

GLOBAL MARKETS NEWSLETTER

Friday 26th April 2024

Local Markets:

The Kenyan shilling depreciated on Thursday, Central Bank dollar sales failed to satisfy manufacturing sector foreign currency demand.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 134.00 – 138.00.

Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

Currency	Buying	Selling	Currency	Today	Previous
USD/KES	134.00	138.00			
GBP/KES	167.20	172.80	GBP/USD	1.2535	1.2492
EUR/KES	143.20	148.35	EUR/USD	1.0749	1.0745
INR/KES		1.6645	AUD/USD	0.6568	0.6550
			USD/INR	83.2300	83.1750
			Commodities		
			Gold	2336.26	2,316.81
			Brent Crude	89.40	88.19

Benchmark Rates:

Tenor	Current	Previous	Next meeting
91 Days	15.8232%	15.8029%	-
182 Days	16.4600%	16.4667%	-
364 Days	16.4924%	16.5077%	-
KES INFLATION	6.60%	5.7%	30 th 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%	

Top News

Oil: Oil prices rose in early trade on Friday, as players took stock of the U.S. Treasury secretary's comments that the country's economy is likely in a stronger position than indicated by weak first-quarter data, coupled with supply concerns as conflict continues in the Middle East.

Asia-Pacific markets: The Japanese yen slid to 156 against the U.S. dollar on Friday after the Bank of Japan left its benchmark interest rate unchanged. The BOJ kept its benchmark policy rate at 0%-0.1% as expected. Japan's central bank also said it will continue to conduct bond purchases in line with the March decision.

International Markets

USD: Most Asian currencies weakened on Friday, while the dollar steadied in anticipation of key inflation data that is expected to factor into the Federal Reserve's stance on interest rate cuts.

GBP: GBP/USD snaps the three-day winning streak near 1.2502 in Friday's early Asian session. The US economy grew at a slower pace of 1.6% in Q1 2024, compared to 3.4% in the previous reading. The expectation that the BoE will cut rates before the US Fed might exert some selling pressure on the GBP. The GBP/USD pair trades on a weaker note around 1.2502 during the early Asian trading hours on Friday. The modest rebound of the US Dollar (USD) weighs on the major pair despite weaker US GDP growth numbers.

EUR: EUR/USD whipped on Thursday after mixed US data plagued markets. US GDP slowed faster than expected, but PCE inflation measures warn of still high prices. US PCE Price Index figures due during Friday's US market session. EUR/USD whipsawed somewhat on Thursday, and the pair is heading into Friday's early session near 1.0730 after a back-and-forth session and complicated US data that vexed rate cut hopes.

INR: The Indian rupee was largely flat on Friday, tracking rangebound Asian peers with traders expecting the local unit to stick to its prevailing range ahead of closely watched U.S. inflation data. Asian currencies were mostly rangebound despite a surge in US bond yields but the Japanese yen dropped to its lowest in 34 years after the Bank of Japan kept policy rates unchanged.

Source: Reuters.

For further enquiries, kindly contact: Joseph Nyamache /Daniel Yegon, Direct Lines: +254 111 030 600/626/680/681,

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