



ECONOMY

Gov't inaugurates committee to investigate depreciation of cedi: The Finance Ministry has inaugurated a committee to look into the causes of the depreciation of the cedi and propose solutions to the problem. The establishment of the committee, named the FX Development Committee, is a fulfilment of a promise made by the ministry last year to constitute a bi-partisan committee to look into the problem and help address it ([CNR](#))

Ghana ranks 1st in Africa, 4th globally in latest Global Retail Development Index: In Africa, Ghana is ranked 1st and ranked 4th in the world in the 2019 Global Retail Development Index which studies the global retailing landscape. Ghana has been described as Africa's new "bright spot" driven by increased foreign & public investment as well as urbanization of the population ([Ghanaweb](#)).

Government must set lower target for inflation: Government has been advised to set a lower medium-term target for inflation in order for the economy to remain competitive among its peers in sub-Saharan Africa. Government maintained its medium-term inflation target of 8±2 in the 2020 Budget, despite a rebasing of the basket in August 2019 that saw inflation drop to 7.8 percent from 9.4 percent in July ([Ghanaweb](#)).

IMF urges government to introduce more taxes to plug revenue shortfall: The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has stated that the government must reinstate some abolished taxes and expand some existing ones in order to meet its short-term revenue projections. The Board of the Fund in its recent report on Ghana stated that the government must consider urgent tax measures like the reintroduction of the controversial 17.5 percent VAT on financial services to overcome perennial tax shortfalls ([Ghanaweb](#)).

SECTORAL

Ghana and World Bank sign \$570 million agreement: Ghana and the World Bank has signed four agreements, totaling nearly \$570 million aimed to transform the economy, boost education, improve sanitation and fight flooding in Accra as well as reduce forest losses ([Graphic](#)).

Ghana to boost vegetable and cut flower business with greenhouses: The government has started constructing greenhouses to start the development of vegetable seeds to help boost Ghana's vegetable cut flower production sector. Three of the greenhouses are at various levels of completion, with the first one located at Akumadan in the Offinso North District ([Ghanaweb](#)).

Government targets earning US\$12 billion forex from six tree crops: Government is targeting converting some six tree crops into cash crops that should fetch a total US\$12 billion in export revenue every year. The Minister for Agriculture revealed that the plan is part of the government's Planting for Export and Rural Development (PERD) and is aimed at generating more foreign exchange ([Ghanaweb](#)).

Financial sector healthier than ever after clean up: The Bank of Ghana has declared that the current financial sector is healthier than before. The sector is emerging from a crisis that resulted in the loss of millions of investments, and thousands of jobs. The Governor maintained that the country is emerging from the financial crisis stronger than ever ([Ghanaweb](#)).

Mining remains pillar for economic development: The Minister of Land and Natural Resource has maintained that mining industry remains a key enabler of industrialization and broad-based economic development of the country ([Graphic](#)).

Rice millers cry for financial support: Rice millers in the country were unable to meet the demand for milled local rice during the Christmas and New Year festivities due to financial constraints. According to them, they had the capacity to mill but they lacked the funds to buy adequate quantities of the paddy rice for milling ([Ghanaweb](#)).

POLICY

GEPA outlines strategy to overcome overlapping export sector priorities: Recent Competitor Analysis reports released by the Ghana Export Promotion Authority (GEPA) are admonishing Ghanaian exporters of several identified agricultural products to retain primary focus on their existing potential markets outside the continent even with the implementation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, expected to commence by the middle of this year ([Goldstreetbusiness](#))

INTERNATIONAL

GRA commences 3-day exercise to vet documents of foreign traders: Officials of the Ghana Revenue Authority (GRA) on Tuesday commenced a three-day exercise assessing documents of some foreign traders at Circle Tip Toe Lane. The committee maintained that the unwillingness of the traders to engage in the exercise will only be detrimental to their businesses as the longer they delay the process, their shops will remain locked ([Myjoyonline](#)).

Ecovas Finance Ministers, Governors discuss future of ECO: Finance and Economic Ministers and Central Bank Governors in West Africa have expressed reservations about the recent renaming of the common currency for member countries in the Francophone zone (CFA Franc) to ECO ([Graphic](#))

MARKETS

Interest Rates

Inflation Rate (Dec. 2019): **7.9%**
BoG Policy Rate (Nov, 2019): **16.0%**
GRR (Jan, 2020): **16.13%**

Treasury Securities Rates

91-Day: **14.6935%**
182-Day: **15.1727%**
364-Day: **17.8349%**
Source: [BoG 13/17.01.2020](#)

Foreign Exchange Rates

	Buy	Sell
Pound Sterling (£):	GH¢7.1916/	GH¢7.2010
Dollar (US\$)	GH¢5.5341/	GH¢5.5397
Euro (€)	GH¢6.1535/	GH¢6.1589

Source: [BoG 16.01.20](#)

Mutual Funds – Yields

(MM & FIM 1)

STANLIB Income:	+0.69%	(17.01.20)
EDC Fixed Income:	+0.44%	(10.01.20)
Databank Money:	+11.84%	(14.11.19)
Republic Unit:	+0.44%	(10.01.20)
SEM MoneyPlus:	+11.42%	(31.12.19)

Source: [Doobia](#)

TRADE AND INVESTMENT

SMEs the biggest losers in Nigeria border closure: Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMEs) and petty traders are bearing the brunt of Nigeria's land borders closure, as the situation is preventing them from restocking their goods ([B&FT](#)).

GPHA cargo volumes to surge in 2020: The Director General of the Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority has projected that in 2020 cargo volumes are likely to surge as both Tema and Takoradi Ports have positioned themselves as transshipment and oil and gas services hubs respectively ([Ghanaweb](#))