Where we are today - potash

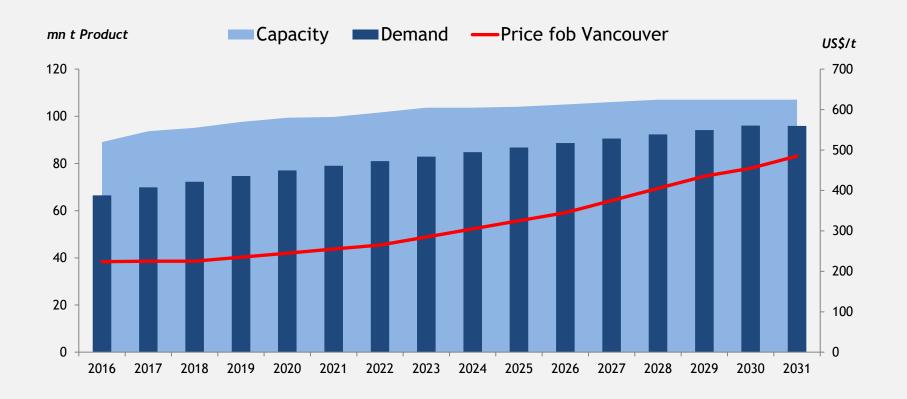
- Prices bottomed out in mid 2016 around \$220 cfr
- Capacity rose by nearly 20mn t -28pc - between 2012 and 2016
- Another 21-22mn t could start up over the next 5 years
- Supply forecast to rise 3.8pc/yr and demand at 2.5pc/yr
- Market oversupplied; producers will have to reduce operating rates

#### **GMOP Brazil cfr**





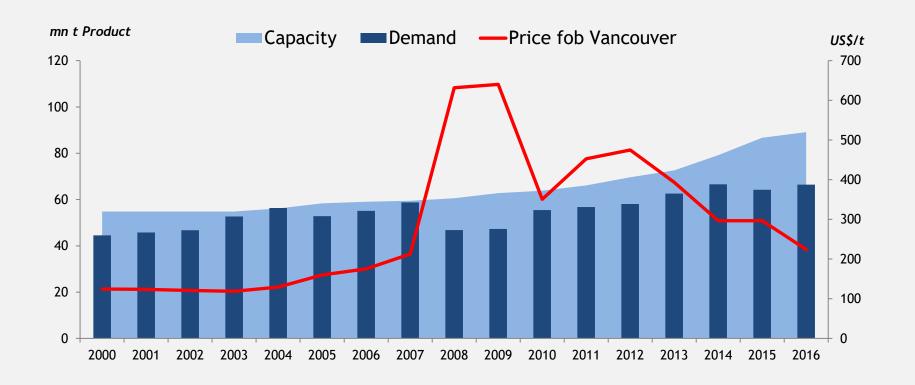
# Potash - global capacity, demand and price forecast to 2031



Argus



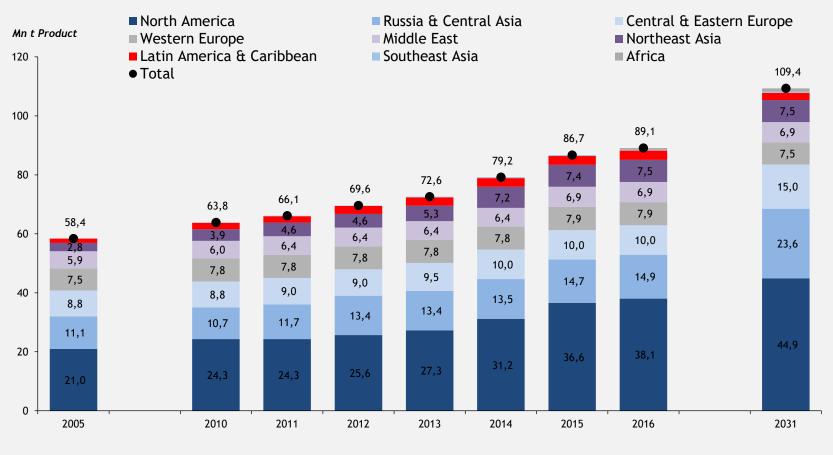
# Potash - global capacity, demand and prices 2000-16



Argus



#### World MOP Capacity



-Argus



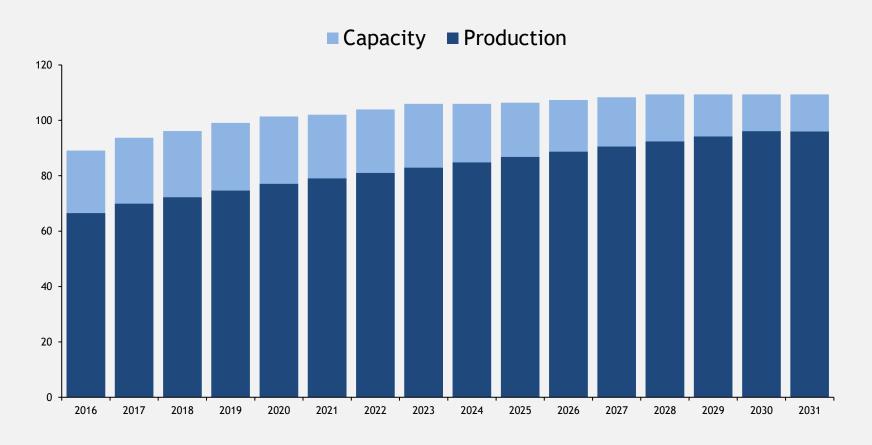
## New MOP capacity

Company/project	Location	Commissioning	Capacity t/yr MOP
Turkmenhimiya	Garlyk, Turkmenistan	1Q17	1,400,000
K+S Kali, Bethune	Bethune, Saskatchewan, Canada	2Q17	2,860,000
Eurochem, Usolsky	Palashersk, Russia	Late 2017	3,700,000
Mosaic, K3	Esterhazy, Saskatchewan, Canada	2017	900,000
Eurochem, VolgaKali	Kotelnikovo, Russia	2018	4,600,000
Belaruskali	Petrikovsky, Belarus	2019	1,500,000
Uralkali	Ust Yaiva, Russia	2020	2,800,000
Uralkali	Solikamsk 2, Russia	2020	2,300,000
Acron - VPC	Talitsky, Russia	2021	2,000,000
Slavkali	Nezhinsky, Belarus	2022	2,000,000

Argus Consulting



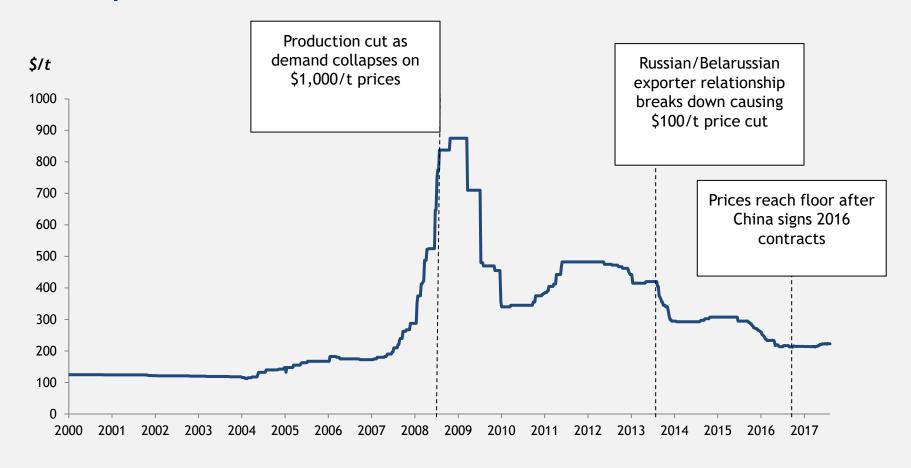
## Global MOP capacity and production forecast



-Argus



### MOP prices fob Vancouver 2000-17





#### Demand 2015-2031 - mn t KCl

	2015	2031	Change/yr
World	64.26	95.94	2.5%
Northeast Asia	15.10	30.78	4.6%
Latin America & Caribbean	12.58	19.80	2.9%
Southeast Asia	8.92	11.99	<b>1.9</b> %
North America	10.45	9.77	-0.4%
South Asia	5.98	7.68	1.6%
Central & Eastern Europe	3.33	4.78	2.3%
Western Europe	4.11	3.87	-0.4%
Africa	1.68	3.42	4.5%
Russia & Central Asia	0.95	2.21	5.4%
Middle East	0.46	0.82	3.6%
Australasia	0.70	0.83	1.0%





argusmedia.com

London

Houston

Washington

Moscow

Singapore

New York

Tokyo

Sydney

Astana

Johannesburg

Kiev

Beijing

Dubai

Santiago

Berlin



