

INVESTMENT REVIEW

A Journal of the Institute of Certified Investment and Financial Analysts



INSIDE ARTICLES

PART I
INSTITUTE BRIEFS

PART II
ICIFA ARTICLES

PART III
ADVERTS

THE KENYAN ECONOMY
BEFORE, DURING AND
AFTER COVID-19

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WHO WE ARE

ICIFA is the professional Investment and Financial Analysts' body mandated by law to regulate the Investment and Financial Analysis profession in Kenya, being the only body authorized by law to register and grant practising certificates to Certified Investment and Financial Analysts (CIFAs) in Kenya both in private and public practice under the Investment and Financial Analysts Act (No.13 of 2015).

We are dedicated to providing region-wide network and promoting the role of the profession in the fields of investment and financial analysis, pension funds, asset management, corporate finance, investment and finance training, fund management, financial advisory, wealth

management, real estate investment, insurance investment advisory, capital markets operations, and investment banking among others. ICIFA provides highly skilled, competent, competitive professional expertise in all sectors in the investment and finance industry.

We are globally affiliated to Association of Certified International Investment Analyst (ACIIA) based in Switzerland, the African Securities Exchange Association (ASEA) and the Association of Professional Societies in East Africa (APSEA). The examination body for Certified Investment and Financial Analysts Examination is KASNEB.

LEGAL MANDATE

The Investment and Financial Analysts Act (No.13 of 2015) provides for the establishment, powers and function of the Institute of Certified Investment and Financial Analysts, for the provision of the examination and registration of certified investment and financial analysts, and for connected purposes.



VISION STATEMENT

To be a global leader in standards of professional ethics, training and research for investment and financial professionals.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide competent investment and financial professionals by upholding integrity, promoting research and driving innovation in financial markets.

CORE VALUES

Integrity, Accountability, Professionalism, Innovation, Excellence

Functions of the Institute under the Investment and Financial Analysts Act, 2015

- a) To promote standards of professional competence and ethical practice amongst members of the Institute.
- b) To promote research into the subjects of the securities and investments and related matters, and the publication of books, periodicals, journals and articles in connection therewith.
- c) To promote the International recognition of the Institute.
- d) To advise the regulator for the time being responsible for capital markets in respect of licensing investment and financial analysts.
- e) To advise the Examinations Board on matters relating to examinations standards and policies.
- f) To design and administer an initial ethics and integrity test for the purpose of determining the professional suitability of all its members and to subsequently design and undertake such continuous development programs for its members.
- g) To carry out any other functions prescribed for it under any of the other provisions of the Act or any other written law.

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A Word From the **CEO**



Dear Reader,
On this 5th issue of the ICIFA Investment Review Journal, we have included articles that look at alternative investment options and their implications as countries deal with the impact of economic lockdowns. The impact of the lockdowns not only made some significant damage to economies, but also spoke to some larger problems that need to be addressed if businesses should continue operating in a conducive environment.

The articles demonstrate how and why it is vitally important for the Investment and Finance profession to embrace diversity in order to

remain relevant and sustainable in the long term. Indeed, the Institute recognizes that one of the key factors in supporting the growth of the financial sector is through encouraging research, creativity and innovation from market players and stakeholders.

Also in this issue, we have included take-away points from some of the professional development activities held up to September 2020. The recorded webinars and other training modules are available on our training portal via <https://training.icifa.co.ke/>

I wish to thank my team, the Education & Research Committee for their valuable input and support during the preparation of this issue and also the authors who submitted their articles for publication.

We hope that you enjoy reading this issue and find the articles informative.

FA Diana Muriuki-Maina
Chief Executive Officer



FA KEVIN NYAGA,

CFA. Portfolio Manager-
Asset Management,
UAP Old Mutual

The current environment emanating from the COVID19 pandemic is unprecedented and has had a huge and adverse impact on both the demand and supply chain. Financial institutions, such as banks and insurance companies, with the support of their respective regulators, have come up with different programs to cushion customers from the current economic slump.

These include extension of loan terms or issuing loan and premium repayment holidays. The payment holidays are meant to offer relief to people who may be experiencing financial difficulties in honouring their contractual obligations.

Usually, the market demands

WHY UNIT TRUSTS MAKE A VIABLE INVESTMENT OPTION NOW

some level of certainty and stability, but the current environment reflects neither of these. Even more unsettling, we do not know when the economic environment will stabilize or if there is going to be a second wave of the spread of COVID-19 or how far out we are in terms of production of a vaccine. That said and in terms of making an entry into the market, it really depends on, but not limited to, your financial position and time horizon. Investors who probably deemed the market levels prior to the pandemic as pricy, have a higher risk appetite and long-term view, could take advantage of the fall in asset prices, of course with a view of their financial position.

It is important to understand that the basic tenets of savings and investments haven't really changed, what will change is how we do it. In the current environment, it's vital to focus on your financial position and make choices depending on your priorities and goals. You can proceed to save and make investments with a view of your objectives and constraints using the regulated channels in the market like unit trusts.

Unit trusts are collective investment schemes used as a tool for savings. Investments into a unit-trust are informed by but not limited to your risk appetite, risk tolerance, liquidity needs and time horizon. There are different types of unit trusts in the market, ranging from an equity fund (most risky due to higher allocation to equities), balanced fund

WHY UNIT TRUSTS MAKE A VIABLE INVESTMENT OPTION NOW

(moderately risky due to lower allocation equities) and money market (no allocation to equities). The choice of unit trust depends on the investor's objectives, constraints, and financial position.

Unit trusts are open ended which means you can invest and withdraw whenever you wish. This gives you the flexibility to save some money that you have access to. At times like these, it is important for example to build up an emergency fund for an unpredictable future. This would be money set aside in case of loss of a job or lack of income.

This kind of saving can help you pay for your living expenses up to six months or 1 year. Emergency funds can enable you to make payment of an untimely huge expense. Unit trusts allow you this flexibility and do not constrict you to a contractual agreement that if broken will hinder you to access any funds. You can also cut on your expenses, for example, by selling your car. Invest the lumpsum in a money market and quickly build up a fund which you can access when the need arises.

Nowadays, using your mobile phone, you can invest in the fund of your choice. You just need to know what your goal is, how long you want to invest and if you need to take any risk. It is also quite easy to encash an investment in a unit trust in case you are in urgent need of cash.

Within 2 to 3 working days you can get your cash if you are to go the traditional way of writing a letter or email requesting to access your cash. If you need the cash within a few minutes, you can withdraw funds from your mobile phone from your i-invest account.

Finally, when making an investment decision at a time like this, safety is key. When investing, find out where your money is being invested? Is it readily available? In recent years we have seen at least two Money Market Funds that we are aware of that unfortunately had investments that went bad and resulted in losses. Those losses were borne by the investors (Unit Holders) resulting in a reduction in their Money Market Fund balances.

There is no guarantee or insurance that will cover those losses for the customer/unit holder. Therefore, before investing you may ask yourself, do you trust the brand and does the company have a form of history and how long have they been in operation? Do not rush for quick and high returns, but rather consider steady growth in your investments.



FA LUCAS OTIENO,
Managing Director,
Faida Investment Bank

The virus has had a negative impact to our social and economic activities, exposing our vulnerability as a nation to sudden economic shocks and our preparedness to deal and adjust to such shocks. The greatest impact being the Social Distancing directive as a preventive measure to the spread of the virus affecting the nation both socially and economically.

Kenyans generally are resilient and adoptive, a closer look at the nation's economic cycle, one will notice that every ten years our GDP Growth Rate sharply declines with in-between fluctuations every 4-5 years, the longer cycles seen in 1997/98,

THE KENYAN ECONOMY BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER COVID-19

2007/08 and 2017/18. Closely mirroring the cyclical GDP Growth fluctuations, is the inflation rate and sharp depreciation of the Kenyan shilling both taking up the same pattern at the same periods.

Coincidentally, Kenya's economic cycles are directly influenced by our political activity and both the 10 year and mid 5 year cycles happen during an election year. 1997 the multiparty elections after which the Bretton Woods institutions called for Structural Adjustment Programmes leading to the creation of the "dream team" after the elections, 2007-8 post-election violence affecting many Kenyans through displacement, loss of property, life and livelihoods, leading to a change in the constitution. 2017-18 disputed elections again brought another economic disruption triggered by political activity ending with "a handshake" and another proposed change in the constitution. However I must point out, over the past 20 years our economy has bounced back from the shocks and continued to grow. On the other hand the Kenyan shilling over the past 20 years has continued to decline.

Despite the fact that the recovery period from political economic shocks being brief, some economist argue that consistent or periodic political disruptions are used by investors as a guide in regard to when to make investment and economic models factor-in political risk which has a direct influence on the expected return. Hence the flow of investments into and out of the country will also mirror the political

economic cycle of the country with an influence on the long and midterm investment decisions. Political stability plays a key role when it comes to DFI (Direct Foreign Investments). Also ongoing debates over the GDP Growth in the past seven years by some economists continue mostly concerning the impact of government spending and borrowing.

Government expenditure is part of the GDP equation ("G") the reasoning being, when governments spend they spur economic activity and whatever is spent has a multiplier effect. The infrastructure spending on the SGR railway increased our debt Burden with little economic impact, yet most of the spent funds went back to China, according to some economists. The SGR will have a long payback period and has left the country with a huge debt.

Which brings me to my next point. According to past trends 2017/18 was an economic shock and under

normal trends we should have started to experience a recovery from 2019/2020. However the trends show a slight recovery 2018 then a decline from 2019 which continued into 2020 and worsened by the pandemic. Regardless of the Covid-19, the economy was weak and remains weak and at some point the huge debt is expected to be problematic. The virus has certainly worsened Kenya's Economic situation.

KRA missed its revenue target by Kshs.350Bn for the last six months to June (The Standard Newspaper, July 18th 2020) signaling the corona effect through job cuts, reduced corporate earnings, a decline in business activities in addition to tax incentives introduced by the government to ease both the cost of living and cushion businesses.

The virus has given us an opportunity to critically look at the structure of our economy in regard to what drives business activity. Most affected was the food supply chain and distribution. The closure of Markets across the country during the pandemic period has exposed the



dependence on agriculture and the influence that Hotels, restaurants, food vendors, entertainment places and schools have on the industry.

Resilience and adoptive, these two traits will prove to be our greatest assets, no doubt we shall pull out of the current situation, it may take more than a year and with far reaching consequences in regard to how we work, produce, trade etc. “The New Normal.” The use of technology for zoom calls and conferences, school kids learning from home, online shopping for household goods and for some of the people who lost jobs have found new ones online. The use of technology by counties who see the opportunity will leapfrog ahead of the pack.

The world is in **“The Information Age”** and the gap between production and consumption is information. Service delivery, where no physical product is moved, the geographical location of the service provider is irrelevant. Take for instant, a call center in India attends to an

American client or using IT to provide consultancy or advisory services to clients operating in different parts of the world. The opportunity will be in Information Technology. It is estimated by 2035 over one billion people worldwide will be employed via the cloud according to “the Economist magazine”. Kenya sits at the vantage point. With fast internet connectivity and a high computer literacy combined with our ability to adopt and innovate, the opportunity is simply ours to loose.

In the IT world there is the talk of AI (Artificial Intelligence) Mapping. To perform certain functions the smart computers and robots will need to recognize objects. A data base is currently being developed by inputting millions of pictures and information into the cloud, these jobs have been outsourced.

Smart ideas like the laptop project and Konza city are examples of excellent ideas which should have been made reality. What Covid has done is to fast forward the IT revolution and as a country we must see the opportunities which it presents.



FA EMLYN NGWIRI,

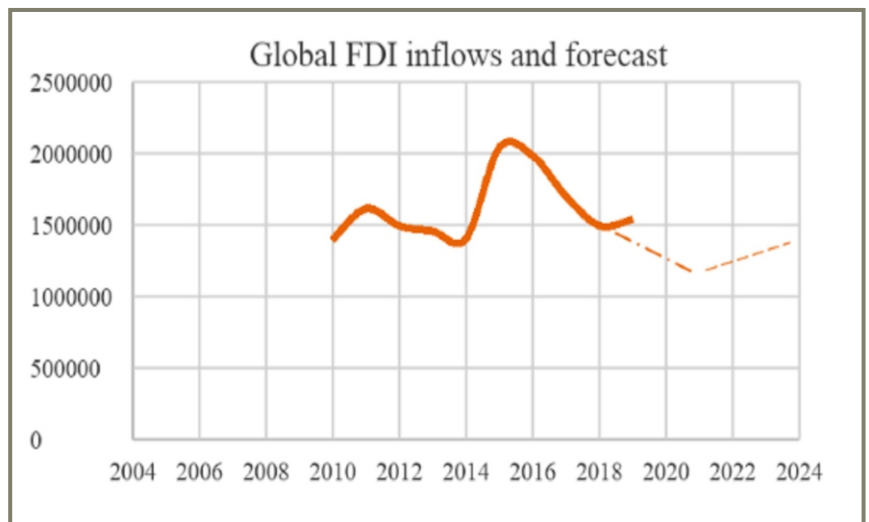
Fund Manager,
Amana Capital limited and
member of the Registration
Committee of the Institute

INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

According to the World Investment Report June 2020, the COVID-19 crisis has initiated a striking fall in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Global FDI flows reduced by 25 per cent in the first half of 2020, from their 2019 value of \$1.54 trillion. This implies that it would bring FDI below \$1 trillion for the first time since 2005. FDI is expected to decrease by an additional 5 to 10 per cent in 2021 and to begin a recovery in 2022. A hopeful rebound in 2022, with FDI returning to the pre-pandemic fundamental trend, is possible, but solitarily at the upper bound of prospects. The future stance obviously is highly uncertain.

INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT AND OUTLOOK

Forecasts depend on how long the health crisis will last and on the efficacy of policy interventions to lessen the economic effects of the disease. Geopolitical and monetary risks as well as persistent trade tensions following disruption of supply chains add to the doubt. The lockdown procedures (partial and full) are slowing down existing investment developments on a global scale.



Source: World Investment report

Some of the objects behind the outlook include:

1. Labour markets have been suggestively affected as a result of job losses, compulsory unpaid leave and/or reduced pay. According to the International Labour Organization, the global decline in work hours seen in Q2'2020 as compared to Q1'2020 was equivalent to the loss of nearly 180 million full-time jobs and it is probable to increase to 220 million permanent jobs in Q3'2020.
2. A reduction in global trade which can be connected to the reduced business activity in the global economy

3. Continued worsening of the pandemic in some economies despite flattening in others, which has led to more severe lockdowns, leading to even greater disruptions in business bustle than expected and
4. Limited mobility as travel restrictions, though tapering, may influence the flow of human capital which would then promote human and economic growth.

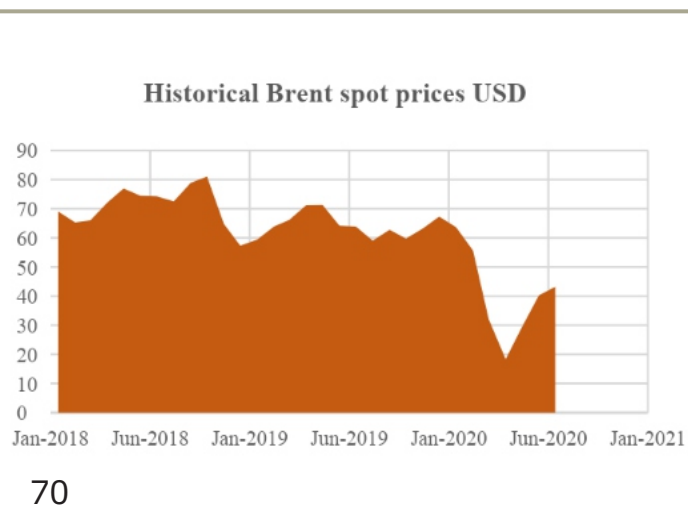
According to the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook update June 2020, Global fiscal deficits broadened suggestively and debt ratios are expected to rise over 2020–21 period. Major central banks presumed to uphold their current settings throughout the first half of 2020 and this will be expected to flow into 2021. Financial settings remained stationary for both developed and emerging market economies.

International Financial markets saw a historic flight to safety as the economic costs of extensive measures to contain COVID-19 became ostensible.

To contain financial stress, central banks vaccinated liquidity into financial markets through a blend of direct credit provision to large investment-grade firms, extension of the range of assets they accept as surety, and significant asset purchases—including of corporate debt in some countries. Disruptions in activity have influenced

cash flows and affected debt financing throughout the world. Spreads on high-yield debt rose substantially amid prevalent corporate bond downgrades, signifying investors may have become more skeptical about the ability of riskier borrowers to finance their debt.

Many emerging markets have also had significant pressures on their currencies, with reductions broadly associated with current account shortfalls/deficits.



Source: Thompson Reuters

According to the World Economic Outlook June 2020, average petroleum spot prices per barrel weakened from \$63 in January 2020 to \$40 per barrel of Brent crude oil, in June 2020.

Global trade ached a deep reduction this year of –10.9 percent, which echoed a significantly weaker demand for goods and services, as well as the services sector.

	Index 2015=100	Monthly change (%)	Annual Change (%)
Feb 2020	104.5	-8.6	-10.0
Mar 2020	83.2	-20.3	-29.2
April 2020	73.5	-11.7	-39.2
May 2020	81.1	10.3	-31.6

Source: UNCTAD commodity Index

The average price of commodities, as measured by the UNCTAD Commodity Price Index (UCPI), amplified by more than 10 per cent month-on-month for a second consecutive month. This brings the index to a level still about 20 percent underneath the level 12 months earlier. In June 2020, commodity prices lessened by 19.3 percent, year-on-year which was a worrying trend.

AFRICAN MARKETS

The African regional growth was low-slung in the first half of 2020 and is predicted to be suggestively lower with the World Bank in their Africa's pulse report reviewing the growth to a contraction of 5.1 percent in 2020 from a growth of 3.0 percent projected at the opening of the year.

The COVID-19 disease has harshly curtailed foreign investment in Africa in 2020, echoing the global trend. The slump was further intensified by the relatively erratic and low oil prices, since

the resource-oriented investment contour of the continent.

Tourist influxes were distorted in the first half of 2020 together with extensive international border closures and travel limitations. Developing economies that depend profoundly on tourism faced large deteriorations in services activity, particularly in hospitality, food, entertainment, and retail services.

In some nations across Africa, where transmittals are an important source of income, private consumption fell abruptly as migrant workers became unemployed as a result of the downturn in business activity in host countries. The drastic reduction in demand and prices for oil and industrial metals was a major gust for commodity exporters, as commodities contributed to more than 75 percent of exports in 2019/2020 financial year.

Extraction investment has dropped sharply, loss of revenues has forced some governments into procyclical fiscal contraction, and the deterioration in terms of trade has weighed on consumption, chiefly in regions with large numbers of commodity exporters.

Monetary and prudential policies were relaxed to provide support of economies and financial systems. In countries with policy space, monetary establishments cut policy rates belligerently, with cumulative reductions since end-2019 of as much as 275 basis points (bps) in

INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT AND OUTLOOK

South Africa, 250 bps in Namibia, 200 bps in Uganda, and 150 bps in Ghana. Many nations also presented facilities to inject fluidity into the banking system ranging from 0.5 percent of GDP in Angola to 2.4 percent of GDP in Nigeria and 3 percent of GDP in Zambia.

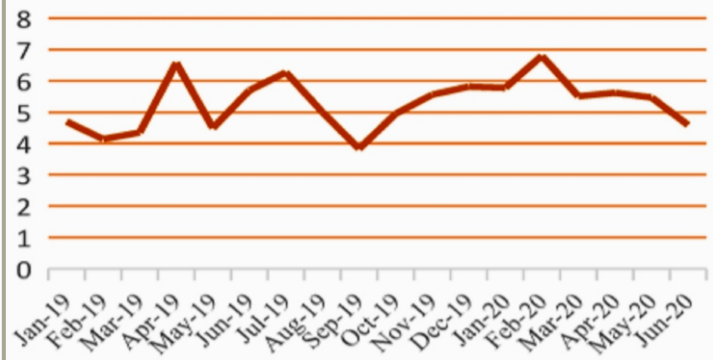
KENYAN MARKET

The macroeconomic setting in Kenya remained negative in the first half of 2020, as demonstrated by; slower economic growth, with Q1'2020 GDP growth coming in at 4.9 percent, and doubts about the impact brought about by COVID-19.

The Kenya Government has placed measures aimed at padding Kenyans from the hostile effects of COVID-19 including; the establishment of a National Coordination Committee on the Response to the Corona Virus Pandemic (NCCRCP) besides strengthening the health system which has aired setbacks as they try and contain the spread of the disease.

Proposals being well-thought-out by the Government to kindle the economy include; executing fiscal policies to enhance alliance of different levels of government and intervention actions to cushion government expenditure (limit expenditure to healthcare, agriculture and manufacturing sectors

in the short and medium term besides the service industry) as well as enhancing tax collection initiatives.



Source: KNBS

The Kenya Shilling denigrated by 5.1 percent against the US Dollar in H1'2020, to close at Kshs 106.5, from Kshs 101.3 at the end of December 2019, as a result of high dollar demand from foreigners influencing the market as they channel their funds to other expenses.



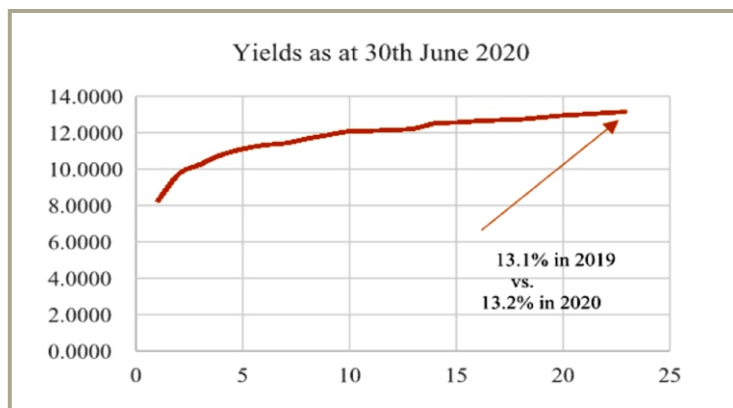
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Source: CBK

In H1'2020, the equities market remained on a downward trend, with NASI, NSE 20 and NSE 25 declining by

INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT AND OUTLOOK

17.3 percent, 26.8 percent and 21.5 percent, correspondingly. However, the equities turnover amplified by 5.0 percent to USD 808.8 mn from USD 770.2 mn in H1'2019.



Source: CBK

The Central bank of Kenya was robust to safeguard that rates remained low and consequently continued to cast-off affluent bids and this led to a drop in the yields on the short end of the yield curve. Yields on longer-dated papers witnessed some slight compression leading to a 1.0 percent decline in The FTSE bond index in the first half of 2020. The chart above is the yield curve movement during the period.

OUTLOOK

As a result of severe economic tensions caused by COVID-19, activity in Africa is likely to contract by roughly 2.8 percent in 2020 — the shrillest contraction on record and 5.8 percentage points weaker than previous forecasts as fronted in a report by Global Economic Prospects — a flagship project by the World Bank

Group. The fall in per capita GDP is destined to be even deeper, likely causing economies to fall into a severe recession.

According to the Regional Economic Outlook, Sub Saharan Africa is anticipated to contract by 3.2 percent in 2020, which was 1.6 percentage points deeper than anticipated in April. Linked to April 2020 projections, growth was downcast for 37 countries out of 45. In nominal terms, the regional GDP in 2020 would be approximately by \$243 billion smaller than expected in October 2019. The largest downward adjustments are for tourism-dependent economies such as Comoros and Mauritius (on average, nearly 5 percentage points).

Oil exporting countries saw their growth revised down by 2 percentage points, on average, and other commodity exporters by 1½ percentage points. For more differentiated economies (for example, Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda) growth was noticeably down by around 1½ percentage points but is still predicted to remain positive in 2020.

Real per capita GDP in is likely to contract by 5.4 percent in 2020, before recuperating by 1.1 percent in 2021. This is expected to bring the per capita GDP 7 percentage points below the level expected before the COVID-19 outbreak, in October 2019, and virtually back to its level in 2010.

Foreign Direct Investment predictions

INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT AND OUTLOOK

for Africa in 2020 endure negativity amid the pandemic, the economic impression of which is being compounded by tremendously low oil prices. UNCTAD's forecast of a 25-40 per cent reduction is based on GDP growth prognoses as well as a range of investment- specific influences. Projected GDP growth for the continent has already been downgraded from 3.2 percent to -2.8 per cent, and trade is also set to contract.

Due to the extensive economic uncertainty and restrictions in movement, many proclaimed and planned investment projects are expected to be either shelved or put on hold.

In East Africa, The IMF forecasts that growth will contract by 0.3 percent, a downgrade from the 1.0 percent growth projection in April 2020.



FA JOSPHAT MURIUKI

FA/00087

The economic challenges caused by the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) continue having a major impact on financial markets which in turn will have significant effects on pension savings. In particular, most of the retirement scheme assets are invested in liquid financial assets which have been negatively affected by the pandemic. Interestingly, the current policy responses by government through the regulator will need to strike a balance between the immediate protection of vulnerable groups and ensuring that our pension savings remain able to deliver expected investment income now and in the future as the population ages. I hence wish to focus on a number of important retirement saving policy questions since viral infection has already spread to

VACCINATING YOUR RETIREMENT SAVING DURING COVID-19 CRISIS

our retirement fund benefits: First, how can we reduce if not eliminate the impact of a sharp decline in returns on all asset classes? The level of impact differs according to the type of pension scheme; Segregated against guaranteed, Defined Benefits (DB) against Defined Contributions, Funded or Unfunded Schemes.

Declining investment returns have an immediate effect on defined contribution schemes. Investment returns also to a large extent lower the funding level of defined benefit schemes and considering the current regulations requiring 100% funding, DB Scheme funding compliance have been hardly hit. While the magnitude of the pandemic is expected to be higher, lessons from the 2008 financial crisis showed the importance of regulatory flexibility in times of market volatility such as allowing some flexibility in timing to purchase an annuity or allowing defined benefit schemes longer recovery times to rebuild their funding ratios. The importance of moving into more secure assets closer to retirement age, such a through life cycle funds, has been strengthened in the current situation. Currently very few schemes have an opportunity for their members to choose the mode of investments depending on their risk appetite which would have been a great option to manage risk for old age or about to retire during the pandemic. The earlier proposal to increase contributions for National Social Security Fund and introduction of Superannuation Scheme for civil servants would have reduce the impact of the crisis on pensioners, especially those in the lowest income brackets however this have taken ages to implement with enough hiccups/impediments.

Second, how do we support pensioners/retirees? The crisis has dramatically demonstrated that it's urgent to improve financial inclusion, especially for the elderly and persons with disabilities, who are the most vulnerable population groups. I always pondered on a number of questions; When does one require a medical cover more? Is it during employment (when they have enough disposable income) or during retirement when they are exposed to many old age diseases or dismal income stream? We are hence in agreement that any possible increases in health care needs and costs can be mitigated with temporary pension increases, either selectively targeted to those affected by COVID, or generalized to all pensioners but the same seem impossible with the current budget constraints, strained organization performance and dismal performance of investment.

The government can set a special fund which take care of pensioners contributions to NHIF which will smoothen their current pay while at the same time securing their medical cover. COVID-19 is also prompting Governments, Service Providers and

Retirement Schemes to rethink how they make payments to pensioners who make up the good number of social protection payment recipients in the countries. Waiving inter-bank fees and mobile money fees transfer fees for Pensioners are also options that can be utilized to enhance pay to pensioners' pocket.

Article 43 (3) of the National Constitution states that 'every person has the right to social security' and that 'the State shall provide appropriate social security to persons who are unable to support themselves and their dependants' and hence the government programs like Inua Jamii for Senior Citizens has also helped valuable members in the society who in the actual sense would not be receiving pensions or their amount is trivial to uplift them through regular and reliable bi-monthly cash transfers. Such programs and initiative should be enhanced during this period by increasing the coverage.

Third, should contributions remittance be maintained in the immediate term? The impact of the Covid pandemic on the economy, employment, and workers' pay is a primary concern to everyone. Given the unexpected economic implications of the pandemic, government is looking for measures that can provide immediate relief to businesses. Suspending or reducing



contributions to pension schemes from employees and/or employers can help reduce employment costs and provide an incentive to retain workers.

However, contribution holidays need to be done in combination with long term reforms to make pension schemes more robust and able to meet the needs of a growing aging population. The bracket application for contributions holidays due to the depressed economic times should be avoided and this should be applied on case to case basis. Approval for the holiday should be accompanied with remedial plan with clear guidelines on how the entity wishes to pay back the amount that have not been remitted. The application should also be optional for employees who would wish to continue with their deductions toward their retirement pot.

Fourth, should retirement savings be used to support younger workers? This question has been directed to me a number of times during the pandemic especially for employees who have lost their jobs during the period and in particular employees on unpaid leave. Whether to allow working age people to access their pension savings early is another policy choice facing regulators, but the major questions are “why do we call it retirement saving?”

“Are the younger generation retired after losing their jobs?” In most countries like ours, unemployment insurance programs are either small

or do not exist at all and scaling up would require significant government resources.

The temptation from governments with pension assets to borrow funds across programs and allow access to pension savings without tax penalties to cover short-term needs is an attempt that was earlier proposed by a number of retirement funds to treasury but seems to have lacked necessary backup or necessary policy framework. However, it should be recognized that pensions saving are a poor substitute for unemployment insurance, and withdrawals must be limited, time-bound, and only for emergency needs especially for employees who have lost their jobs permanently and access should be within the allowable limits otherwise delivering adequate incomes in retirement will be difficult.

The act of balancing payments today with tomorrow’s needs is a challenge when designing pension schemes at any time but especially in conditions like we’re experiencing today. To ensure our pension schemes provide the payouts needed to fund the retirement income of an aging population, we must ensure that their assets are preserved as much as possible and that they are invested in long-term, secure, and sustainable investments while taking into account broader concepts of risk, which have been growing with climate change and which the COVID-19 pandemic has displayed in force.

WHY REGULATION MATTERS

IN CONCLUSION

I was approached by a financial advisor of an investment company in Kenya that offers very good returns but the product is not regulated by the CMA. It is an innovative investment model and maybe CMA just needs time to catch up with them. If I invest, I could make some good money. **Should I invest?**

Dear X

Regulation within certain industries has always been a contentious issue. The idea of a government-appointed body dictating the actions of private firms rubs some people the wrong way. Usually, companies that offer unregulated products argue that regulations inhibit new and innovative ideas that may not operate within the rules but have the potential to solve problems in their respective industries.

Yet regulation, especially in the financial services industry, is crucial because abuse could result in tears for clients who have entrusted their capital to them. In the recent past, various financial service firms have been in legal tussles with their respective regulators over which guidelines apply to their products and which ones do not. While this controversy rages on, an important question has come up: does regulation hinder the growth of the financial services industry?

The short answer is, no.

Regulation exists to protect you. Regulators ensure that fund managers operate within set rules and regulations and prohibit actions that may endanger your assets. For example, the Capital Markets Authority (CMA), the entity in charge of overseeing investment products in Kenya, stipulates how much of a fund can be invested in a particular asset class, depending on the type of fund. This is done to prevent excessive risk taking by investment firms, and safeguard your interests. Regulation also prevents monopolies from abusing their power. If not for the CBK's intervention, who knows how much you would be charged to use mobile money services? Most importantly, regulators provide an avenue for you to seek redress in cases where company violates the terms of your agreement.

The presence of an unbiased third party provides a much-needed mediator for disagreements between companies and the users of their products. That said, let us return to the issue under contention; does regulation restrict innovation? Not necessarily. In fact, considering most organizations' aversion to change, regulation may actually spur innovation. Given the choice between maintaining the status quo and making changes that would disrupt their business and reduce profit margins, guess which one most firms would pick.

Companies are notorious for practices that maximize returns but sometimes hurt their users. Uber, for example, was recently ordered by California regulators to declare drivers as employees instead of independent contractors. This decision, might result in lower profits for the tech giant, but it ultimately safeguards the drivers from exploitation. Closer home, in June this year, the CBK extended its waiver of fees charged by banks and other financial institutions to transfer money to a mobile wallet and check balances. Banks will now be forced to innovate in order to maintain their profit margins.

Even so, the idea that regulation may slow down innovation is not entirely baseless. As technology redefines service delivery in the financial sector, areas that are not addressed in the existing framework become more apparent. While some might choose to go rogue and decry regulators' lack of coverage, a more productive approach would be to actually work with them to update the rules to cover such blind spots.

This is actually part of the regulators' mandate. A good example of this is the

CMA which, upon the behest of industry players, created a new trading category for Online Forex Money Manager to match the evolving times. Now, investors who want to access the global markets no longer need to gamble with their capital by leaving it in the hands of unlicensed, sometimes unscrupulous, parties. They can entrust it to licensed money managers. Mansa X by Standard Investment Bank is the first product to receive this license and as more firms satisfy the criteria set out by CMA, so will the sector flourish. Not only is working with the regulator good for investor confidence, it also creates growth in the industry.

As for your main question; should you invest in the unregulated product? That is a decision only you can make. Just be aware that if you do, there is much higher risk of losing your capital and no system to protect you if that happens.

Dr Pesa is

Dominic Mutinda

Head of Compliance at Standard Investment Bank

ICIFA 3RD ANNUAL CONFERENCE: 12TH - 13TH NOVEMBER 2020



3RD ANNUAL VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2020

Theme: Fostering Creativity and Innovation in the Investment and Finance Industry

20 CPDs

12th – 13th November 2020

OBJECTIVES

- To identify ways of fostering innovation in the Investment and Finance Industry;
- To discuss ways of promoting innovative financial inclusion in the investment industry;
- To discuss the evolving needs of (Individual; Institutional; and Foreign) Investors in a digital economy;
- To promote smart techniques in financial forecasting and analysis in the Investment Industry;
- To promote ethical practice, efficiency and productivity of Investment and Finance professionals.

SPEAKERS

 Mrs. Sheila M'Mbijjewe, MBS DEPUTY GOVERNOR CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA CHIEF GUEST	 Ms. Sylvia Mullinge CHIEF CUSTOMER OFFICER SAFARIDOM PLC SPECIAL GUEST	 FCPA Wycliffe M. Shamlah AG. CE CAPITAL MARKETS AUTHORITY (CMA)	 Mr. Nzomo Mutuku, MBS CEO, RETIREMENT BENEFITS AUTHORITY (RBA)	 FA Geoffrey Odundo CEO, NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE (NSE)	 Mr. Christopher Morris DIRECTOR OF AFRICA ADVISORY PARTNERS & ADVISOR TO AND MEMBER OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR SECURITIES AND INVESTMENT (CISI)
 Ms. Esther Ndeti EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, EAST AFRICA PRIVATE EQUITY AND VENTURE CAPITAL ASSOCIATION (EAVCA)	 Dr. Habil Olaka CEO, KENYA BANKERS ASSOCIATION (KBA)	 Mr. Willie Njoroge CEO, KENYA ASSOCIATION OF STOCK BROKERS AND INVESTMENT BANKS (KASIB)	 FA Kenneth Kaniu CEO, BRITAM ASSET MANAGERS	 Mr. Dhimant Shah CEO, CRAFT SILICON LIMITED	 CPA Dr. Maurice Pedro, PhD FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST/THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING/ PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

CHARGES

Charges for the Annual Conference are as provided below:
Associate Members Kshs. 10,000 | Full Members Kshs. 10,000 | Non-Members Kshs. 15,000

MODE OF PAYMENT

MPESA- Paybill 593226; Account number; Membership No. or I.D number for non-members.

Payment may also be made to the account;
NCBA BANK, Account Name: Institute of Certified Investment and Financial Analysts; Account Number: 1002054295

TARGET GROUPS

Professional & Regulatory Bodies; Chief Investment Officers; CEOs and CFOs; Chief Risk & Compliance Officers; Investment Bankers & Stock Brokers; Investment and Financial Analysts; Public Sector Entities; National & County Governments Policy Makers; Economists; Fund Managers; SACCOs; Investment clubs and groups; Private Equity Practitioners; Insurance & Pension Scheme Funds; Real Estate Practitioners

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Kindly register in advance for the conference on the link below:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_x4xJOQY_Qly8ZOrYSS

AUTHORITY TO PRACTICE AS A CERTIFIED INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL ANALYST

Section 20 & 21 of the Investment and Financial Analysts Act, No. 13 of 2015

- No person shall practice as a certified investment and financial analyst unless the person is registered as a certified investment and financial analyst and holds a practising certificate or an annual license from the Registration Committee that is in force.
- Any person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years or to both.

Definition of Practice

- A person practices as an investment and financial analyst for the purposes of the Act, if:
 1. Engages in the practice of investment and financial analysis or holds himself out to the public as a person entitled to do so;
 2. Offers to perform or performs services involving investment advice or financial decisions, investment transactions, books, accounts or records;
 3. Offers to perform or performs services involving the verification or certification of investments and related advice; or
 4. Engages in any practice, or performs or offers to perform any services, which may be prescribed.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
WWW.ICIFA.CO.KE**

QUARTER ROUND UP: ICIFA WEBINAR

IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE KENYAN FINANCIAL MARKETS: 14TH MAY 2020



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Inaugural Webinar Series

Part 1: Impact of Covid-19 on Kenya's Financial Markets



FA Rina Hicks - Moderator
Operations Director, Faida Investment Bank

PANELISTS:



FA Geoffrey Odundo
ICIFA Council Member & CEO, Nairobi Securities Exchange



FA Jonathan Stichbury
CEO, Sanlam Investments EA & Chairman, FMA



FA Poonam Vora
Co-founder, Maitri Capital



FA Neha Shah
Co-founder, Rafiki Ventures & Maitri Capital

KEY FINDINGS by Maitri Capital

- The 1st case of COVID-19 was declared in Kenya on 12th March 2020, one day after WHO declared it a pandemic.
- Kenya's real GDP growth projections for 2020 have been revised downwards from 6% to a range of 1% - 3%. This is still a positive growth, compared to a large number of countries in Africa, and globally, that have negative growth projections.¥
- Kenya's real GDP growth is expected to bounce back to 6% levels in 2021.
- Stanbic Bank Kenya PMI, which gives an overview of economic activity saw a sharp decline to 34.8% in April. This is the largest contraction in private sector activity since October 2017 (double-election in Kenya).
- To stimulate the economy, encourage more lending and cushion borrowers, on 23rd March, CBK lowered its lending rate to

7% and lowered the banks' cash reserve rate to 4.25%. Despite this, bank lending remaining tight in April as banks adjusted to additional business risks due to COVID-19. This led to an all-time high of KES 54bn (USD 0.5bn) in banks' cash reserves on 24th April. Lending has since increased following much needed pressure from National Treasury to lend.

- The Nairobi All Share Index (NASI) saw large two day consecutive falls of more than 5% on 12th March and 13th March, following the first COVID-19 case being declared. NSE had to halt trading to allow markets to absorb the news. Its lowest point was on 25th March, and has subsequently regained strength to 2019 levels.
- February and March 2020 saw a massive outflow of foreign investor capital totaling KES 11.7bn (USD 110m) from NASI. However, foreign investor trading on NASI has also been steadily declining to reach 60% of monthly turnover by March 2020, from highs of 82% in Jan 2019.
- Kenya's public debt / GDP ratio has been increasing from 50% in 2015 to reach 61% at the end of 2019. Moody's recently downgraded Kenya's B2 rating from stable to negative on the back of rising concerns of Kenya's ability to meet its debt obligations due to reduced earnings resulting from COVID-19.
- In the current financial year, the Government's target was to reduce the fiscal deficit by 1.4% to 6.3% of GDP (from highs of 7.7% in 2018/19. World Bank now expects this to be at 8% of GDP for 2020.
- 91 day and 182 day Treasury Bills did not seem to be affected by COVID-19, however the 365 days Treasury bill saw a decline in yields post 20th February, after the 1st African case was declared in Egypt. Trading volume also spiked on 12th March, when Kenya's first case was declared.
- Yields on Kenyan Eurobonds rose sharply around 12th March by 4% - 5% and

converged to a high between 10 – 11% on 19th March. Yields have subsequently fallen to 8 – 9% in May, however the spread between the different tenors is tighter than pre COVID-19 levels.

- Foreign exchange reserves stood at USD 8 billion (4.4 months of import cover) as at 27 March (IMF). The exchange rate will continue to be under pressure with the increase in debt to GDP ratio, affecting import costs and therefore inflation.
- KES has depreciated by 4.7% against the USD, and 1.1% against the EUR. It has slightly appreciated against the GBP. Volatility in the currency markets spiked in early March, and continue to have higher volatility then pre COVID-19.
- KES has appreciated sharply against the South African Rand, the Ugandan Shilling and Tanzanian shilling post March 2020. This is showing Kenya's resilience as an economy despite COVID-19.
- Oil prices closed at its lowest point in 18 years on 22nd April at \$12.22/bbl. on the back of a sharp fall in demand and rising oil inventories. Kenya is set to benefit from the low oil prices. Kenya's oil imports as percentage of GDP was estimated at 3.2% of GDP (Feb 2020, pre COVID-19), which is now expected to fall to 1.8% of GDP (as of April 2020). This will also help keep inflationary pressures low

Recommendations to maintain Stable Financial Markets

1. Increase issuances of corporate bonds on the NSE with clear rating scales provided, enhanced corporate governance and transparency structures. Companies that have good rating and strong fundamentals should be able to raise funds easily from the capital markets at cheaper rates than banks. NSE to encourage more listing of private firms on the equity market via tax incentives, reduced listing fees, more

education on the benefits of listing, working with accredited advisors; whilst also improve trading transparency and reducing insider trading through punitive penalties and disbarments.

3. NSE to encourage institutional share buybacks by listed equity firms to maintain liquidity in the market.
4. Encourage use of local institutional capital from pension funds and insurance companies to play a larger role in providing debt and equity capital to large and medium sized businesses - a role that is currently being played by private equity, venture capital firms and DFIs.
5. Central Bank to set up a defined and targeted bond and bills repurchase program to increase liquidity in the market.
6. Central Bank to increase FX reserves to maintain the KES strength (especially against the USD), and prevent sharp depreciation and also maintain inflationary pressures
7. The Public Debt Service Commission to restructure its offshore debt and commercial bank debt to relieve pressure on repayments and on the treasuries.
8. The formation of a COVID-19 Stimulus Fund, capitalized by Treasury and development partners e.g. DFIs that can be provided at a low cost to commercial banks (under strict monitored conditions) or directly to businesses. This provides the ability to cap interest rates charged and reduce requirement for collateral, whilst maintaining liquidity for businesses.
9. Usage of digitization and mobile options, at no or low cost, to increase access of information on financial markets and products, to the wider public in order to enable them to make informed decisions and have the ability to trade online.
10. Work with KRA, regulators and credit rating agencies regularly updating of any change within the sector or credit standing.

ARE GLOBAL RECESSIONS PREDICTABLE? LESSONS LEARNT FROM PAST RECESSIONS: 4TH JUNE 2020



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Are global recessions predictable? Lessons from past recessions

PANELISTS:



FA Diana Muriuki- Maina
Moderator
CEO, ICIFA



FA Einstein Kihanda
ICIFA Vice-Chairperson & CEO,
ICEA LION Asset Management



FA Eric Musau
Executive Director, Research
Standard Investment Bank



Mr. Socrates Majune
Economist

Financial Crisis/Recessions – Highlights by FA Eric Musau

Global

- i. 1929-32: The great depression
- ii. 1973: Supply-side shock recession (rise in oil prices)
- iii. 2007-9: Financial crisis – the great recession
- iv. 2020: Corona virus recession

Regional recessions

- i. Asian Financial Crisis
- ii. Eurozone sovereign debt crisis in 2011

Country specific recessions

- i. Japan asset bubble (1986-91)
- ii. dot.com stock market bubble

The Great Recession: (December 2007 - June 2009) by Socrates Majune

- The world had experienced relative economic stability (decline in macroeconomic volatility) between 1990s and 2007
- Between December 2007 and June 2009, a depression occurred
- This had not been predicted by existing models of Economics

The 07-09 Great Recession: Phases

- Collapse of the American sub-prime mortgage market in August 2007
- Collapse and rescue of the major US investment bank Bear Stearns in March 2008 which reduced interbank lending
- FED reacted in both cases by acting as a lenders of last resort

- Collapse and non-rescue of the investment bank Lehman Brothers
- (the fourth largest investment bank in USA) during the weekend of 13–14 September 2008
- Massive bank failure in USA, UK, Europe

The 2007-2009 Great Recession: Causes
Low interest rates

- Inadequate risk assessments by investors due to over-reliance on real estate
- Global imbalances
- Misperception of risk
- Lax financial regulation
- Large current deficits in the US, UK and other advanced economies

The 2007-2009 Great Recession: Monetary policy interventions

1. Interest rate reductions
2. Quantitative easing
3. Deposit guarantee schemes and other measures to protect the financial sector
4. Risk monitoring of financial institutions
5. Injection of massive amounts of credit into financial markets and nationalizing banks

The 2007-2009 Great Recession: Fiscal Policy Interventions

1. Overall tax and expenditure adjustments
2. Public investment in infrastructure
3. Increasing discretionary spending through fiscal stimulus package (targeting small and medium enterprise)

The 07-09 Great Recession: Other interventions

1. Export financing or tariff reduction
2. Unemployment benefits and raising minimum wages
3. Cash and in-kind transfer programmes

4. Unemployment benefits and raising minimum wages
5. Cash and in-kind transfer programmes and raising social expenditure
6. Training and re-training together with public employment services to increase employability

Key events in Kenya during the last financial crisis?

What happened?

- Stock market losses as foreign institutional investors sold Kenya assets (foreign investor ownership in the bourse has more than doubled over the period since then)
- High Inflation (the crisis coincided with high food prices)
- Kenya currency weakened

Economic Preparedness

- Kenya had a robust banking sector and had raised capital for the sector over time from KES 250m to KES 1Bn
- Little sophistication in the market with limited linkages in global markets (decoupled?)
- Kenya less reliant on commodities – especially oil (whose price tends to fall in recessions)
- Kenya government sold its stake in Safaricom just before the financial crisis (coincidentally)

Key Policy measures taken out then:

- Reduced the Central Bank Rate from 9.0% to 8.5% & the Cash Ratio Requirement ('CRR') for banks from 6.0% to 5.0%.
- The T-Bill application limit threshold from USD 12,500 to USD 1,250

Coronavirus recession – A focus on Kenya Preparedness

- Solid banking system
- Economy diversified and will benefit from lower oil prices
- Better food position
- Better FX position, volatility managed

Risks

- Key export sources especially horticulture, transport (especially air travel), tourism and remittances at significant risk. North America contributes over 50% of remittances to Kenya.
- Kenya had discovered oil, and had started factoring some component of growth from this resource
- Fiscal position generally worse off, although capacity to access global markets and tax ability has improved over the years

Policy measures

- Cash Reserve Ratio lowered from 5.25 to 4.25%;
- Central Bank Rate cut been

reduced by 125bps (from 8.25% to 7%). CBR was reduced by 50bps in November 2019 to 8.5% and 25bps in January 2020.

- Corporate tax & PAYE rate cut from 30% to 25% & VAT from 16% to 14% among other fiscal measures – The Pandemic Response & Management Bill (2020) in the Senate

Are global recessions predictable?

By Socrates Majune

- Uncertain but there are telltale signs.
- Is the problem endogenous (within the financial system) or exogenous (outside the financial system)?
- COVID-19 is exogenous to the global financial system.

INVESTMENT BASICS: WHAT TO CONSIDER BEFORE INVESTING - 11th JUNE 2020



2 Unstructured CPD

Investment Basics: What to consider before investing.



FA Diana Muriuki- Maina
Moderator
CEO, ICIFA



FA Elizabeth Irungu, CFA
GM, Business Devpt & Client Relations
ICEA LION Asset Management



FA Samuel Gichohi
Head of Business Development
NCBA Investment Bank Limited

TYPES OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Type of Investment	Description	Risk Type	Return Profile
Cash & Cash Equivalents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> bank deposits commercial papers, certificates of deposits, money market funds, Treasury Bills 	Short term Liquid in nature (1yr in maturity)	Low to moderate	Low to moderate returns
Treasury Bonds	Fixed Income instruments issued by governments with promised returns at specified times	Moderate	Moderate
Corporate Bonds	Fixed Income instruments issued by companies (corporates) as sources of capital with a promised return at specified times	Moderate to High Risk	moderate returns

TYPES OF INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Type of Investment	Description	Risk Type	Return Profile
Listed Equities	Shares or stocks of companies listed in a stock exchange like Nairobi Stock Exchange	Moderate to High Risk	Moderate to High
Unlisted or Private Equity Shares	Shares or stocks of companies NOT listed in a stock exchange like Nairobi Stock Exchange	High Risk	High Returns
Real Estate, Property, Infrastructure Assets	Investments in the real assets like Land, Buildings, Infrastructure like Bridges etc	Moderate to High Risk	Moderate to High
Collective Investment Schemes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Money Markets • Bond Funds • Equity Funds • Real Estate • Balanced Property etc. 	Pooled funds that aggregate investors with similar investment objectives and enjoy the economies of scale and professional fund management	ALL (Low – Highest depending on the CIS structure)	Low - High Returns
Alternative Assets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gold • Commodities • Crypto currency • Funds of Funds • Hedge Funds Asset Backed Securities etc. 	These are unique investments that focus on the non-traditional assets. The investment objectives are varied	Low to Very High Risk	Low to Very High Returns

Managing your Investment Portfolio

1. Consider all factors before Constructing or Rebalancing your portfolio. Refer to your personal investment profile.
2. Always maintain a diversified portfolio. This ensures your eggs are not in one basket.
3. Be objective in your decision making – use validated data to make your decision. Use a professional adviser.
4. Avoid panic decisions e.g. selling your equities due to fear or buying hurriedly in a market dip.

RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES: HAS COVID-19 REVEALED AFRICA'S FINANCIAL MARKETS POTENTIAL?

25TH JUNE 2020

CISI CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR SECURITIES & INVESTMENT

ICIFA INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

#ICIFA #cisiafrica cisi.org

Live panel discussion - Risks and opportunities:
Has Covid-19 revealed Africa's financial markets potential?

Keith Kalyegira
Chief Executive,
Securities Market
Regulator of Uganda

FCPA Wyckliffe M. Shamiah
Acting Chief Executive,
Capital Markets Authority
Kenya

FA Rebecca Tiba
General Manager, Madison
Investment Managers, &
Vice Chair, Fund Managers
Association Kenya

FA Job Kihumba
Immediate Former Chairman,
ICIFA, & Executive Director of
Corporate Finance, Standard
Investment Bank Kenya

ICIFA VIRTUAL 5TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

25TH JUNE 2020

ICIFA INSTITUTE OF CERTIFIED INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

5TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
26 June 2020,

Due to the global outbreak of COVID-19, the Institute was not able to hold a physical annual general meeting as is the norm. The need for self-isolation and social distancing meant that it is no longer possible to hold a live event or gather in large groups. The Institute therefore resolved to hold a virtual annual general meeting that was held on June 26th 2020

from 11.00 am.

According to section 8 of the By-laws of the Institute, the method of voting has been defined as being either manual ballot system or electronic ballot or as may be determined by the Council. Given the guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health, the Institute conducted Council elections by electronic voting.

RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES IN THE INVESTMENT INDUSTRY DURING A POTENTIAL RECESSION

25TH JUNE 2020



ZOOM WEBINAR:

Risk management strategies in the investment industry during a potential recession

PANELISTS:



FA Leah Nyambura
ICIFA Council Member & Director, Dyer and Blair



FA Kenneth Kaniu
Chief Executive Officer
Britam Asset Managers



FA Steve Biko
Chief Investment Officer
GenAfrica Asset Managers



FA Karumba Kinyua
Managing Director
Pinehill Consulting

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MODERATOR:



FA Eleanor Kigen, CFA
Senior Analyst, GCR Ratings

How Strategies in Risk Management can be useful in times of economic shock –by FA Karumba Kinyua

1. Independent Risk Management Function

The Risk Management function has to be separated from daily operations. In this sense, the industry counts on a Risks Management Unit, with its own Head of

Department reporting directly to the Executive Board. Such Unit is responsible for risk admission and monitoring processes and acts on an autonomous way and thinking wide.

2. Heavily Involved Executive Board

The Senior Management, is aware of the importance of Risk Management and thus, inspires such culture and principles to the rest of the organization.

3. Risk assessment tools and systems

Having the right technology allows the analyzing and measuring of risks at an acceptable confidence level.

4. Integrated Risk Control and Management

Risk must be identified, quantified and homogeneously managed according to a common magnitude (economic capital). The Industry should tackle such risk control and management activities in an integrated way across the whole corporate structure:

- Every risk in each Business line at all geographic markets

5. Sustainable Risk Quality

Application of proprietary risk scoring methods to evaluate the risk of customers and operations. Ensuring that the Industry does not incur risk over a pre-defined threshold, guarantees the sustainable development of its business.

6. Objective Decisions

Decisions taken must be objective, taking into account contrast of opinions and avoiding decision making being exclusively restricted to an individual. The Industry pursues man-community decisions over credit operations both in the sales and risk areas.

Challenges experienced in the Investment Industry so far in light of the pandemic

1. Highly Leveraged Companies

- Companies are struggling to make their debt payments & are also faced with a decrease in revenue brought about by the pandemic.
- There is a likelihood of bankruptcy (or at the very least) a precipitous drop in shareholder value) for such companies.

2. Cyclical Stocks

Consumers have less discretionary income to spend on non-essential or luxury items. They reduce spending on things like travel, restaurants, and leisure services. Because of this, cyclical stocks in these industries tend to suffer, making them less attractive investments for investors during a pandemic.

3. Taxes

- New types of taxes can threaten a business' profits.
- When a government introduces new taxes/regulations, it can negatively impact a business' financial performance.

4. Job losses

Job losses are set to exceed predictions of 25 million worldwide= Low spending power.

5. Decline in domestic demand

There are slowdowns in manufacturing output in many countries, reflecting drops in external demand and growing expectations of declining domestic demand.

6. Roadblocks in cost reduction

Companies have been pursuing strategies to achieve sustainable cost efficiency. However, several factors including declining revenues, excessive costs, and developments in digital and regulatory pressure have increased challenges making it incredibly difficult to achieve cost reductions.

FA EINSTEIN KIHANDA RE-ELECTED AS ICIFA VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2020/2021

FA EINSTEIN KIHANDA RE-ELECTED AS ICIFA VICE CHAIRMAN



We are pleased to inform you that at the Council meeting held on 30th June 2020, the Council re-elected FA Einstein Kihanda as the Vice Chairman of ICIFA for the year 2020/2021.

FA Einstein Kihanda is the Chief Executive Officer of ICEA LION Asset Management (ILAM). He has more than 20 years of experience in investment analysis and management, developing a diverse range of technical and leadership skills within the investment industry. The pillars of his career have been professionalism, integrity, ethics, dedication, diligence, commitment and consistent focus on the client. FA Kihanda holds an MSc Finance from the University of Strathclyde, Scotland and MSc Management and Organizational Development from USIU. He also currently serves as Chairman, Stakeholders Committee of the Fund Managers Association (FMA) as well as a member of the Trade, Technology and Innovations Committee of the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE).

On behalf of the Council, I thank FA Einstein for his dedication in the investment and finance industry and congratulate him on his re-election as the ICIFA Vice Chairman .

FA Dr. Jonah Aiyabei
Chairman, ICIFA



DEALING WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES DURING A PANDEMIC



Nancy Kabiru
Founder & Lead Psychologist,
Hisia Psychology Consultants



Victor Omollo
Career & Leadership Coach, Trainer
The Peculiar People

DEALING WITH MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES DURING A PANDEMIC

11TH JULY 2020

Best practices in addressing Mental Health issues - By **Ms. Nancy Kabiru**

Self-Awareness

- Self-Care (Enough Sleep, Exercise, Balanced Diet)
- Self-Disclose
- Do not stigmatize those with Mental Illness
- Exercise equality between physical health and Mental Health
- Educate self about Mental Illnesses
- Choose empowerment over shame
- Seek professional help
- Have regular Mental Health checkups

Mental Health support in response to a pandemic

1. Survivors

- Check Symptoms of depression
- Trauma and PTSD assessment
- Give special attention to those with pre-existing Mental Illnesses
- Prepare them psychologically for things like stigmatization

2. Family and Friends

- Psycho education on self-care and dealing with stigma
- Loss and grief counseling for the bereaved
- Assessing and managing anxiety Stress management

RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES IN THE INVESTMENT INDUSTRY DURING A POTENTIAL RECESSION

25TH JUNE 2020

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Kenya's Debt Sustainability Analysis



FA George Bodo
Director, Callstreet Research and Analytics



Josphat Machagua
Economic Researcher/Consultant

Public Debt in Kenya

The National Debt Statistics, National Treasury (May, 2020)

- Nominal public and publicly guaranteed debt Ksh 6.65 trillion (equivalent to 65.21 percent of GDP).
- Domestic debt -Ksh. 3.15 trillion (30.92% of GDP).
- External debt -Ksh 3.5 trillion (34.29% of GDP).
- As a share of total debt, domestic and external debt accounted for 47.42 percent, and 52.58 percent of total debt respectively.
- Kenya's public debt is denominated in five major currencies namely the USD, Euro, Yen, Yuan, and Sterling Pound. Movements in exchange rates have implications on both the size of the external debt stock and the cost of external debt service.

Size of Public and Publicly Guaranteed External Debt

External debt -Ksh 3.5 trillion

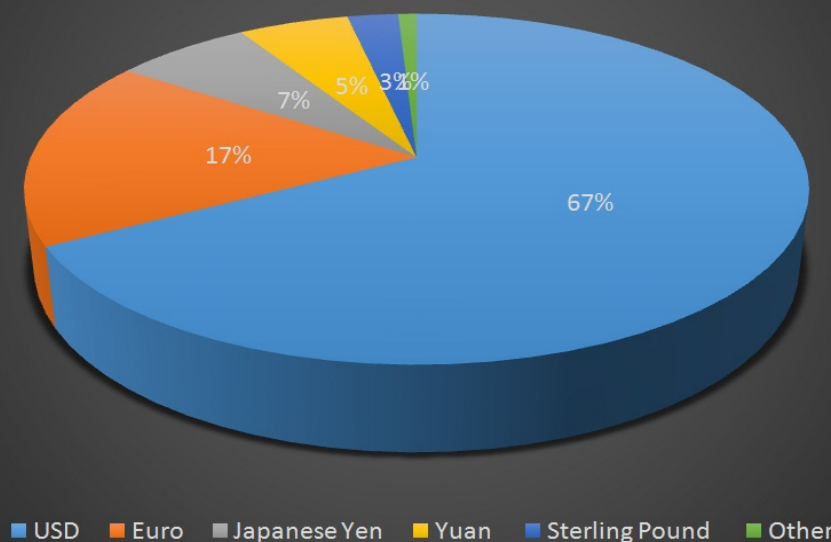
Out of which;

1. Debt owed to bilateral creditors-ksh 1.09 trillion
2. Multilateral Debt- Ksh 1.27 trillion.
3. Commercial debt-Ksh 1.13 trillion.

Currency composition of external debt

- USD - 67.0 % (ksh2.345 trillion).
- Euro - 17.5 % (ksh 612 billion)
- Japanese Yen-6.7% (ksh 234.5 billion)
- Yuan- 5.4% (ksh. 189 billion)
- Sterling Pound-2.5% (ksh 87.5 billion)
- Other-0.9% (ksh 31.5 billion)

Currency composition of external debt



Drivers of debt accumulation

- Debt retirement and service.
- Infrastructure Development.
- Decreasing revenues as a share of GDP.
- Provision of basic necessities (Universal healthcare, Universal Housing and education).
- Global economic recession as a result

of shocks i.e. oil supply shocks, COVID-19 (in order to stimulate the economy).

- Global conflicts/wars.
- Exponential increment in recurrent expenditure.
- Tax evasion, transfer pricing and profit shifting which leads to loss in tax revenues.

INCLUSIVE FINTECH IN THE INVESTMENT AND FINANCE INDUSTRY - 6TH AUGUST 2020



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MODERATOR:



FA Catherine Theuri
ICIFA Council Member

ZOOM WEBINAR:

Inclusive Fintech in the Investment and Finance Industry

PANELISTS:



FA Geoffrey Gangla
Chief Executive Officer
Genghis Capital



FA Nickay Wangunyu
Executive Director
Standard Investment Bank



Dhimant Shah
Chief Executive Officer
Craft Silicon Limited



Robert Ochieng
Digital Transformation
Champion

LAUNCH OF ICIFA ONLINE TRAINING PORTAL



Enhance your professional skills through the ICIFA training portal.



Each training module qualifies for 2 CPD and an e-certificate upon successful completion of a five (5) multiple choice test. The time to complete each module is

estimated at up to 2 hours. The rates per module are as follows: Ksh. 1,500 for members and Ksh. 2,000 for non-members



Past webinars are also available and qualify for 1 CPD per webinar. One requires to watch the full video and view the slides to earn CPD points. The time to complete the webinars is estimated at 75 minutes.

The webinars do not include a test or e-certificate. The rates to access the past webinars are as follows: Ksh.750 for members and Ksh. 1,125 for non-members.

EFFECTS OF CORRUPTION/FINANCIAL CRIMES ON THE GROWTH OF KENYA'S ECONOMY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2020



2 Structured CPD

ZOOM WEBINAR:

Effects of Corruption/Financial Crimes on the growth of Kenya's economy

PANELISTS:



Mr. Jackson Mue
Ag. Director, Field Services
Directorate
EACC



FA Job Kihumba
Executive Director
Standard Investment Bank



Ms. Mugure Shikali
Leadership and Governance
Consultant



Mr. Gilbert Ouko
Director, Financial Crime
Compliance
Flywheel Advisory

The objectives of the webinar were:

- a. To identify conditions in which corruption thrives;
- b. To discuss how corruption inhibits sustainable economic growth;
- c. To understand the role of financial technology in addressing corruption;
- d. To discuss the importance of strong institutions and accountability in fighting corruption;
- e. To promote ethical practice of Investment and Finance professionals.

WEBINAR CPD CALENDAR OCTOBER 2020 DECEMBER 2020

TOPIC	DATE	CPD	CHARGES
Investment options in Kenya: Current trends and future outlook	8th October 2020	2	1,000
ESG strategies as a portfolio resiliency tool (ICIFA-CISI Joint Webinar)	16th October 2020	1	Free unstructured
Alternative investments: Are they the better option?	5th November 2020	2	1,000
Communication skills for investment and finance professionals	3rd December 2020	2	1,000

FINANCIAL ANALYSTS

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