

GLOBAL MARKETS NEWSLETTER

Thursday March 20th, 2025

Local Markets:

The Kenyan shilling remained stable on Wednesday compared with the previous session, with forecasted gains in the coming days due to expected inflows from Kenyans in the diaspora.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 128.40/129.90

Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

Currency	Buying	Selling	Currency	Today	Previous
USD/KES	128.40	129.90			
GBP/KES	166.85	169.20	GBP/USD	1.3024	1.3018
EUR/KES	139.90	142.10	EUR/USD	1.0925	1.0964
INR/KES		1.5117	USD/INR	85.93	86.19
			AUD/USD	0.6369	0.6387
			Commodities		
			Gold	3051.46	3038.58
			Brent Crude	71.18	70.34

Benchmark Rates:

Tenor	Current	Previous	Next meeting
91 Days	8.9180%	8.9228%	-
182 Days	9.1149%	9.1509%	-
364 Days	10.4736%	10.4967%	-
KES INFLATION	3.300%	3.000%	-
KES CBR	10.75%	11.25%	-
FED RATE	4.25%	4.50%	-
ECB RATE	3.00%	3.25%	-
BOE RATE	4.75%	5.00%	-
RBI RATE	6.50%	6.50%	-

Top News

Oil: West Texas Intermediate (WTI), the US crude oil benchmark, is trading around \$67.20 during the early Asian session on Thursday. The WTI price edges higher amid the ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East. However, the Federal Reserve's (Fed) decision to hold interest rates steady might cap the upside for WTI price.

Asia-Pacific markets: Most Asian currencies kept to a tight range on Thursday as markets digested the Federal Reserve's outlook of sticky inflation and slowing growth, although the dollar retreated as the central bank still projected more rate cuts this year.

International Markets

USD: The U.S. dollar rose Thursday, boosted by safe-haven flows after Turkish authorities detained President Tayyip Erdogan's main political rival, with the Turkish lira slumping. The greenback has struggled of late amid concerns that the uncertainty stemming from U.S. President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs will hit economic activity going forward.

GBP: The GBP/USD pair remains in positive territory for the fourth successive session, trading around 1.3010 during the Asian hours on Thursday. Technical analysis of the daily chart indicates a continued bullish bias, with the pair moving upwards within an ascending channel pattern.

EUR: EUR/USD loses ground for the second successive day, trading around 1.0900 during Asian hours on Thursday. However, the pair strengthened as the US Dollar (USD) remained under pressure, weighed down by declining yields after the Federal Reserve (Fed) reaffirmed its outlook for two rate cuts later this year.

INR: The Indian Rupee (INR) rises to over a three-week high on Thursday. Persistent weakness in the Greenback, an uptick in exporter USD sales and modest inflows boost the INR. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has likely been "opportunisticly" absorbing USD inflows over the past few sessions, probably to replenish the foreign exchange reserve expanded to support the INR over the past few months, according to reports.

Source: Reuters.

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