Investments

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Sanlam Investments **East Africa Limited**

Global Markets Dashboard

	Oct-23	YTD 2023	
MSCI World Index	-3.0%	6.4%	
MSCI Emerging Markets Index	-3.9%	-4.3%	
Brent Crude Oil	-8.3%	1.7%	
Gold	7.3%	8.8%	

Source: Bloomberg

Regional Currency Performance



Source: Central Bank of Kenva, Bank of Uganda, National Bank of Rwanda & Bank of Tanzania

Market Commentary

Global Markets: Stock prices fell globally as the markets anticipate the high interest rate environment to persist for longer. Additionally, the heightened geopolitical uncertainty in the Middle East dampened risk appetite. Developed market equities fell 3.0% on the month, while emerging market stocks fell 3.9%.

Inflation: Kenya's headline inflation rose to 6.9% y/y in October from 6.8% in September 2023. The uptick was driven by increases in housing & utilities (+1.9%), transport (+1.5%), and food & non-alcoholic beverages (1.3%). Uganda's consumer inflation slowed to 2.4% y/y from 2.7% y/y. This is attributable to the slowdown in core inflation from 2.4% to 2.0%.

Tanzania's headline inflation was unchanged for a third consecutive month at 3.3% y/y in September 2023, supported by a decline in clothing & footwear, housing & utilities, furnishings, and insurance & financial services. Rwanda's urban inflation was 13.9% y/y in September 2023 from 12.3% y/y in August. The increase in inflation was driven by higher food and non-alcoholic beverages prices

Currencies: The Kenyan Shilling, Ugandan Shilling and Rwandan Franc depreciated by 1.6%, 0.8% and 1.3% respectively against the US Dollar (USD) in the month of October. The Tanzania Shilling appreciated by 0.3%, attributable to improved dollar flows from the tourism and commodities sectors. We project continued gradual depreciation on account of a strong USD demand driven by elevated USD yields in global markets.

Interest Rates: In Kenya, the average yields on the government papers maintained an upward trend. The average yields on the 364-day, 2-year and 5-year papers increased by between 12 bps and 33 bps to 15.4% and 17.8% and 17.4% respectively in October.

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) re-opened 2-year and 5-year bonds in October. The weighted average yields of accepted bids were 17.7% and 18.0% respectively. CBK also issued a tap sale on a 2-year and a 3-year bond. The Bank of Uganda (BOU) re-opened 3-year and 20-year bonds in October at average yields of 13.5% and 15.5% respectively. The Bank of Uganda (BOU) also issued several bonds with varying tenors as a switch for the treasury bond maturing in January 2024. Yields declined by an average of 30 basis points (bps) across the maturity spectrum.

The Bank of Tanzania issued a 10-year bond at average yields of 11.9%. The auction was undersubscribed with investors' preference continuing to remain in favor of securities with longer tenures. The National Bank of Rwanda re-opened a 5-year bond at a weighted average rate of 11.8% and the auction was oversubscribed.

Equities: The NSE All-Share Index was down -7.0% in October 2023. International investors selloff persisted exacerbated by concerns around foreign exchange illiquidity, higher global interest rates and tough macro conditions.

Outlook: The stronger US Dollar and higher US Treasury yields have led to further risk aversion towards Emerging and Frontier markets. We maintain our recommendation to hold and selectively accumulate high-quality stocks. Fixed income assets are still expected to provide a modest return over the long-term despite the prevailing challenges in the macroeconomic environment.

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NSE All UG Local Share Inde TZ Local Share Inde RW All Share Index Sanlam 27 Share Inde Sh

Source: Nairobi Securities Exchange & Bloomberg. Returns are in respective local currencies

Regional Inflation & Key Interest Rates for October 2023

	Kenya	Uganda	Tanzania	Rwanda	
Overall Inflation Rate (latest)	6.9%	2.4%	3.3%*	13.9%*	
Central Bank Rate	10.5%	9.5%	5.0%	7.5%	
Average 91 Day Treasury Bill	15.1%	9.0%	7.8%	8.7%	
Average 2 Year Treasury Bond Yield	17.8%	13.5%	9.6%	10.9%	

*Rwanda and Tanzania inflation as at September 2023 Source: National Bureaus of Statistics & Bloomberg. Rates are in respective local currencies.



Important Information

- Basis points (bps) A basis point is a standard measure for interest rates and other percentages in finance, representing one-one hundredth of
 one percent.
- Central Bank Rate refers to the interest rate at which a nation's central bank lends money to domestic banks, often in the form of very short-term loans. The Central Bank may increase or decrease the discount rate to slow down or stimulate the economy.
- Currencies: KES/USD refers to the Kenya Shilling exchange rate with the US Dollar. UGX/USD refers to the Uganda Shilling exchange rate with the US Dollar. TZS/USD refers to the Tanzania Shilling exchange rate with the US Dollar. RWF/USD refers to the Rwandese Franc exchange rate with the US Dollar.
- MSCI, the acronym stands for Morgan Stanley Capital International.
- **MSCI World Index**, is a broad global equity index that represents large and mid-cap equity performance across 23 developed markets countries. It covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.
- MSCI Emerging Markets Index is used to measure the financial performance of companies in fast-growing economies around the world. The index tracks mid-cap and large-cap stocks in 27 countries, dominated by Chinese, Taiwanese, and South Korean companies.
- NSE All Share Index, is a market cap weighted index consisting of all the securities on the Nairobi Securities Exchange. Prices are based on last trade information from NSE's Automated Trading System.
- The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI)) is a measure of the prevailing direction of economic trends in manufacturing. The PMI is a weighted average of the following five indices: New Orders (30%), Output (25%), Employment (20%), Suppliers' Delivery Times (15%) and Stocks of Purchases (10%).
- Quarter to date (QTD) refers to the period beginning the first day of the current quarter up to the current date. QTD information is useful for analyzing business trends over time or comparing performance data to competitors or peers in the same industry.
- Rwanda Stock Exchange All Share Index is a market cap weighted index that includes all non-domestic Rwanda listings.
- Sanlam 27 Share Index is a market cap weighted index. The index universe is the Nairobi Securities Exchange. The index is managed by Sanlam Investments East Africa Limited.
- Tanzania Local Share Index is a market cap weighted index. It includes only domestic listed companies.
- Uganda Local Share Index is a market cap weighted index. It includes only domestic listed companies.
- Year to date (YTD) refers to the period beginning the first day of the current calendar year or fiscal year up to the current date. YTD information is useful for analyzing business trends over time or comparing performance data to competitors or peers in the same industry.
- Year-over-year (Y/Y) is a method of evaluating two or more measured events to compare the results at one period with those of a comparable period on an annualized basis.

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Disclosure Statement

Sanlam Investments East Africa Limited ("the manager") is regulated by Capital Markets Authority in Kenya and Uganda to provide investment advisory and management services. The firm has been operational in Kenya since 1998 and in Uganda since 2004 and is a leading fund manager in the region with a strong record of accomplishment in service delivery and performance.

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