

# NEWSLETTER

## GLOBAL MARKETS

### Local Markets:

Kenyan shilling has remained relatively stable against the dollar in recent months, generally trading within a narrow range. The shilling's recent stability has been supported by robust diaspora remittances, healthy foreign exchange reserves and managed import demand.

Today's expected USD/KES trading range is 128.50/129.40

### Indicative FX rates as at 8.30am:

Currency	Buying	Selling	Currency	Today	Previous
USD/KES	128.50	129.40			
GBP/KES	175.06	176.20	GBP/USD	1.3631	1.3699
EUR/KES	152.15	153.45	EUR/USD	1.1883	1.1934
INR/KES		1.4480	USD/INR	90.17	90.22
			AUD/USD	0.7141	0.7132
			Commodities		
			Gold	5067.6	5056.64
			Brent Crude	69.56	69.20

### Benchmark Rates:

Tenor	Current	Previous	
91 Days	7.6298%	7.6326%	
182 Days	7.7881%	7.800%	
364 Days	9.1999%	9.2066%	
KES INFLATION	4.50%	4.50%	
KES CBR	9.00%	9.50%	
FED RATE	3.50%	3.75%	
ECB RATE	2.40%	2.65%	
BOE RATE	4.00%	4.25%	
RBI RATE	5.25%	5.50%	

### Top News

**Oil:** Oil prices edged up on Thursday morning as investors worried about escalating tensions between the U.S. and Iran, on fears that any attacks on Tehran or shipping could lead to supply disruptions.

**Asia-Pacific markets:** Most Asian stock markets rose on Thursday, with South Korea surging to record highs on sharp gains in chipmakers, while Japanese shares traded flat after touching a fresh record peak above 58,000 points amid "Takaichi trade" optimism.

### International Markets

**USD:** The U.S. dollar was little changed to slightly lower on Wednesday, after traders pared back their Federal Reserve rate cut expectations following a blowout January jobs report.

**GBP:** The GBP/USD pair gains ground near 1.3635, snapping the two-day losing streak during the early European session on Thursday. The preliminary reading of UK Gross Domestic Product for the fourth quarter will be closely watched later on Thursday. The UK economy is estimated to grow 0.2% QoQ in Q4, versus 0.1% in Q1.

**EUR:** The EUR/USD pair struggles to capitalize on the overnight bounce from the 1.1835-1.1830 region and oscillates in a narrow band during the Asian session on Thursday. Spot prices currently trade around the 1.1875 area, remaining nearly unchanged for the day and staying within striking distance of an over one-week high, reached on Tuesday, amid mixed cues.

**INR:** The rupee opened 26 paise higher on February 12 as the dollar remained muted even after positive jobs data reduced chances of an immediate rate cut by the US Federal Reserve.

Source: Reuters.

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