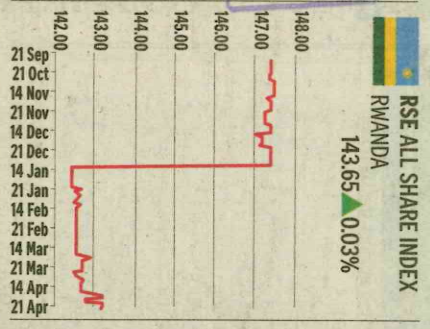
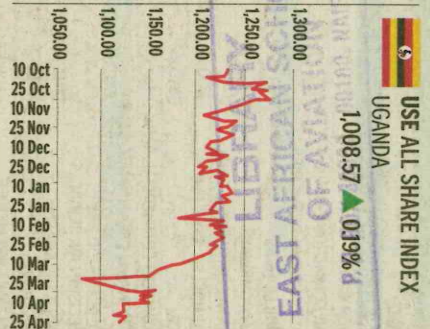
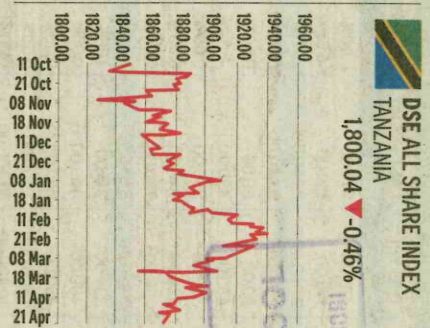


EQUITY MARKETS

(weekly change in benchmark index)



IN BRIEF

KQ to ease ticket purchase for travellers in countries facing dollar shortage

Kenya Airways seeks to lock purchase of economy class seats for passengers in countries experiencing dollar shortages to local currency in efforts to mitigate against financial risk. The carrier disclosed through its 2022 annual report that it is also negotiating for foreign currency allocations with different countries and in foreign exchange swap arrangements with other airlines to reduce possibility of losing money. KQ's net loss more than doubled after government took over servicing dollar-denominated loans.

Cost of living crisis leads top global risk, says WEF

High cost of living crisis remains the worst global risk over the next two years, according to the global risk perception survey by the World Economic Forum (WEF). It is followed by natural disasters and extreme weather events, geo-economic confrontation, failure to mitigate climate change and erosion of social cohesion and societal polarisation. According to the survey the cost of living crisis is ranked most severe global risk over the next two years peaking in the short term while biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse is one of the fastest deteriorating risks over the next decade.

IMF board to meet on July 12 for first review of Zambia's programme

The International Monetary Fund executive board will meet on July 12 to complete the first review of its \$1.3 billion extended fund facility programme for Zambia. The meeting comes after Africa's second-biggest copper producer clinched a deal with creditors such as China and the Paris Club to rework \$6.3 billion of overseas debt. The country will have access to \$188 million after the review is done as Zambia hopes to restructure \$12.8 billion of external debt.



SecondStax founder Eugene Tawiah at the portal launch at the NSE on November 4, 2022. It facilitates intra-continental trade connecting debt and equity capital markets in Africa. Picture: File

Risk data deficit stifling trade on Africa bourses

African securities exchanges have limited access to investors, largely as result of their isolation and lack of adequate data on risk profiles of investments as sets.

The African Securities Exchange Association (ASEA) says despite having some of the best-performing stocks and bonds globally, Africa's exchanges are largely inaccessible to investors outside the jurisdictions where they are domiciled.

"The siloed nature of these exchanges as well as insufficient data on the risk profiles of assets has led to limited access to capital for markets and limited access

to high-growth assets for investors," said ASEA.

The lobby has signed a memorandum of understanding with Ghanaian tech firm SecondSTAX to connect investors with high-growth, high-impact investment opportunities on African exchanges and support the success of the African Exchanges Linkage Project (AELP) — an African stockmarket linkage project to integrate exchanges continentwide and facilitate seamless cross-border trading of securities.

"Our priority is to improve efficiency and liquidity of Africa's securities exchanges and partnership with SecondSTAX will enable that," says Thapelo Tshen-

ole, president of ASEA.

In the past decade, African capital markets raised more than \$17 billion from 215 initial public offerings and \$70 billion from follow-on offerings, more than \$246 billion raised in debt capital markets, with equity indices peaking at more than 50 percent growth across major regional exchanges.

But these markets still grapple with lack of liquidity and high transaction costs.

The AELP-ASEA-African Development Bank joint initiative is designed to promote cross-border trading and liquidity in African stock exchanges. It went live on November 18, 2022.

Tanzania gets \$73m for new power line

Tanzania has secured a \$72.8 million loan from a consortium of foreign lenders led by the OPEC Fund for International Development to strengthen energy security in the northwestern region.

The project will include the construction of a 166km overhead transmission line connecting the Kagera region to the national grid, replacing the current energy supply from Uganda with local hydropower resources.

Tanzania, which has enormous potential in the field of renewable energy, is investing heavily in expanding hydropower capacity with plants under development at Rusumo and Kakono in the northwestern region.

The two new plants are expected to be operational in 2024 and 2030, with nominal capacity of 80MW and 87MW respectively.

Reducing dependence

The OPEC Fund said the financing will be shared between the Fund (\$30 million), Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (\$30 million) and the Saudi Fund for Development (\$12.8 million).

The government of Tanzania will contribute \$2.6 million. Other backers will finance a downstream distribution network that will connect many unserved communities to the grid.

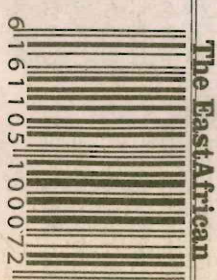
Construction of the new transmission line will allow Tanzania to reduce its dependence on energy imports. This diversification will enhance energy security and save costs by eliminating the need to pay for imports in foreign currency.

Hydropower generation will shut out expensive and polluting back-up thermal power plants, leading to a cleaner and cheaper energy sector in Tanzania. The OPEC Fund had its first engagement in Tanzania in 1977 and has so far approved more than \$400 million for investment in projects.

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