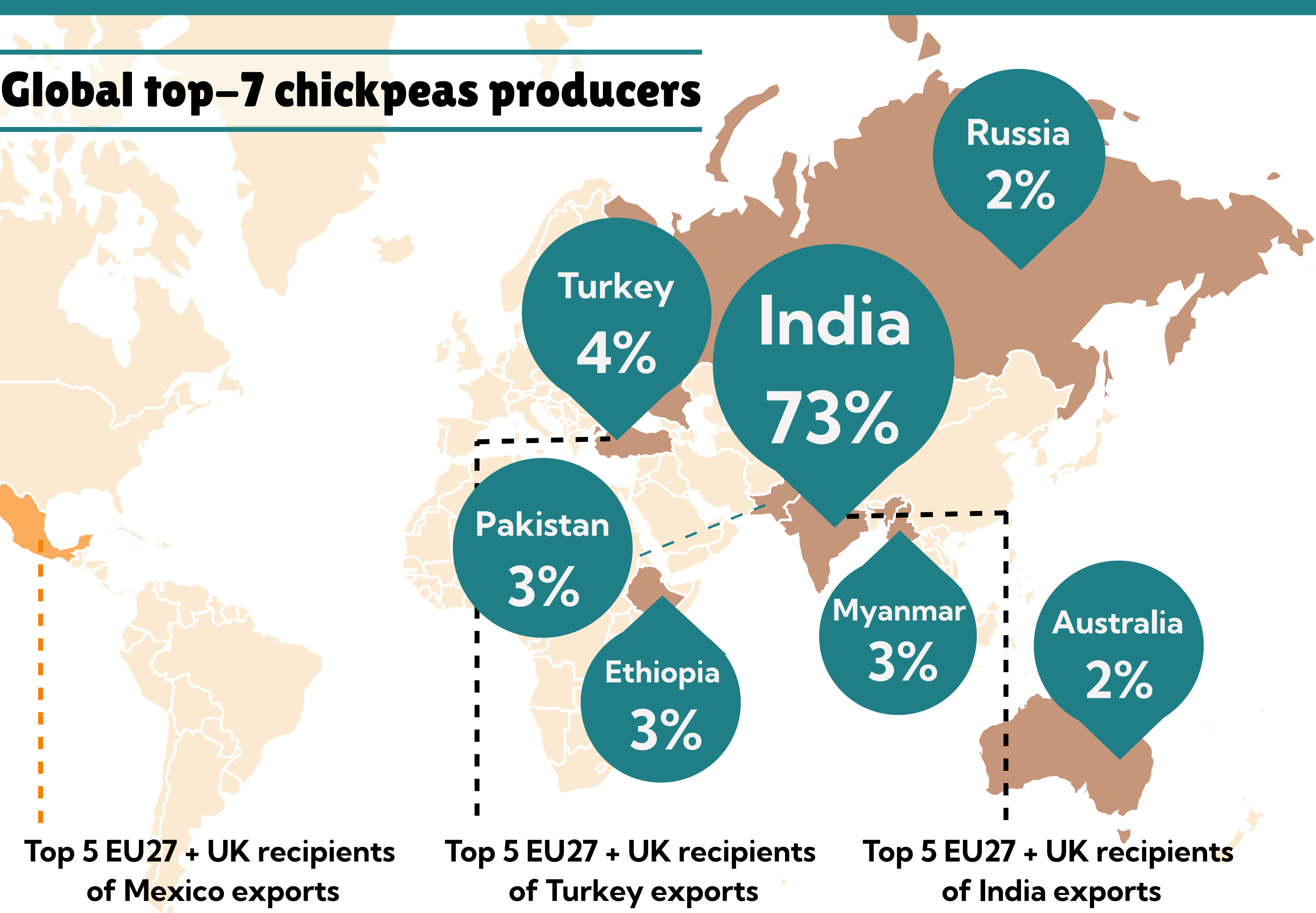


Chickpeas

Production & Trade

Global top-7 chickpeas producers



In 2021, the EU mainly imported chickpeas from non-EU countries **Mexico** (27%), **Turkey** (23%), **the USA** (21%), and **Canada** (11%).

While in 2020 **Mexico** only produced 1% of the global share of chickpeas production, the country was the **number one supplier to the EU28 in 2021**. Spain is its major recipient (51%).

Italy is the only country that is a top-5 recipient of chickpeas from Turkey, Mexico, and India in 2021. **The UK was the leading importer of chickpeas from India in 2020.**

In **2020**, the top 7 producing countries **comprised 91 % of chickpeas production worldwide**. Other countries with **more than 1% share** in global chickpeas production are Iran, Canada, the United States, Argentina, Mexico (EU is a key importer), and Sudan.

India is the leading producer of chickpeas, with a 73% share in the global production of chickpeas in 2020. However, it was only the 8th supplier country of the EU28 market in 2021. While mainly France and Italy re-import chickpeas within Europe, **chickpeas are predominately grown outside Europe.**





Chickpeas

Environmental Risks

**9,554
ha**

**of deforestation
risk was linked to
chickpeas in India**

A total of 9,554 ha of **deforestation risk** was associated with chickpeas production in India in 2018. This is relatively low compared to for instance soy-related deforestation in Brazil, which totals 223,365 ha.

**Land use &
Deforestation**



The estimated water footprint of chickpeas, 4,177 cubic metres per ton, is a **moderate global average water footprint**.

**4,177
m³/ton**

**is the water
footprint of
chickpeas**

**Water
Footprint**



chickpeas

fix nitrogen

Chickpeas **enrich the soil with nitrogen**, allowing farmers to use less fertilizer.

Contamination



The carbon footprint attributed to the chickpeas crop is **low**.

**0.67
kg CO₂eq**

**is the carbon
footprint per kg
of chickpeas**

Emissions



Chickpeas



Social Risks

Child Labour

While no specific reference is made to chickpeas production, there are indications of **child labour in the vegetable seeds companies in India**, the largest chickpeas producer in the world.

14 million
children are
working in India

There are strong indications that India has the highest number of working children in the world, as well as the worst forms of child labor. Turkey, also an EU supplier, **is reportedly linked to child labour in its pulses (legumes) production.**

Also forced labour is common in India, an **estimated 8 million people are forced to work.**

Reputation Risks

250,000 tons

of chickpeas from
Russia were
destroyed in war in
2022

Chickpeas production is affected by the **Russia-Ukraine war**. Reportedly, Russia exported around 200,000 to 250,000 tons of chickpeas per year. With the start of the war in February 2022, the supply of chickpeas was destroyed.

While global commodity production and trade data did not demonstrate a large role for Ukraine production, it was stated that **Europe would not receive an expected 50,000 tons of chickpeas** because **Ukraine was unable to ensure its chickpea production due to the war.**

Gender Issues

Many of the major production countries of chickpeas have severe gender issues, especially in India. While not specifically linked to chickpeas production, generally, female agricultural workers work under harsh, unequal, and discriminating conditions in many countries, including India. For instance, **women are not allowed to own land, receive lower remuneration, work often long hours without formal contracts or any social or job security, and are more prone to violence and abuse.**