

Ghana

Market Related News

IMF Staff Concludes Visit to Ghana: International Monetary Fund (IMF) staff team led by Stéphane Roudet visited Ghana during June 8-15 as part of its regular engagement with the Ghanaian authorities and other stakeholders. At the conclusion of the visit, Mr. Roudet issued the following statement: "During the visit, we discussed recent macroeconomic developments. Against a complex global economic backdrop, the Ghanaian economy is showing signs of stabilization, with softening inflation, an increase in international reserves, and a less volatile exchange rate..."[IMF](#)

Moody's upgrades Ghana's local currency ratings to Caa3 from Ca, maintains stable outlook: Moody's Investors Service has upgraded the Government of Ghana's local currency long-term issuer rating from Ca to Caa3, and the stable outlook has been maintained. Moody's also upgraded the local currency senior unsecured MTN program rating from (P)Ca to (P)Caa3...[Citibusinessnews](#)

Total turnover shoots up 23.5%; new bonds attract high investor interest: The secondary bond market recorded a notable uptick in trading momentum last week. This led to an increase in market turnover by 23.56% week-on-week to ₵97.30 million. According to trading results, the 2027-2030 maturities of the new bonds continued to attract high investor interest, accounting for 78% of the total face value traded in the market...[Myjoyonline](#)

T-bills auction- Interest rates rise to 27.8%, government records 6.4% oversubscription of target: Government recorded about 6.4% oversubscription of its treasury bills target of ₵2.63 billion but an increasing cost. Interest rates surged to 27.8% for the eighth-week running, raising concerns about the government's debt management strategy, aimed at cutting Ghana's debt. The rising interest rates are expected to keep high the domestic interest payments of the government...[Myjoyonline](#)

Ecobank Ghana PLC records 40.3% revenue growth in 2022: Ecobank Ghana PLC despite the shocks of the DDEP and the general decline of the economy, has managed to increase its total revenue by 40.3% to 2.97 billion GHC. Ecobank explains that this growth was driven by mainly increases in net interest income, as well as a successful implementation of its trade and cash management initiatives...[Citibusinessnews](#)

BoG warns against 97 illegal loan Apps in Ghana : The Bank of Ghana (BoG) has cautioned the public against the operation of some online Apps operating without authorization. 97 of such applications have thus been cited for engaging in unlicensed lending activities in contravention of the Banks and Specialized Deposit-Taking Institutions Act, 2016 (930). These entities significantly breach customer data and privacy laws as well as consumer protection requirements and norms ...[Citibusinessnews](#)

Access Bank secures B- IDR with stable outlook from Fitch: Rating agency, Fitch, has affirmed Access Bank Plc's Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'B-' with a Stable Outlook. It also affirmed the bank's National Long-Term Rating at 'A+(nga)' and assigned a Stable Outlook....[Myjoyonline](#)

General Business News

Inflation rises to 42.2% in May: Consumer inflation in May 2023 rose to 42.2% from 41.2% the previous month, contrary to market expectations. This sudden increase indicates a pause in the previously promising downward trend in price of goods and services, as data from the Ghana Statistical Services (GSS) had shown a gradual slowdown in the rate of price increases for the first four months of this year. The rise was primarily driven by food inflation, which accounted for 52.9% of the headline inflation figure...[Thebftonline](#)

Ghana returns to gold top spot as output jumps 32%: Ghana recorded a 32% increase in gold production last year, enabling it to win back the top spot from South Africa as the largest gold producer on the continent. Ghana lost its position to South Africa in 2021 after a drastic fall in output. Gold output rose to 3.7 million ounces in 2022 from 2.8 million ounces the previous year, driven by growth in the output of both large and small-scale sectors...[Citibusinessnews](#)

Cocoa prices bullish in first four months of 2023 – BoG: Cocoa prices were generally bullish in the first four months of 2023, data from the Bank of Ghana has revealed. This was driven by lower production volumes, higher grinding in top-grower Ivory Coast, and increased global demand. Prices began the year at \$2,539.86 per tonne in December 2022, and rose to \$2,924.37 per tonne in April 2023, up by 15.2% year-to-date and 13.0% on year-on-year terms...[Myjoyonline](#)

IMF says Ghana's economy showing signs of stabilization The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Thursday that Ghana's economy is showing signs of stabilization, with softening inflation, an increase in international reserves and a less volatile exchange rate. The IMF statement was issued at the end of a week-long visit to the country as part of regular engagements under Ghana's \$3 billion loan programme, which was approved in May...[Reuters](#)

LPG price to fall by about 7.0% from tomorrow – LPG Marketers Association: The price of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is expected to fall by about 7.0% from June 16, 2023. According to the LPG Marketers Association, the reduction will be caused by about a 10% drop in the prices of the commodity on the international market...[Myjoyonline](#)

"You have to keep learning if you want to become a great investor. When the world changes, you must change"- Warren Buffet

Africa

Market Related News

Nigerian banking stocks rise 8% after central bank governor suspended: Nigeria's banking stock index rose more than 8% on Tuesday as local investors reacted to the suspension late last week of central bank governor who oversaw restrictive policies that cramped their earnings. President Bola Tinubu suspended Emefiele late on Friday with immediate effect, citing an ongoing investigation of his office and planned reforms in the financial sector...[Reuters](#)

Kenya's Treasury faces renewed rate pressure in June bond sale Interest rate demands by investors in the June infrastructure bond are likely to exceed the 15% mark, fixed income analysts say, in what promises to test the government's resolve of keeping a lid on borrowing costs in a period of fiscal strain. The Sh60 billion offer, whose sale closes on Wednesday, is expected to attract healthy investor appetite due to its tax-free status and a relatively short tenor of seven years....[Businessdailyafrica](#)

Goldman Sachs concludes its investor trip to Egypt; No FX flexibility without liquidity: Goldman Sachs issued an economic research report upon their investor trip to Egypt, stating that the authorities have a strong preference to order reforms such that asset sales precede a move towards FX flexibility. The research quoted the Egyptian authorities' view saying that asset sales will provide the necessary liquidity buffer to lean against a potential overshoot of the Pound under a more liberal FX regime and enable the orderly transition to a unified, market-clearing exchange rate.... [Egypttoday](#)

CBN Floats Naira on I & E Forex Window: The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has directed banks to remove the cap on the investors and exporters' (I & E) window of the forex market to allow for the free float of the naira exchange rate. Banks are now allowed to trade forex on the I & E window at any rate, subject to N1 spread, owing to this development, the naira depreciated to around N700 to N750 to a dollar on the I&E window on Wednesday....[This Day](#)

Kenya Micro-financiers hit SMEs with up to 32pc interest rates: Microfinance banks (MFBs) are charging small businesses up to 32% interest rates on loans despite insisting on collateral, with the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) warning that such high rates will hurt growth. CBK survey report on micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) access to credit shows MSMEs raised the average interest rate charged to these businesses to 27% at the end of 2022 compared with 15.5% charged by commercial banks....[Businessdailyafrica](#)

Nigeria allows naira to drop more than 36% on official market: Nigeria's central bank allowed the naira currency to drop as much as 36% on the official market on Wednesday, days after President Bola Tinubu suspended the central bank governor who oversaw much-criticised multiple exchange rates. A web of multiple exchange rates under Godwin Emefiele had led to foreign currency shortages and made it difficult for investors to take out money from Africa's biggest economy...[Reuters](#)

General Business News

South Africa's Telkom full-year profit plunges 76.6%: South African telecommunications company Telkom (TKGJ.J) on Tuesday posted a 76.6% fall in full-year earnings because of inflationary pressures and increased operational costs amid the country's crippling power cuts. The largely state-owned telecommunications company said its headline earnings per share - the main profit measure in South Africa - fell to 134.6 cents from 575.3 cents in the 12 months ended March 31....[Reuters](#)

TotalEnergies announces Ntokon oil and gas discovery off Nigeria; TotalEnergies has discovered oil and gas at the OML 102 offshore oilfield in Nigeria, the French company said on Tuesday. This new success further demonstrates the potential of nearby exploration to create value within its low cost, low emission strategy. OML 102 is operated by TotalEnergies Nigeria with a 40% interest, alongside state-oil firm NNPC Ltd which holds the remaining 60%....[Reuters](#)

Egypt's core inflation rises to 40.3% in May 2023: Egypt's annual core inflation rose to 40.3% in May from 38.6% in April. Inflation has risen sharply over the last year in Egypt after a series of currency devaluations, a prolonged shortage of foreign currency, and continuing delays in getting imports into the country. Month on month, it increased to 2.9% in May from 1.7% in April. Egypt has devalued its currency by half since March 2022 after the fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine exposed its economic vulnerabilities...[Reuters](#)

Saudi companies buy 2.2 million tonnes of carbon credits in Kenya auction: Companies from Saudi Arabia bought more than 2.2 million tonnes of carbon credits on Wednesday as the Kenyan capital hosted what organisers have billed as the world's largest sale of its kind. Demand for carbon offsets, generated through projects such as tree planting or using cleaner cooking fuel, is expected to grow as companies seek to use the credits to help meet net-zero emissions goals...[Reuters](#)

Egypt, Iraq sign 11 MoUs and discuss reconstruction projects: Prime Ministers of Egypt and Iraqi attended the signing of 11 MoUs in the fields of funding and providing technical support to SMEs; training of diplomats; training of public employees; tourism; technical cooperation between the trade ministries of both countries to help Iraq become WTO member; youth and sports; social safety; and, planning...[Egypttoday](#)

Kenya Considers Buying Back Part of a \$2 Billion Bond: Kenya is considering options including a potential buyback of part of a \$2 billion bond due next year, according to people familiar with the matter. Chris Kiptoo, the principal secretary of the National Treasury, declined to confirm the possible debt repurchase, but said the country is in talks with advisors and reviewing other alternatives. "We have many options," he said in an interview...[Bloomberg](#)

Nigeria's Leader Thrills Markets with Week of Radical Change: Everything changed for investors in Nigeria this week. Less than a month into his tenure, President Bola Tinubu has begun implementing a raft of reforms long sought by bankers, [economists](#), and multilateral lenders to revive Africa's biggest economy from almost a decade of torpor. The changes have been radical: removing a fuel subsidy that cost the state \$10 billion a year; dismissing the nation's controversial central bank governor and devaluing the naira; and initiating an overhaul of Nigeria's chronically [inadequate](#)...[Bloomberg](#)

Global

UBS, Swiss Government seal \$10 billion loss guarantee deal: UBS Group AG sealed an agreement with the Swiss government to cover 9 billion francs (\$9.9 billion) of losses it could incur from the rescue of Credit Suisse Group AG, clearing the last major hurdle to closing the historic takeover. The accord will cover a specific portfolio of Credit Suisse assets, corresponding to about 3% of the merged banks' combined assets. That represents about 44 billion francs...[Bloomberg](#)

Equities gain as investors look for cooler inflation: Global stocks gained ground, hitting their highest level in more than a year on Monday, while U.S. Treasury yields and the dollar were virtually unchanged ahead of key U.S. inflation readings and interest rate decisions later this week from the U.S. Federal Reserve and other central banks. The dollar made little progress as investors opted for riskier assets....[Reuters](#)

ECB raises rates to 22-year high, in no mood to pause: The European Central Bank raised borrowing costs by 25 basis points to of 3.5% on Thursday and left the door open to more hikes, extending its fight against inflation that remains stubbornly high even as the euro zone economy flags. The ECB increased its key interest rate for the eighth consecutive time...[Reuters](#)

Bank of Japan leaves rates unchanged, holding them at ultra low levels: Japan's central bank maintained its ultra loose monetary policy on Friday, electing to support fragile economic growth at a time of swirling global uncertainty. The Bank of Japan held its short-term interest rate target at -0.1%, in line with economists' expectations, and made no changes to its yield curve control policy ...[CNBC](#)

Binance to exit the Netherlands after failing to obtain regulatory approval: Cryptocurrency exchange Binance said it will leave the Netherlands after application to register under the Dutch crypto authorization regime was rejected. Referring to a virtual asset service provider, Binance on Friday said that it could no longer serve Dutch clients being unable to register as a VASP with the Dutch regulator without stating any specific reasons...[CNBC](#)

Bank of England set to raise rates to 4.75% as inflation slow to fall: The Bank of England looks set to raise interest rates by a quarter point to a 15-year high of 4.75% on June 22, its 13th straight rate rise as it fights unexpectedly sticky inflation that risks making it a global outlier. Investors expect the Bank of England might hike rates as high as 6% this year; well above where the U.S. Federal Reserve or the European Central Bank are expected to go, and a level not seen in Britain since 2000....[Reuters](#)

New Zealand dips into recession, putting rate hikes in doubt: New Zealand slipped into recession as the economy shrank in Q1.Reducing the risk the central bank would need to hike interest rates further but creating a new headwind for the government's re-election hopes. GDP matched analysts' expectations of a 0.1% contraction but was well below the Reserve Bank of New Zealand's forecast of 0.3% growth. [Reuters](#)

China's weakening economy puts focus on stimulus after rate cut: China's weakening economy prompted the Central bank to cut interest rates for the first time since August, and expectations are growing for more stimulus targeted at ailing industries including the property sector. The People's Bank of China reduced the rate on its one-year loans after lowering short-term rates earlier this week. Official data showed a slump in real estate, a worrying decline in business investment and record joblessness ...[Bloomberg](#)

BOJ, ECB rate decisions send yen to fresh 15-year low against euro: The yen fell to a new 15-year low against the euro on Friday after the Bank of Japan (BOJ) kept ultra-low interest rates and forecast that inflation will slow later this year in contrast with the European Central Bank's (ECB) rate hike on Thursday. As widely expected, the BOJ maintained its -0.1% short-term interest rate target and a 0% cap on the 10-year bond yield set under its yield curve control (YCC) policy...[Reuters](#)

U.S. House Republicans target deeper spending cuts, raising shutdown threat: Republicans in the U.S House of Representatives on Thursday adopted government spending targets for the next fiscal year below the level agreed by Speaker Kevin McCarthy and Democratic President Joe Biden, setting up a fight with the Democratic-led Senate that could again risk a government shutdown. The House Appropriations Committee voted 33-27 along party lines to adopt a discretionary spending level of \$1.47 trillion for fiscal year 2024 starting on Oct. 1....[Reuters](#)