News Release

Purchasing Managers' Index™
MARKET SENSITIVE INFORMATION
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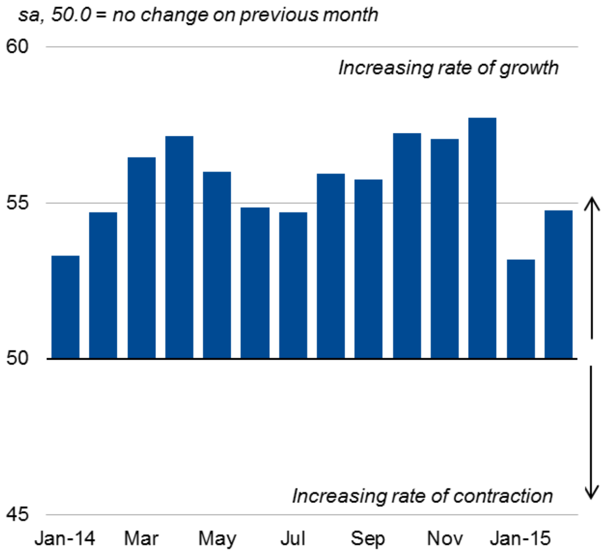
CfC Stanbic Bank Kenya PMI™

Growth of Kenyan private sector accelerates in February

Data collected 12-25 February

- Headline PMI picks up from survey-record low
- Output, new orders and employment all rise at sharper rates
- Input prices increase moderately, reversing January's reduction

CfC Stanbic Bank Kenya PMI



Sources: CfC Stanbic Bank, Markit

This report contains the first public release of data collected from the new monthly survey of business conditions in the Kenyan private sector. The survey, sponsored by CfC Stanbic Bank and produced by Markit, has been conducted since January 2014 and provides an early indication of operating conditions in Kenya. The headline figure derived from the survey is the Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI™).

The PMI is a composite index, calculated as a weighted average of five individual sub-components: New Orders (30%), Output (25%), Employment (20%), Suppliers' Delivery Times (15%) and Stocks of Purchases (10%). Readings above 50.0 signal an improvement in business conditions on the previous month, while readings below 50.0 show a deterioration.

The seasonally adjusted PMI remained above the neutral 50.0 threshold in February, signalling a further improvement in Kenyan private sector operating conditions. Moreover, at 54.8, the latest reading was indicative of a solid expansion, rising from the survey-record low of 53.2 that was seen in January.

Commenting on February's survey findings, Jibran Qureishi, Economist at CfC Stanbic Bank said:

"The PMI index recovered in February after a slower pace of growth recorded last month, primarily driven by rises in output and new orders. Interestingly, the PMI seems to have lost the solid momentum witnessed towards the end of last year, although we suspect this is transitory. The decline in international oil prices and power tariffs as a result of the geothermal component being added to the national grid should lower costs for most firms in Kenya and will probably lead to higher output in the coming months. Confidence within the Kenyan private sector remains high and should continue to bode well for business conditions."

The main findings of the February survey were as follows:

Kenyan private sector output increased at a faster rate in February, mirroring the overall improvement in business conditions. Furthermore, the pace at which output rose was broadly in line with the series average. Anecdotal evidence linked growth to stronger order books and commercial initiatives.

Amid reports of solid demand conditions, incoming new work also rose more quickly. The rate of expansion was marked overall, helped by a healthy customer turnout. Likewise, growth of new export business picked up since

January. In fact, the latest increase was the most marked in 14 months of data collection.

Companies continued to hire staff in response to increased production requirements in February. The rate of job creation accelerated in line with output and new orders, having eased to the weakest in the survey's history at the start of 2015.

Sharper expansions in output and new work intakes also led to ongoing growth of purchasing activity during February. Input buying rose at a faster pace, contrasting with the weakest increase in pre-production inventories since the survey began in January 2014.

A further by-product of higher new work inflows was a return to growth for backlogs of work. However, the level of outstanding business rose only fractionally during the month.

Meanwhile, total input prices increased at a moderate pace in February, reversing the trend observed in the previous month. Latest data signalled that the overall increase was driven by modest rises in both purchase prices and staff costs during the month. Subsequently, prices charged by Kenyan private sector firms rose in February, albeit at a historically muted pace.

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Note to Editors:

The CfC Stanbic Bank Kenya Purchasing Managers' Index™ is based on data compiled from monthly replies to questionnaires sent to purchasing executives in approximately 400 private sector companies, which have been carefully selected to accurately represent the true structure of the Kenyan economy, including agriculture, mining, manufacturing, services, construction and retail. The panel is stratified by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) group, based on industry contribution to GDP. Survey responses reflect the change, if any, in the current month compared to the previous month based on data collected mid-month. For each of the indicators the 'Report' shows the percentage reporting each response, the net difference between the number of higher/better responses and lower/worse responses, and the 'diffusion' index. This index is the sum of the positive responses plus a half of those responding 'the same'.

The Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI™) is a composite index based on five of the individual indexes with the following weights: New Orders - 0.3, Output - 0.25, Employment - 0.2, Suppliers' Delivery Times - 0.15, Stock of Items Purchased - 0.1, with the Delivery Times index inverted so that it moves in a comparable direction.

Diffusion indexes have the properties of leading indicators and are convenient summary measures showing the prevailing direction of change. An index reading above 50 indicates an overall increase in that variable, below 50 an overall decrease.

Markit do not revise underlying survey data after first publication, but seasonal adjustment factors may be revised from time to time as appropriate which will affect the seasonally adjusted data series. Historical data relating to the underlying (unadjusted) numbers, first published seasonally adjusted series and subsequently revised data are available to subscribers from Markit. Please contact economics@markit.com.

CfC Stanbic Bank:

CfC Stanbic Bank is part of the Standard Bank Group, Africa's largest bank by assets.

Standard Bank Group had total assets of R1 694 billion (about USD162 billion) at 31 December 2013, while its market capitalisation was R209.4 billion (about USD20 billion).

The group has direct, on-the-ground representation in 20 African countries. Standard Bank Group has almost 560 branches and 1 223 ATMs in Africa, making it one of the largest banking networks on the continent. It provides global connections backed by deep insights into the countries where it operates. In Kenya, it has a network of 24 branches.

CfC Stanbic Bank provides the full spectrum of financial services. It's Corporate and Investment Banking division serves a wide range of requirements for banking, finance, trading, investment, risk management and advisory services. Corporate and Investment Banking delivers this comprehensive range of products and services relating to: investment banking; global markets; and global transactional products and services.

CfC Stanbic Bank's corporate and investment banking expertise is focused on industry sectors that are most relevant to emerging markets. It has strong offerings in mining and metals; oil, gas and renewables; power and infrastructure; agribusiness; telecommunications and media; and financial institutions.

The bank's personal and business banking unit offers banking and other financial services to individuals and small-to-medium enterprises. This unit serves the increasing need among Africa's small business and individual customers for banking products that can meet their shifting expectations and growing wealth.

CfC Stanbic Bank is listed on the Nairobi Stock Exchange (NSE).

For further information log on to www.cfcstanbicbank.co.ke

About Markit

Markit is a leading global diversified provider of financial information services. We provide products that enhance transparency, reduce risk and improve operational efficiency. Our customers include banks, hedge funds, asset managers, central banks, regulators, auditors, fund administrators and insurance companies. Founded in 2003, we employ over 3,000 people in 10 countries. Markit shares are listed on NASDAQ under the symbol "MRKT". For more information, please see www.markit.com.

About PMI

Purchasing Managers' Index® (PMI®) surveys are now available for 32 countries and also for key regions including the Eurozone. They are the most closely-watched business surveys in the world, favoured by central banks, financial markets and business decision makers for their ability to provide up-to-date, accurate and often unique monthly indicators of economic trends. To learn more go to www.markit.com/economics.