

This report shows market activities across the East Africa region's selected primary grain markets from **13h February to 17th 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 the 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 Bulletin 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

Africa: Maize production per hectare in Africa is 40 percent below that in developed countries. It is within this context that experts are calling for the implementation of various farming techniques such as intercropping to fill the production gap on the continent. The experts were speaking on 15/2/2017 in Kigali, at a training workshop on sustainably increasing maize production in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Rwanda: The Development Bank of Rwanda (BRD) has entered into a partnership with a USAID project where the latter will provide technical assistance to employees of the bank and its clients. The two-year project that will be implemented by Private Sector Driven Agricultural Growth Project is aimed at strengthening the agriculture lending practices in Rwanda as well as boost the entire agriculture sector. An agreement to kick-start the project was signed last Friday at the BRD headquarters in downtown Kigali.

Tanzania: Simiyu region has allocated at least 3,000 acres to pilot irrigation farming at Mwananyili area in Busega District, in efforts to turn the newly formed region into food production hub. The Regional Commissioner (RC), Mr. Anthony

Mtaka, revealed that the irrigation project is scheduled to commence next year. He said the region aspires to become the country's primary food producer, adding that plans are already in place to realize the goal.

Kenya: The Government might be forced to import animal feed to cushion the country against a possible maize crisis as manufacturers compete for dwindling reserves of the commodity. Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Willy Bett said the ministry is seriously considering the move to ease pressure on the country's maize supplies, with animal feed manufacturers, who use maize as a raw material, said to be starving the market of the commodity for human consumption.

REGIONAL MARKET ANALYSIS

BURUNDI

Table 1: Summary of weekly grain prices in Burundi (USD/MT)

	Maize		Rice		Yellow Beans	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Bujumbura	865	870	1054	1235	1219	1307
Gitega	748	720	1181	1320	1129	1140
Ngozi			1167	1212	1143	1212

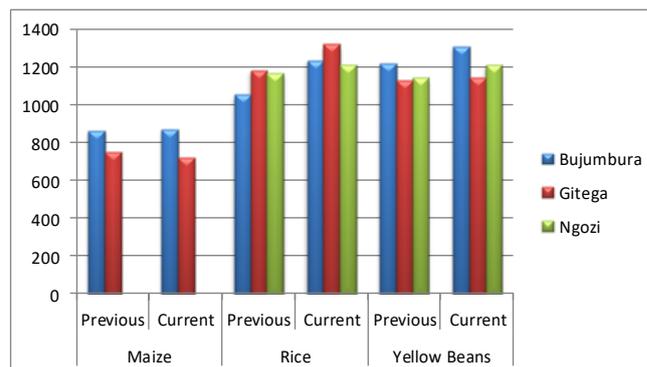
Previous: Week ending 10th, February 2017 Current: Week ending 17th, February 2017.

Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets for grains showed changes in the price of essential staples. For **Maize**, prices were relatively stable as a marginal increase of 0.6% (\$5/MT) was registered in Bujumbura suggestive of an increase in demand for the commodity. In Gitega, prices went down by 3.48% (\$18/MT). Price are expected to stabilize in the coming weeks as the crop from *Season A* is being harvested.

For **Yellow beans**, prices increased significantly in Bujumbura; there was a 7.2% (\$88/MT) from previous week's closing average. In Gitega market prices rose by 0.9% (\$11/MT) suggestive of an increase in demand for the commodity. Ngozi market had 6% (\$69/MT) increase from previous week's closing average. Prices are expected to remain stable in the coming weeks.

Rice: Reports from the monitored markets show the price of rice still on an upward trend in all the monitored markets. In Bujumbura and Gitega, there were a 17% (\$181/MT) and 12% (\$131/MT) increase respectively indicative of an increase in demand for the commodity. In Ngozi, there was a 3.8% (\$/45MT) increase from last week's closing average indicative of an increase in demand for the product. Reports indicate there has been limited supply of the product, especially in Ngozi market. Prices are expected to increase in the coming weeks

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



R W A N D A

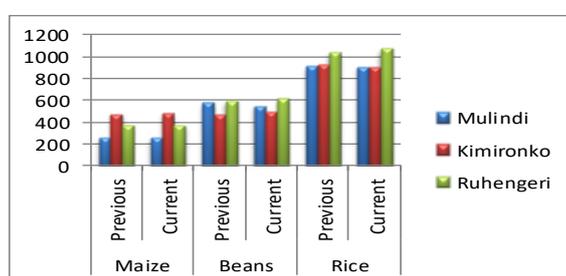
Table 2: Summary Average wholesale Grain prices in Rwanda

Weekly average wholesale grain prices in Rwanda(USD/MT)						
	Maize		Beans		Rice	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Mulindi	259	258	547	547	904	902
Kimironko	469	475	466	491	916	899
Ruhengeri	369	365	586	609	1038	1066

Previous: Week ending 10th, February 2017 Current: Week ending 17th, February 2017.

Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets showed the price of **beans** has gone up in Kimironko and Ruhengeri markets by 5.3% (\$25/MT) and 3.9% (\$13/MT) respectively. In Mulindi, prices remained stable. Prices are expected to go down in the coming weeks as stocks from A season can adequately meet the demand.

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



For **rice**, prices have been relatively stable for the past week. Marginal changes were noted in the monitored markets. In Mulindi there was a 0.2% (\$2/MT) decline from last week's

closing average whereas Kimironko had a 1.9% (\$17/MT) gain. Only Ruhengeri recorded an increase of 2.7% (\$28/MT). Field reports indicate there has been a shortage of supply of both imported and local rice since the start of the month, if the situation does not improve, prices will go up. For **Maize**, prices were relatively stable in Mulindi with a marginal decline of 0.4% (\$1/MT) from the previous week closing average. In Kimironko market, the prices decreased by 1.8% (\$17/MT) whereas, in Ruhengeri, there was relative stability with a marginal gain of 2.7% (\$28/MT). Maize prices are expected to stabilize in the coming weeks as the harvest of the A-Season crop is ongoing.

Table 3: Summary of wholesale prices of Millet and Wheat in Rwanda

	Sorghum		Wheat	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Mulindi	249	244	670	658
Kimironko	449	427	670	612
Ruhengeri	428	426	733	731

Sorghum price remained relatively stable in Mulindi and Ruhengeri with marginal decline of 2% (\$5/MT) and 0.5% (\$2/MT) respectively. In Kimironko, prices decreased by 4.9% (\$22/MT) indicative of increase in supply of the commodity, a downward trend of the prices is expected as the crop is still being harvested in some parts of the country. For **wheat**, the prices went down in all the monitored markets with a 1.8% (\$12/MT) decline registered in Mulindi. In Kimironko market, there was a 8.6% (\$58/MT) decrease whereas, in Ruhengeri, prices went down marginally by 0.2% (\$2/MT). Prices are expected to remain stable in the coming weeks.

U G A N D A

Table 4: 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	325	315	764	846	848	846
Kabale	339	339	679	677	877	875
Mbale	325	324	707	734	905	903

Previous: Week ending 10th, February 2017 Current: Week ending 17th, February 2017.

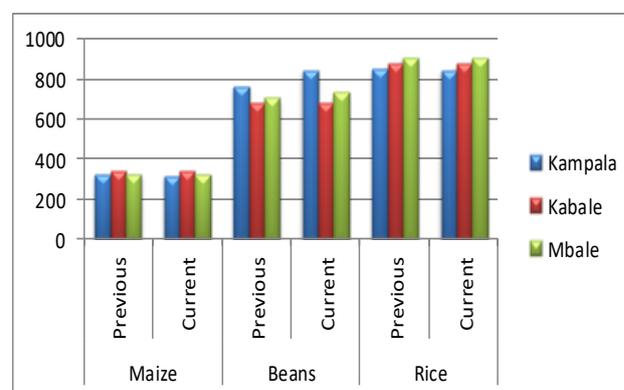
Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets show the price of **Maize** prices remained stable in Kabale, no change was observed from last week's closing average. In Mbale, there was a marginal decline of 0.3% (\$1MT). Also, a decline of 3% (\$10/MT) from last week's closing average was registered in Kampala. Prices are still expected to increase as government reports have shown deficits for the major staples occasioned by below average output from short rains.

The price of **beans** was stable in Kabale market with a slight loss of 0.3% (\$2/MT) from last week's average. Kampala had significant gains of 7.3% (\$82/MT) indicative of an increase in demand for the commodity whereas, in Mbale, prices went up by 3.8% (\$27/MT) from last 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 all the monitored markets. In Kampala and Mbale, prices went down slightly by 0.23% (\$16/MT) and 0.2% (\$5/MT) respectively. In Kabale the prices went down by 0.2% (\$2/MT) suggestive of an increase in the supply of the commodity.

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



KENYA

Table 5: Summary of Average grain prices in Kenya

	Maize		Rice		Beans	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Mombasa	387	413	1310	1376	817	845
Nairobi	367	419	1120	1131		
Kisumu	400	393	974	1023	731	738
Nakuru	351	349	683	700	620	639

Previous: Week ending 10th, February 2017 Current: Week ending 17th, February 2017.

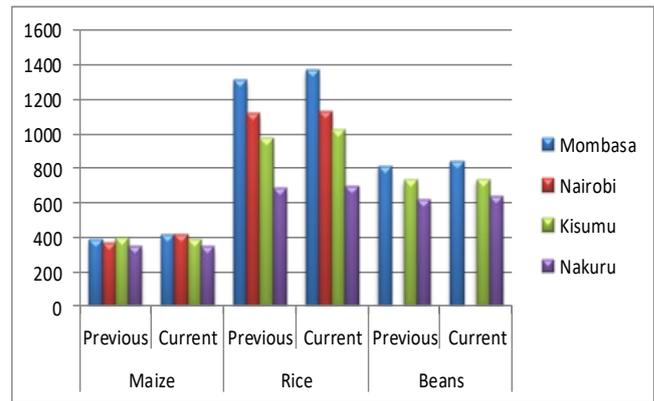
The price of **maize** increased significantly in Mombasa and Nairobi markets by 6% (\$26/MT) and 14% (\$52/MT) respectively. In Nakuru, prices were relatively stable as a marginal decline of 0.6% (\$3/MT) was registered whereas, Kisumu had recorded a decrease of 2% (\$7/MT) from last weeks average. Supply of the commodity to the markets is low owing to below average performance of last season's crop. In Northern Kenya, reports indicate some markets are not functional as a result of depressed supplies. Prices will go up in the coming weeks.

The price of **beans** went up in the all monitored markets indicative of increased demand for the commodity. In Mombasa, prices rose by 3.4% (\$28/MT). Kisumu had a marginal increase of 1% (\$7/MT) indicative of stability whereas, in Nakuru, prices

went up by 3% (\$19/MT). Prices are still expected to increase owing to the low supplies of the commodity.

Rice prices increased in all markets; the greatest gain was recorded in Mombasa at 5.1% (\$66/MT) in Mombasa. In Nairobi, the price went down marginally by 0.9% (\$11/MT), and in Kisumu, prices increased by 5% (\$7/MT). Nakuru market had a marginal gain of 2.4% (\$7/MT) from last week's closing average.

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



CONCLUSION

Prices of maize have been on upward trend in Kenya since the beginning of this month whereas, In Uganda and Rwanda, maize has been relatively stable over the past week. However, reports indicate low supplies to the markets. The situation can be mitigated by imports from the global market.

CONTACTS

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