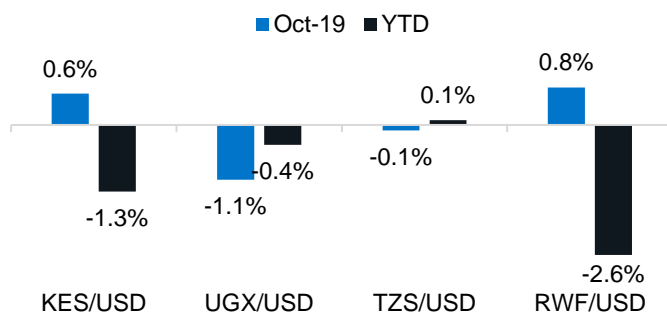


### Regional Inflation & Key Interest Rates

	Kenya	Uganda	Tanzania	Rwanda
Inflation (latest)	5.0%	2.5%	3.4%	3.1%
Central Bank Rate	9.0%	9.0%	12.0%	5.0%
91 Day T-Bill	6.4%	8.1%	4.3%	5.2%
2 Year Bond Yield	10.1%	12.9%	11.1%	n/a

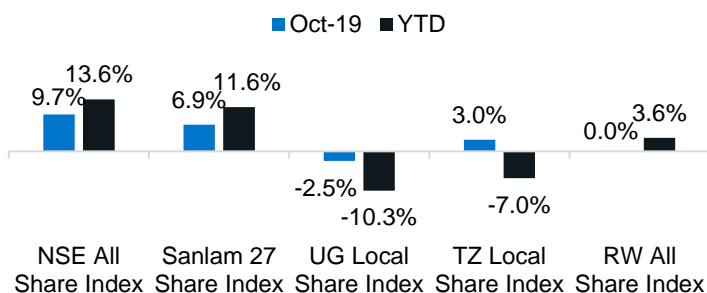
Source: Kenya and Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics & Bloomberg

### Regional Currency Performance



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

### Regional Stock Market Performance



Source: Nairobi Securities Exchange & Bloomberg

### Global Markets Dashboard

	Oct-19	Q4 2019	YTD
MSCI World	2.5%	2.5%	18.6%
MSCI Emerging Markets	4.1%	4.1%	7.9%
BRENT Crude Oil	1.9%	1.9%	7.9%
Gold	2.8%	2.8%	18.0%

Source: Bloomberg

### Monthly Market Commentary

**Economic Update:** Tanzania's economy grew by 7.2% in Q2 2019 relative to 6.1% in a similar period in the previous year. The fastest growing sectors were Construction (19.6%), Mining & Quarrying (17.2%) and Information & Communication (10.3%). Other economies in the East Africa Community expanded by Kenya (5.6%), Uganda (5.4%) and Rwanda (12.2%).

**Finance Bill:** The Kenyan president rejected the finance Bill and insisted that clause 43 which repealed Rate Caps be reinserted into the Bill. The President also removed clause 45 which had placed the Banking Act Amendment into the finance bill. Parliament will require two-thirds majority to overturn the presidential veto on the bill.

**Inflation:** Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda headline inflation rose by 1.2% (to 5.0%), 0.6% (2.5%) and 0.8% (to 3.1%) respectively. This was attributable to a rise in food prices as impacts of harvest from long rains wane off. Tanzania inflation declined marginally by 0.2% due to food prices. Inflation should remain tame in the region given subdued demand pressure, supply-side shocks are likely but will be momentary.

**Interest Rates:** Rates in Kenya continued to increase during the month attributable to the president's veto on the Rate Cap through the finance bill. Secondary bond market trading declined as investors were cautious given the news. The secondary market had offers with very few bids. The Bank of Uganda reduced the Central Bank rate to 9% from 10%. This was on the back of benign inflation outlook and to support economic growth. Short-term rates in Tanzania marginally declined as liquidity challenges improved.

**Currencies:** The Ugandan and Tanzania Shilling weakened during the month as dollar inflows failed to offset hard currency demand from importers. The Kenya shilling and the Rwandan franc strengthen in October supported by hard currency inflows. The offer of an infrastructure bond in Kenya supported Forex flows due to foreign investor participation.

**Equities:** The Nairobi bourse rallied during the month mainly driven by the banking sector following the President's proposal to amend the Finance Bill to repeal the Banking Act capping lending rates. Investor sentiment is biased that parliament won't be able to garner two-thirds majority vote to reject the president's proposal.

**Global Markets:** Global equities rose in October as investors shrugged off global uncertainty (U.S. China trade war and Brexit) and focused on positive earnings for Q3 2019. Crude oil prices increased for the month supported by falling us crude oil inventories and optimism over us China trade deal. Gold continue to appreciate on the back of uncertainty of Brexit. The UK prime minister won backing for a December 12 general election as the EU gave a three-month Brexit extension.

**Outlook:** The repeal of the Rate Cap should be positive for Kenya's economic growth as credit to the private sector picks-up. Activity on the stock exchange will continue to rise as investors focus on banking stocks. However, treasury bonds are likely to come under pressure as investors bid aggressively in primary auctions. This might lead to bond prices declining due to the inverse relationship between interest rates and bond prices.

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