

This report shows market activities across the East Africa region's selected main grain markets from **30th January to 3rd February, 2017**. The monitoring is carried out by Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) monitors based in all the 5 EAC on a daily basis. Monitoring is also done in South Sudan and Malawi. In Malawi, we do monitoring through partnership with Agricultural Commodity Exchange for Africa.

The report helps stakeholders and users to have a general overview of the market price trends across the region. This is a service of EAGC primarily to its members and other interested stakeholders. The full market data of daily wholesale and Retail market prices is available at www.ratin.net

GRAIN NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Regional: Over 17 million people in the Horn of Africa face food crisis, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Those people are from Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda, the according to the agency, attributing the situation to widespread drought in the Horn of Africa due to few rains between October and December. Areas of greatest concern cover much of Somalia, north-east and coastal Kenya, south-east of Ethiopia as well as the Afar region which is yet to recover from El Nino induced drought of 2015/16.

Malawi: The High Court in Mzuzu has sustained the injunction obtained by civil society organisations (CSOs) restraining Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development George Chabonda from executing his duties, until investigations into the alleged fraudulent purchasing of maize from Zambia are concluded

Rwanda: Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB) has released 10 new wheat varieties that are bakers' choice on both national and international markets. The new varieties, released on January 25, 2017 in Burera District, have been developed by researchers working in the RAB Northern zone.

Tanzania: Food distribution to hunger stricken citizens has started, with the government announcing the possibility of missing the 2017/18 food production target. At least 35,491 tonnes of food will be distributed to about 1.2 million people in 55 districts countrywide to mitigate food shortage between February and April, this year, the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Dr Charles Tizeba, said here yesterday

Kenya: The Ministry of Devolution is set to release Sh90 million more to buy maize from the Galana-Kulalu irrigation scheme for famine relief as shortage of the commodity hits the market. It will be sold at a subsidised rate of Sh3,000 a bag compared to Sh3,500 that millers pay, said National Irrigation Board (NIB) chief engineer in charge of planning and design Mwangi Thuita

REGIONAL MARKET ANALYSIS

TANZANIA

Table 1: Summary of weekly grain prices in Tanzania

Weekly Average Wholesale Grain Prices in Tanzania on (\$/MT)						
	Rice		Beans		Maize	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Dar es Salaam	772	779	863	870	409	435
Arusha	718	733	872	824	363	320
Iringa	681	687	818	824	500	504

Previous: Week ending 27th, January 2017 Current: Week ending 3rd, February 2017.

Maize, Beans and Rice : Table 1 shows summary of average whole sale prices of grains in three selected markets for the past two weeks.

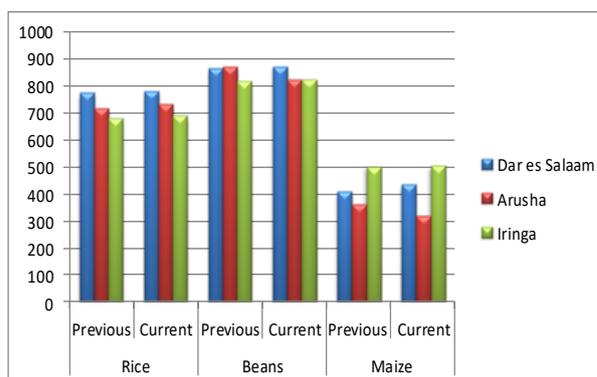
Wholesale price of **Maize** increased marginally in the three monitored markets. In Dar es Salaam, prices went up by 0.9% (\$7/MT) whereas in Iringa, there was 0.9% (\$6/MT) increase. Arusha gained 2% (\$15/MT) from last weeks closing average. Prices are expected to increase in the coming weeks as supply to the markets is suppressed. The country is going through a lean season and reports from the Government have projected 2017/2018 food targets may not be met.

Price of **Beans** were relatively stable in Dar es Salaam and Iringa markets with marginal gains of 0.8% (\$7MT) and 0.7% (\$6/MT) respectively. In Arusha, there was a significant decrease of 5.5% (\$48/MT). The prices are expected to increase in

the coming weeks due to poor performance of the 2016 *wali* season crop.

For **Rice**, the price increased significantly in Dar es Salaam as a 6.3% (\$26/MT) gain was realized from previous week's closing average. This is indicative of an increase in demand of the commodity occasioned by low supplies. In Arusha, prices went down by 11% (\$43/MT) suggestive of decrease in demand. In Iringa, there was a marginal gain of 0.8% (\$4/MT) from previous week's average. The price is expected to go up in the coming weeks.

Graph 1: Summary of weekly wholesale prices in (USD/MT)



R W A N D A

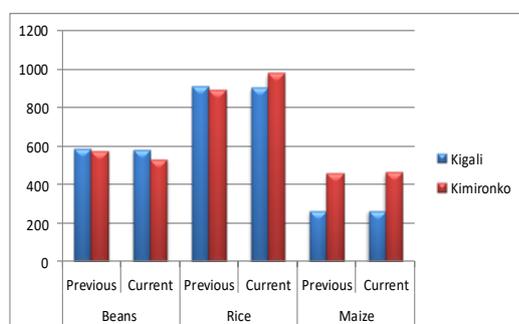
Table 3: Summary Average wholesale Grain prices in Rwanda

	Beans		Rice		Maize	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Kigali	584	583	912	902	265	263
Kimironko	571	532	890	979	459	463

Previous: Week ending 27th, January 2017 Current: Week ending 3rd February 2017

Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets showed the price of **beans** is still on a downward trend. In Kigali, prices went down marginally by 0.17% (\$1/MT). A decline of 6.8% (\$39/MT) was realised in Kimironko market and this attributed to increase in supply of the commodity from *Season A* crop which was being harvested for the past two months. Prices are expected to go down in the coming weeks.

Graph 2 Summary of average wholesale prices Rwanda (USD/MT)



For **rice**, prices have been relatively stable for the past week. Marginal changes were observed in Kimironko and Kigali. Kigali had a 0.75% (\$10/MT) decrease whereas Kimironko had 0.8% (\$89/MT) gain from previous week's closing average. Production estimates from FAO showed an increase in production of paddy rice and this explains the decrease in prices. For **Maize**, prices were relatively stable in Kigali with a marginal decline of 0.7% (\$2/MT) from previous week. In Kimironko market, the prices increased by 0.9% (\$4/MT). Maize prices are expected to go down in the coming weeks as harvest of the *A-Season* crop is ongoing.

Table 4: Summary of wholesale prices of Millet and Wheat in Rwanda (USD/MT)

	Sorghum		Wheat	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Kimironko	450	451	676	704
Kigali	249	258	676	661

Previous: Week ending 27th, January 2017 Current: Week ending 3rd, February 2017

Sorghum price was relatively stable in Kimironko with a marginal increase of 0.2% (\$1/MT). In Kigali, there was a 3.6% (\$9/MT) increase and this is suggestive of an increase in demand of the commodity in the markets. Price is expected to remain relatively stable in the coming weeks as *A-Season* crop is still being harvested. For **wheat**, the prices were relatively stable in Kimironko with a 4.1% (\$28/MT) increase from last week's closing average. In Kigali market, prices went down by 2.2% (\$15).

U G A N D A

Table 5: Summary of Monthly grain prices in Uganda for Beans, Maize and Rice

Weekly average wholesale grain prices in Uganda (USD/MT)						
	Maize		Beans		Rice	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Kampala	337	338	761	761	832	843
Kabale	321	338	648	675	846	872
Kasese	325	329	706	704	904	900

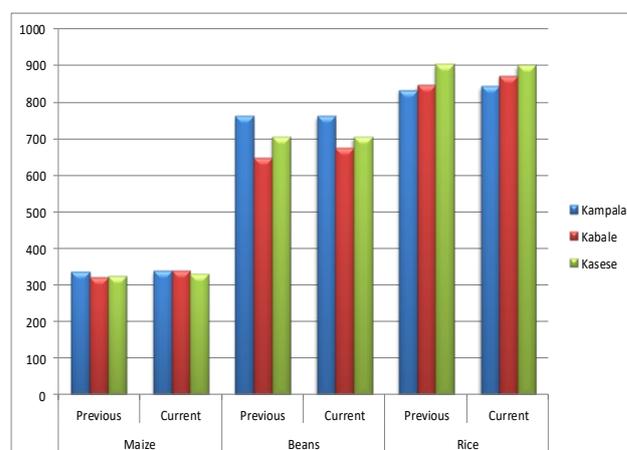
Previous: Week ending 27th, January 2017 Current: Week ending 3rd, January 2017

Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets show the price of **Maize** was relatively stable with marginal gains in Kampala and Kasese of 0.29% (\$1/MT) and 1.2% (\$4/MT) respectively. In Kabale market, there was a significant increase of 5.2% (\$17/MT) from previous week's closing average. Prices are expected to increase as government reports have shown deficits for key staples due to below average rainfall experienced last year.

The price of **beans** was stable in Kampala market over the past two weeks indicative of market equilibrium. There was a gain of 4.2% (\$27/MT) in Kabale while Kasese market remained relatively stable with a 0.3% (\$2/MT) marginal decline from previous week's closing average. Prices are expected to go up in the coming weeks as the harvest season comes to a close.

Rice showed relative stability from previous week's closing averages in Kampala and Kasese with marginal gains of 1.3% (\$11/MT) and 0.45% (\$4/MT) respectively. In Kabale the prices went up by 3.1% (\$26/MT) suggestive of an increase in demand of the commodity.

Graph 3. Summary of average wholesale prices Uganda (USD/MT)



KENYA

Table 6: Summary of Average grain prices in Kenya

	Maize		Rice		Beans	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Mombasa	371	372	1269	1274	800	804
Nairobi	315	314	1131	1127		
Kisumu	392	392	961	921	716	723
Nakuru	342	354	776	706	566	537

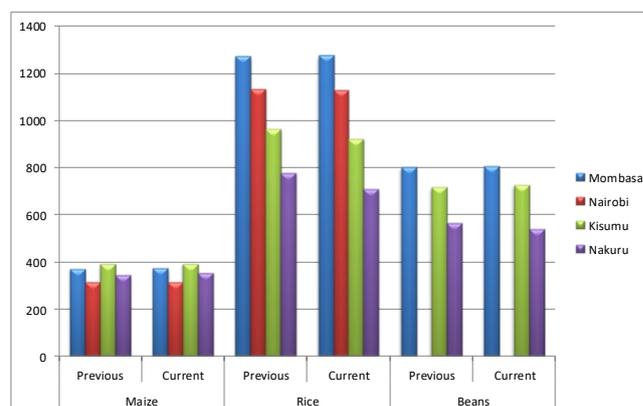
Previous: Week ending 27th, January 2017 Current: Week ending 3rd, February 2017

Price of **maize** increased marginally in Mombasa with a 0.26% (\$1/MT) gain while in Kisumu prices remained stable. Nairobi had a 0.32% (\$1/MT) decline from previous week's closing average. In Nakuru, prices went up by 3.5% (\$12/MT) indicative of increase of demand of the commodity. The prices are expected to increase in the coming weeks. For the past three weeks, reports from the media have shown almost all ASAL Counties are food insecure leading to increase in demand of maize. Therefore, prices are still expected to go up in the coming week's.

The price of **beans** went down in Nakuru market by 5.1% (\$29/MT) indicative of increased demand of the commodity. In Mombasa and Kisumu, prices increased marginally by 0.5% (\$4/MT) and 0.9% (\$7/MT) respectively. Prices are expected to go up as the stocks harvested from the long rains season diminish.

Rice prices increased by 0.39% (\$5/MT) in Mombasa. In Nairobi, price went down by 0.36% (\$4/MT) and in Kisumu, prices were down by 4.2% (\$40/MT). Nakuru market had a significant decrease of 9.1% (\$70/MT). The prices are expected to go up in the coming week as demand from learning institutions increase.

Graph 4: Summary of weekly grain prices of Beans, Rice and Maize in Kenya



BURUNDI

Reports from EAGC RATING monitored markets for grains showed changes in price of key staples. For **Maize**, prices went up by 4.2% (\$35/MT) suggestive of an increase in demand of the commodity. In Gitega, prices went down marginally by 0.9% (\$6/MT). Price are expected to go up in the coming weeks due to restrictions of imports.

Table 4: Summary Average wholesale Grain prices in Burundi

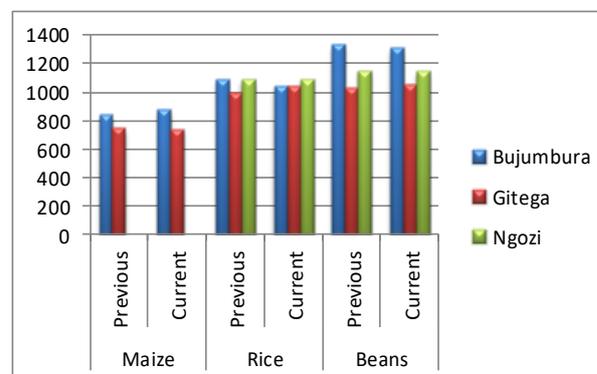
	Maize		Rice		Yellow Beans	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Bujumbura	838	873	1083	1039	1332	1308
Gitega	748	742	990	1042	1026	1057
Ngozi			1088	1083	1148	1143

Previous: Week ending 13th, December 2017 Current: Week ending 20th, December 2017

For **Yellow beans**, prices are still on a downward trend as a result of supplies from the *Season A* crop. In Bujumbura, there was a 1.8% (\$24/MT) decline from previous week's closing average. In Gitega market there was a 3% (\$31/MT) increase suggestive of an increase in demand for the commodity. Ngozi market had 0.4% (\$5/MT) decrease from previous week's closing average. Prices are expected to still go down in the coming weeks.

Rice: Reports from the monitored markets show the price of rice was relatively stable in some markets. In Bujumbura and Ngozi markets, there were a 4.1% (\$44/MT) and 0.45% (\$5/MT) decline respectively indicative of increase in supply to the markets. In Gitega there was a 5.2% (\$62/MT) increase from last week's closing average indicative of an increase in demand of the commodity. Prices are expected to still go down in the coming weeks.

Graph 2 Summary of average wholesale prices Burundi (USD/MT)



CONCLUSION

- Prices of key staples is still on an upward trend in Tanzania and Uganda as a result of below average rainfall experienced in the *vuli* and *South/Second* seasons respectively.
- In Kenya, supplies from last year's long rains is diminishing and there have been reports of hording of maize. Reports show food prices are 12.54% higher than they were the same period 2016.

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