

This report shows market activities across the East Africa region's selected primary grain markets from **6th March to 10th March 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

Regional: Kenyan millers and traders are set to take up 87 per cent of the 275,000 metric tonnes of grain that East African regional countries have agreed to import from Ethiopia. The deal, which was facilitated by Eastern Africa Grain Council (EAGC) and USAid's East Africa Trade and Investment Hub will see traders import 240,000 metric tonnes of maize and pulses from Ethiopia, part of 51 contracts worth Sh5.5 billion that have been agreed with regional countries.

Uganda: The prolonged dry spell has largely contributed to the increase in prices of most food staff. For instance, it now costs sh2,400 to purchase a kilogramme of maize flour from sh2,000, rice (Kaiso brand) sh3,200 from sh2,600, and Pakistan brand sh3,800 from sh3,000. The recent Consumer Price Index (CPI) data released by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) indicates that annual headline Inflation rose to 6.7% in February from 5.9% that was recorded in January 2017.

Malawi: The second Malawi Investment Forum (MIF) held last year courted deals worth \$26 million targeting export of various commodities. Since 2015, Malawi has been conducting investment forums to attract both foreign and local investments into the country. The Agricultural Development and Marketing Corpora-

tion (Admarc) also received export orders of 5,000 metric tonnes of soya, 8,000 metric tonnes of cotton lint, 5,000 metric tonnes of ground nuts, 5,000 metric tonnes of beans and 2,000 metric tonnes of sunflower from Chinese, Botswana and Indian buyers.

Tanzania: As Tanzania grapples with the growing threat of food insecurity, the government confirmed that alien army worms from North America have entered the country and currently ravaging food crops in Rukwa Region. According to available reports, the army worms have so far destroyed hundreds of hectares of maize planted this year in Nkasi District.

Kenya: Farmers buying seeds and livestock breeds developed by Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation (Kalro) will be entitled to a one-year insurance cover just days after the government announced a Sh215 million payout under the Kenya Livestock Insurance Programme. In the deal, KALRO and Agriculture and Climate Risk Enterprise Africa (Acre Africa) will also share information and knowledge that would help minimise risks to farmers

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	818	780	1092	1088	1157	1208
Gitega	719	516	1346	1187	1187	1187
Ngozi			1147	1259	1067	1259

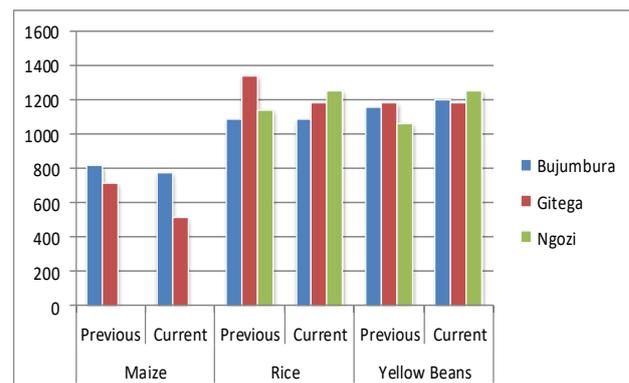
Previous: Week ending 3rd, March 2017 Current: Week ending 10th, March 2017.

Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets for grains showed marginal drop in the prices of some staples in most markets in Burundi. For **Maize**, prices are still on a downward trend. The trend has been sustained since the beginning of the month as additional stocks were realized from 2016A season. In Bujumbura, prices went down marginally by 4.6% (\$38/MT). Gitega market registered significant loss of price of 28% (\$203/MT) from last week's closing average. Prices are expected to still go down in the coming week.

For **Yellow beans**, prices showed mixed outcomes in the markets. In Bujumbura market, there was a 4.4% (\$51/MT) increase indicative of increase of demand of the commodity. Gitega market was at equilibrium and in Ngozi, prices increased significantly by 18% (\$192). The commodity is still in production and prices are expected to go up in the till harvest period.

Rice: Reports from the monitored markets show a decrease in Bujumbura and Gitega markets with a marginal decline of 0.3% (\$4/MT) and a significant decline of 12% (\$159/MT) respectively. In Ngozi market, there was a 10% (\$112/MT) increase from previous week's closing average. Reports from our monitor have noted increase in supply of the commodity especially from imports, therefore, prices are expected to go down going in the short run.

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

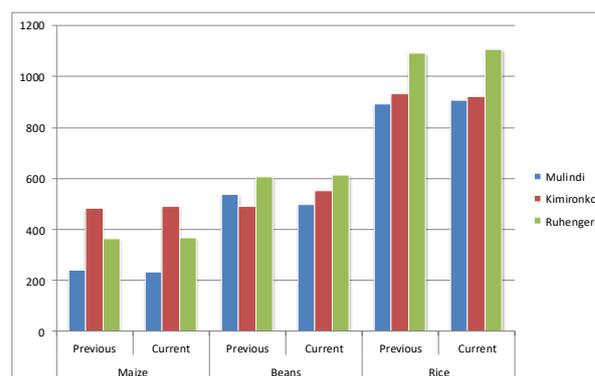
Weekly average wholesale grain prices in Rwanda(USD/MT)						
	Maize		Beans		Rice	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Mulindi	242	233	540	500	892	909
Kimironko	484	492	491	553	935	922
Ruhengeri	365	369	607	614	1093	1106

Previous: Week ending 3rd March 2017 Current: Week ending 10th, March 2017.

Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets showed the price of **beans** went up marginally in Kimironko and Ruhengeri markets by 1.6% (\$12/MT) and 1% (\$7/MT) respectively. In Mulindi market, prices went down by 7% (\$40/MT) indicative of increase in supply of the commodity. The supplies to the markets are sufficient and prices are expected to go down in the coming weeks.

For **Maize**, prices went down marginally by 3.7% (\$9/MT) in Mulindi. In Kimironko and Ruhengeri, prices were up by 1.6% (\$8/MT) and 1% (\$4/MT) respectively. Last week, the prices have remained stable in the markets seasonally due to harvests realised from Season A crop and are expected to go down in the coming weeks as supplies increase.

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



For **rice**, prices have gone down marginally in Mulindi and Ruhengeri markets. In Mulindi, prices went down by 0.8% (\$8/MT) whereas, in Ruhengeri, prices increased marginally by 0.4% (\$4/MT). Ruhengeri still has the highest prices among the monitored markets and reports indicate increased demand for the commodity. Reports from market monitors indicated local rice was considered the second most profitable commodity in the markets after wheat. Prices are expected to remain high in the coming weeks.

U G A N D A

Table 3: 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	341	379	855	817	956	958
Kabale	345	372	718	706	845	847
Mbale	371	397	759	727	985	1003

Previous: Week ending 3rd, March 2017 Current: Week ending 10th, March 2017

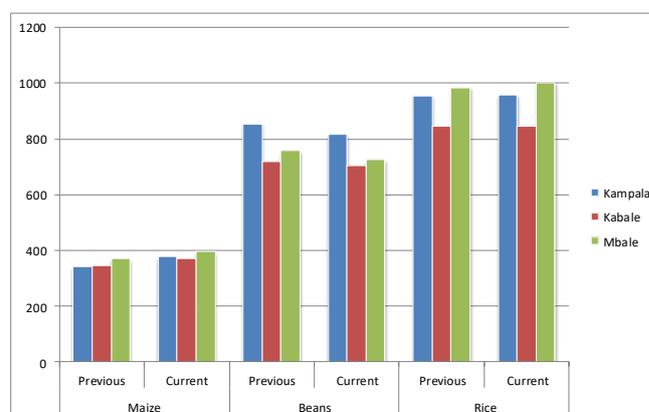
Reports from EAGC RATIN monitored markets show the price of **Maize** prices increased considerably in Kampala and Mbale by 11% (\$38/MT) and 7% (\$28/MT) respectively. In Kabale, prices increased by 7.8% (\$32/MT). In all markets, the demand for the commodity increased due to tightened supplies to the markets and prices are expected to increase in the coming week.

The price of **beans** decreased in the monitored markets. the greatest decline was noted in Kampala at 4.4% (\$38/MT). In Mbale and Kabale markets, prices were down by 4.2% (\$32/MT) and 1.7% (\$12/MT) as supplies from the second/south season resulted to increase in stock of the commodity. Prices

are expected prices are expected to go down marginally in the coming weeks.

Rice prices were relatively stable in Kampala and Kabale markets. There was a marginal gain of 0.2% in both markets with Kampala recording a \$2/MT gain whereas, Kabale had a \$5/MT increase. Mbale market had 1.8% (\$18/MT) increase from last weeks closing average. Stocks from the December harvest are diminishing and prices expected to increase marginally in the coming weeks.

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



KENYA

Table 4: Summary of Average grain prices in Kenya

	Maize		Rice		Beans	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Mombasa	413	417	1379	1389	852	883
Nairobi	435	446	1134	1140		
Kisumu	492	496	1132	1190	837	863
Nakuru	360	364	697	714	639	646

Previous: Week ending 3rd March 2017 Current: Week ending 10th, March 2017.

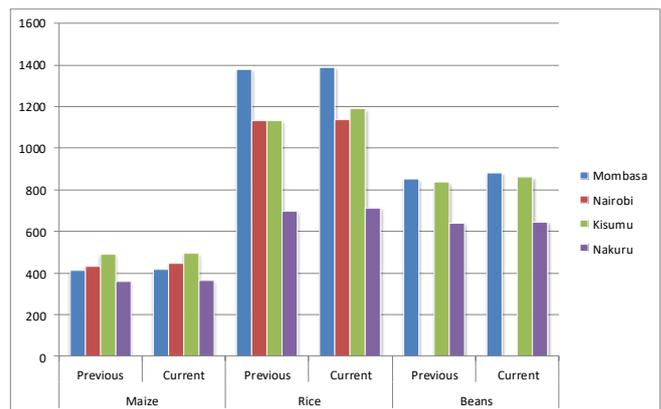
The price of **maize** remained relatively stable in the monitored markets. In Mombasa, prices went up marginally by 0.9% (\$5/MT) and in Nairobi, prices were up by 2.5% (\$11/MT) indicative of increase in demand. Kisumu had a slight gain of 0.8% (\$4/MT) from last weeks closing average whereas, Nakuru market had a 1.1% (\$4/MT) gain. The country is in a dire situation as deficits have been reported. Some markets in Northern Kenya are not functional as result of lack of the commodity due to tightened supplies. In the EAGC RATIN monitored markets, prices are expected to go up in the coming weeks.

The price of **beans** was relatively stable in Mombasa market with a 3.6% (\$31/MT) increase recorded from las week's

closing average. In Kisumu, prices went up by 3.1% (\$26/MT) and in Nakuru, there was 1.09% (\$7/MT) gain. The demand is attributed to diminished supplies from the main season .

Rice prices increased marginally in Mombasa, and Nairobi by 0.7% (\$10/MT) and 0.5% (\$6/MT) respectively. Kisumu had a marginal gain of 5% (\$58/MT) whereas, in Nakuru market prices increased by 2% (\$17/MT). Prices will increase in the coming weeks as deficits of key commodities was realised in the 2016/17 crop.

Graph 4: Summary of weekly grain prices



TANZANIA

Table 5: Summary of weekly grain prices in Tanzania

Weekly Average Wholesale Grain Prices in Tanzania on (\$/MT)						
	Wheat		Beans		Maize	
	Previous	Current	Previous	Current	Previous	Current
Dar es Salaam	593	596	820	867	524	551
Mbeya	479	481			364	418
Iringa	692	687	912	825	456	458

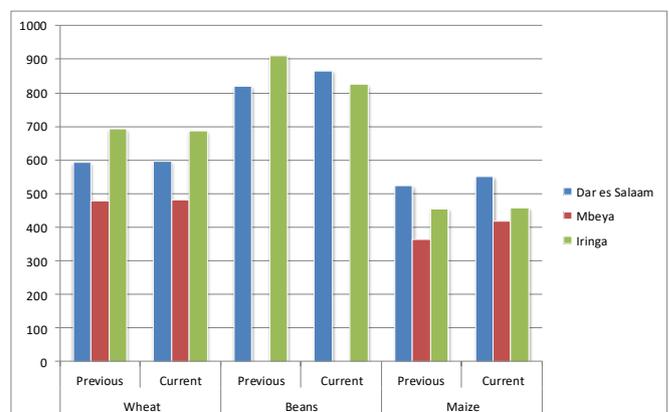
Previous: Week ending 3rd, December 2017 Current: Week ending 10th, March 2017.

Maize, Beans, and Rice: Table 1 shows summary average wholesale prices of grain in three Tanzania markets in the past two weeks. The wholesale price for **Maize** was relatively stable in Dar es Salaam market with a 0.5% (\$3/MT) increase registered from previous week's closing average. In Mbeya, prices increased significantly by 14% (\$54/MT) and Iringa prices were relatively stable with a marginally by 0.4% (\$2/MT). All the monitored markets exhibited an increase in price and demand is expected to be sustained as production of key commodities was below average.

The price of **Beans** increased by 5% (\$47/MT) from previous week's closing average. In contrast, Iringa had a significant decrease of 9% (\$113/MT) indicative of increased supplies to the markets. The price of the product is expected to go up in the coming weeks following tightened supplies as a result of below average production of the *vuli* crop the country is in the lean period of production.

For **Wheat**, the price was relatively stable in Iringa with a marginal decrease of 0.7% (\$5/MT). In Dar es Salaam, there was a 0.5% (\$3/MT) whereas, in Mbeya prices increased slightly by 0.4% (\$2/MT) and Iringa, there was a slight decrease of 0.7% (\$3/MT) from last week's closing average. The prices are expected to go down in the coming weeks.

Graph 5: Summary of weekly wholesale prices in (USD/MT)



CONCLUSION

From this week's report, markets in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda are still experiencing tightened supplies of Maize, a key staple in the region. The deficits could be mitigated by sourcing stocks from the global market. In the short-run, prices are still expected to go up in the aforementioned countries. However, in Burundi and Rwanda, stocks for key commodities have increased and presently, prices are relatively stable.

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