

# GLOBAL MARKETS NEWSLETTER

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## Local Markets:

The Kenyan shilling was flat against the U.S. dollar on Thursday.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 132.50 – 135.50

## Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

Currency	Buying	Selling	Currency	Today	Previous
USD/KES	132.50	135.50			
GBP/KES	164.00	168.60	GBP/USD	1.2445	1.2494
EUR/KES	141.00	144.50	EUR/USD	1.0665	1.0720
INR/KES		1.6350	AUD/USD	0.6450	0.6484
			USD/INR	83.4020	83.4220
			Commodities		
			Gold	2383.73	2,376.00
			Brent Crude	88.88	87.49

## Benchmark Rates:

Tenor	Current	Previous	Next meeting
91 Days	15.7330%	16.7243%	-
182 Days	16.8684%	16.8738%	-
364 Days	16.5310%	16.9898%	-
KES INFLATION	6.60%	5.7%	30 <sup>th</sup> April 24
KES CBR	13.00%	13.00%	
FED RATE	5.50%	5.50%	
ECB RATE	4.50%	4.50%	
BOE RATE	5.25%	5.25%	
RBI RATE	6.50%	6.50%	

## Top News

**Oil:** Asian shares and bond yields sank on Friday while safe-haven currencies, gold and crude oil jumped after reports Israel attacked Iran in a continuing series of assaults that have increased concerns of a wider Middle East conflict.

**Asia-Pacific markets:** Taiwan's Weighted Index led losses in Asia on Friday, falling 3.44%, while Japan's Nikkei dropped 3% before paring losses, as most major markets in the region fell on the back of escalating tensions in the Middle East

## International Markets

**USD:** Most Asian currencies weakened on Friday, while the dollar and the Japanese yen were buoyed by haven demand after multiple reports said that Israel had carried out retaliatory strikes against Iran.

**GBP:** GBP/USD loses traction around 1.2430 amid the firmer US dollar on Friday. The Fed's hawkish comments boost the Greenback against the GBP. BoE's Greene said rate cuts were not imminent and that inflation remains too high. The GBP/USD pair remains on the defensive near 1.2430 during the early Asian session on Friday

**EUR:** EUR/USD remains under selling pressure near 1.0640 on the stronger USD on Friday. Fed's Bostic said US inflation is expected to return to target at a slower pace than previously anticipated. ECB policymakers noted the central bank should cut rates in June to avoid falling behind the inflation curve. The EUR/USD pair extends its downside around 1.0640 after retreating from weekly peaks of 1.0690 on Friday during the early Asian session.

**INR:** The Indian rupee strengthened 0.07% versus the U.S. dollar to 83.49, having slipped to a record low of 83.5750 earlier. The Reserve Bank of India's intervention in the onshore OTC market and in NDF helped rupee recover.

**Source:** Reuters.

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