INSIGHTS – 2027 LOOK AHEAD

GLYCERINE TRADE FLOWS 2027

What 2026 has shown so far, and where the tonnes go next

18 November 2026

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Glycerine trade has run strong in 2026. On exporters' own data, Indonesia shipped 14% more crude and 19% more refined glycerine to China in January to September than a year earlier, and Brazil 6% more crude to China in January to October. Average declared values per tonne are up by roughly 35–50% on most of the lanes we track. Europe exported 11% more crude, and India bought more from Brazil, Europe and the US and less from Indonesia.

2027 builds on that. Our estimate is that FAME biodiesel in Indonesia, Brazil, the EU, the US and Argentina will yield about 0.58 Mt more glycerol (100% basis) in 2027 than in 2025, led by Indonesia's B50 blend. China remains the swing buyer, India the growth outlet if its duty concession survives March, and Europe keeps sending crude out and taking refined in.

Five dates matter for landed costs: China's 2027 tariff plan, expected in late December; the reported EUDR date for palm-derived refined glycerol, 30 December for large and medium operators; Indonesia's exit from EU GSP on 1 January, which in our planning case puts 3.8% on its refined glycerine; the end of India's 2.5% duty on crude for ECH on 31 March, unless renewed; and EUDR for palm-derived crude from 30 December 2027.

For buyers and producers the practical points are below: which lanes get dearer, which buyers are widening their sources, and where delivery routes now decide the price.

More biodiesel does not mean more glycerine for every buyer. In 2027 the constraints are where crude can be processed, which grades a buyer can accept, and what it costs to land the cargo.

2026 so far: the bridge to 2027

The table shows each major lane's full-year 2025 volume, its 2026 volume to date, the change against the same months of 2025, and our view of where it goes in 2027.

Lane	Full-year 2025	2026 to date	vs same months	2027, our view
Indonesia → China, crude	**664 kt**	**564 kt (Jan–Sep)**	**+14%**	Up; ECH margins set the pace
Indonesia → China, refined	**526 kt**	**441 kt (Jan–Sep)**	**+19%**	Up
Brazil → China, crude	**581 kt**	**497 kt (Jan–Oct)**	**+6%**	Flat to up at B15
Indonesia → India, crude	**107 kt**	**51 kt (Jan–Sep)**	**–32%**	Hinges on the 31 March duty
Indonesia → US, refined	**133 kt**	**122 kt (Jan–Sep)**	**+15%**	Steady; US duty scope open
EU → non-EU, crude	**315 kt**	**252 kt (Jan–Sep)**	**+11%**	Up, to more buyers
Indonesia → EU, refined	**56 kt**	**54 kt (Jan–Sep)**	**+36%**	Slower: 3.8% duty
US exports, crude	**30 kt**	**48 kt (Jan–Aug)**	**+129%**	Small new seller to Asia

Indonesian, Brazilian and US lanes as reported by the exporting country (UN Comtrade monthly data; Brazil's Comex Stat); EU lanes from Eurostat Comext DS-045409, updated 13 November 2026. Retrieved 16 November 2026. "2027, our view" is our judgement.

Three things stand out. China pulled harder in 2026: Indonesia's crude and refined shipments to China, Brazil's crude and Malaysia's crude (+27%) all rose. Values per tonne rose with volumes: against the same months of 2025, Indonesia's average declared export value per tonne is up 37% for crude and 39% for refined, Brazil's crude 48%, and EU crude exports 40% in euros. And trade partners are shifting: India is changing its sourcing mix, and Europe is sending more crude to buyers other than China (below).

A note on the data: partner statistics show reported origin or destination, not final use, and trans-shipment is not visible; exporter and importer figures for a lane can differ, so we use one reporter per lane. HS 1520 includes glycerol waters and lyes, HS 2905.45 combines all refined grades, and values per tonne also reflect grade and destination mix. Recent months can be revised, and monthly Comtrade preview data can omit rows (totals use the larger of the world row and the partner sum). China appears through its suppliers' data.

Europe: more crude out, more refined in

Europe's crude exports are finding new homes. China is still the largest buyer, but it took 7% less in January to September 2026 than a year earlier. Türkiye took 25% more: its 62.7 kt in nine months already exceeds its total for 2025. India and Pakistan also took more.

Destination	Full-year 2025	Jan–Sep 2026	vs Jan–Sep 2025	EUR/t: 2024 / 2025 / 2026
All non-EU	**314,707 t**	**252,154 t**	**+11.2%**	**248 / 443 / 578**
China	**114,706 t**	**74,629 t**	**–7.0%**	**197 / 419 / 526**
Türkiye	**62,243 t**	**62,714 t**	**+24.6%**	**245 / 446 / 647**
India	**48,506 t**	**32,775 t**	**+2.7%**	**253 / 489 / 605**
Pakistan	**14,107 t**	**11,398 t**	**+9.7%**	**265 / 467 / 598**

EU exports of crude glycerol (HS 1520) to non-EU destinations; average declared value per tonne, 2026 = January to September. Source: Eurostat Comext DS-045409, updated 13 November 2026.

The average declared value of EU crude exports rose from **EUR 248/t** in 2024 to **EUR 443/t** in 2025 and **EUR 578/t** in the first nine months of 2026, peaking at EUR 631/t in June and easing to EUR 597/t in September.

On the refined side, EU imports rose 11.9% to 72.6 kt in the first nine months of 2026, with Indonesia supplying 53.9 kt (up 36%, 74% of the total) while Brazil and Malaysia shipped less. EU refined exports fell 8.0% to 87.1 kt, so Europe's refined surplus roughly halved, from 29.8 kt to 14.5 kt. Crude imports fell 35% to 50.3 kt.

Asia: Indonesia sets the supply, China takes most of it

Indonesia's own data show crude exports up 4% and refined exports up 16% in January to September 2026, with China taking 80% of the crude and 48% of the refined. Indonesia reportedly moved to a 50% biodiesel blend (B50) on 1 July 2026, with full roll-out reported from 1 October. Palm biodiesel is FAME, and FAME yields glycerine, about one tonne for every ten of fuel.

Our estimate is that Indonesia will produce 0.25 to 0.51 Mt more glycerol (100% basis) in 2027 than in 2025, depending on whether B50 runs a full year; the likely constraint is methanol, of which B50 needs about 2.3 Mt a year against about 0.3 Mt of domestic supply. Across the five regions in our estimate, Indonesia, Brazil, the EU, the US and Argentina, our central case is **+0.58 Mt of glycerol** in 2027 against 2025, about 16% more, within +8% to +22%. Indonesia accounts for most of the increase in every case. This is production, not additional traded supply: some glycerine is used or refined in-house, burned or digested.

China is the swing buyer. Much of its crude feeds epichlorohydrin (ECH) made from glycerine, which competes with ECH made from propylene, and public market commentary reported Asian glycerine prices following ECH lower in May–June and higher in July. If glycerine-route ECH margins hold, China keeps absorbing the extra Indonesian tonnes, as it did this year. If they weaken, more crude has to find buyers in India, among other Asian refiners and further west, and refined buyers elsewhere face more competition from it.

India: buyers are switching origins, and March decides the duty

India's own data show crude imports up 9% to 146 kt in January to August 2026, and 233 kt in the twelve months to March 2026, against 209 kt in calendar 2025. The mix is shifting. Imports from Indonesia fell 15%, while those from Brazil rose 15%, Spain 69% and the US 98%; imports from EU countries together rose 23% to 38 kt. EU export data show a smaller rise for the same lane (+3% to September), since the two series differ in timing and coverage. Refined imports fell 33% to 44 kt.

Epichlorohydrin is the reason to expect more. A new 50 kt Indian ECH plant started production on 21 October 2026 and an established producer reportedly plans to double its 50 kt plant, which could take Indian capacity to roughly 150–200 kt a year by early 2027. If all of it ran on glycerine at full rates, it would need 170–220 kt of glycerine a year on a refined basis (our estimate; the new plant's feedstock is not disclosed).

The deadline is fiscal. Under Customs Notification 45/2025, crude glycerine used to make ECH pays **2.5%** basic customs duty under end-use conditions, against 7.5% otherwise. The concession lapses on **31 March 2027** unless it is extended, so watch the February Budget and any later notification. If it lapses, the basic duty rises by five percentage points from April.

The Americas: renewable diesel takes the growth

In the US the growth is in renewable diesel, which yields no glycerine. The US Energy Information Administration's January 2026 forecasts, as reported, put renewable diesel output at 190 thousand barrels a day in 2025 and 290 in 2027, against 80 and 100 for biodiesel: more than four fifths of the projected growth makes no glycerine (our arithmetic). The US therefore keeps importing refined. Indonesia reports 15% more refined shipped to the US in January to September 2026; US data show imports from Indonesia down 6% and total refined imports down 12% in January to August, over different reporting windows. US crude exports more than doubled to 48 kt in January to August, with Canada, India, Malaysia and China among the buyers.

Since 24 July 2026 the US has reportedly applied Section 301 duties of 10% to non-exempt goods from Indonesia, Malaysia and Argentina, among others; whether glycerine is covered is not yet clear.

Brazil's crude exports rose 5% to 574 kt in January to October 2026, 87% of it to China, and its refined exports rose 28% to 153 kt, with refined to China almost doubling to 55 kt. Brazil is reported to be keeping its blend at 15% for now, with tests on higher blends due to finish around February to March 2027, so we treat any mandate-driven step-up as a late-2027 possibility at the earliest.

The 2027 rulebook

Most of what changes landed costs in 2027 is already on the calendar.

Date	Measure	What it means for glycerine
Late Dec 2026 (expected)	China's 2027 tariff plan	Whether the 2026 provisional rates (6% crude, 3% refined, against 20% and 8% MFN) are renewed; qualifying ASEAN origin is reported at 0%
30 Dec 2026 (as reported)	EUDR, large and medium operators	Palm-derived refined glycerol (95%+ dry weight) needs deforestation due diligence; medicinal uses excluded

Date	Measure	What it means for glycerine
1 Jan 2027	Indonesia leaves EU GSP	Planning case: Indonesian refined glycerine pays the 3.8% EU duty unless a new preference applies; crude remains duty-free
31 Mar 2027	India's ECH concession lapses	Basic duty on crude for ECH moves from 2.5% to 7.5% unless extended
30 Jun 2027 (as reported)	EUDR, micro and small operators	The same obligations reach smaller importers
30 Dec 2027	EUDR, palm crude glycerol	Palm-derived crude glycerol, glycerol waters and lyes come into scope

Sources: Commission Delegated Regulations (EU) 2025/1951 and 2026/2102; India Customs Notification 45/2025; China Ministry of Finance 2026 provisional tariff schedule; EUDR application dates as reported in the trade press. Checked 16 November 2026.

For Indonesian refined into Europe, **3.8%** from January is the planning case. At this year's average declared value for Indonesian refined, about EUR 1,026/t, that adds about EUR 39/t; the actual duty depends on each shipment's customs value. EU–Indonesia trade negotiations concluded in September 2025, but the agreement is not in force, and signature of an EU–India agreement is reportedly targeted for December. Neither changes a 2027 landed cost until it enters into force with a schedule that covers glycerine. Indonesia's export levy on crude glycerine has been reported at 10% of the crude palm oil reference price since 1 March 2026, so it moves with palm oil, not with the glycerine price.

Freight and routes

Container lines have largely stopped using the Strait of Hormuz: Drewry counted one container ship transit in the week to 12 November 2026, while tankers and bulk carriers still pass. Freight reporting describes Gulf importers using land bridges through Khor Fakkan and Jeddah. Our estimate puts Gulf imports of refined glycerine at roughly 50–55 kt a year, around 80% from Malaysia and Indonesia, combining 2024–2025 importer reports with exporters' mirror data.

Between Asia and Europe, container freight is easing: Drewry's World Container Index put Shanghai to Rotterdam at USD 3,504 per 40-foot container on 12 November 2026, and Xeneta, as reported, expects rates to fall in 2027 as new ships arrive and carriers return to Suez, where traffic has not yet recovered. Inside Europe, glycerine moves by road tanker, ISO tank and IBC, so inland distance and shipment size also shape the delivered cost.

Forward outlook 2027

Central case: Indonesian output rises under B50, but methanol keeps it below a full-year run. China keeps absorbing most of it, India takes more crude from more origins as its new ECH plants ramp up, and Europe keeps exporting crude and importing refined, with Indonesian refined paying 3.8% from January. Freight eases between Asia and Europe, and the Gulf remains a land-bridge market.

Tight case: China's glycerine-route ECH runs hard and Indian plants run at full rates, while B50 falls short of a full year. Asia keeps more of its crude, US and European buyers compete for fewer refined cargoes, and European crude finds stronger bids.

Surplus case: B50 runs a full year, Chinese ECH weakens and India's concession lapses in March. More Asian crude and refined looks west, helped by cheaper freight, and European and Brazilian crude meet more competition in Türkiye, India and Pakistan. These cases describe where cargoes go, not price targets.

What it means for buyers and producers

European buyers of refined glycerine: in our planning case, Indonesian refined, three quarters of the EU's imports this year, carries 3.8% duty from 1 January, about EUR 39/t at this year's average value. Duty-free and EU origins gain ground. Palm-derived refined grades also need EUDR due diligence from the reported 30 December date, so check supplier documentation before fixing Q1 volumes.

European crude producers: the buyer base is widening. Türkiye, India and Pakistan took more European crude this year while China took less, and Indian importers are buying more from Spain, Brazil and the US. India's 2.5% duty on crude for ECH ends on 31 March unless renewed, which argues for moving Q1 cargoes to Indian ECH plants early.

Buyers in the Gulf: with container ships avoiding Hormuz, the delivery route decides cost and timing as much as the origin does. Quotes delivered to the east-coast ports or Jeddah, with the inland leg priced in, are the ones to compare.

Asian refiners and ECH plants: non-Indonesian crude does not carry Indonesia's export levy, which moves with the palm oil price. When palm oil is firm, European, South American and US crude can compete on a delivered basis, depending on the duty at destination.

How we work: Tornavía Trading offers crude and refined glycerine delivered to industrial buyers in Europe, the Middle East and Asia, from 15 t lots to full tankers, with product specifications and independent quality certification agreed for each order. For a delivered price on your next lot: trading@tornaviatrading.com.

Key risks and watch items

Supply: Indonesia's actual FAME output and methanol imports, and Brazil's decision on higher blends in early 2027.

Demand: run rates at China's glycerine-route ECH plants and the ramp-up of India's new capacity.

Policy: China's tariff plan in late December, India's ECH concession in the February Budget, EUDR documentation for palm-derived refined glycerol, and the scope of US Section 301 duties.

> *The cargo that matters in 2027 is the next one that can be processed and sold at a profit. That depends as much on plant run rates, duties and the route to the buyer as on the size of any biodiesel mandate.*

This publication is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute investment advice, a solicitation, or an offer to buy or sell any commodity, security, or financial instrument. Tornavía Trading - FZCO makes no representation or warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein. Figures from official statistics are as published on the dates stated and may be revised. Forward-looking statements are our own views and may not materialise. Recipients should conduct their own due diligence before making any trading or investment decisions.