

## COMMODITY MARKET PRICE BULLETIN

### KEY MESSAGES

- Food and non-alcoholic beverages inflation has increased in May 2015 by 3.8 percent compared to last year<sup>1</sup>.
- In most main markets, staple prices in May have generally increased compared to their respective five-year averages.
- Beans have exhibited a more significant price rise compared to long term average.

### COMMODITY PRICE DYNAMICS IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS

Compared to the five-year averages, Beans (figure 1), Banana, Irish potatoes and Cassava flour prices increased in most key markets, however, Maize prices showed a visibly variable trend. Beans are subject to price increases mainly due to reduced markets supply during lean season, households' stock depletion and rise in markets reliance. In addition, Beans are the main pulses, protein sources for most households and basically have very limited substitutes compared to starchy commodities.

Banana and cassava prices are less subject to seasonality since they are perennial; nonetheless, the upward trend in comparison with the long term average is mostly attributed to imbalance in demand and supply.

---

<sup>1</sup> National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR), <http://www.statistics.gov.rw/publications/consumer-price-index-cpi-may-2015>

## Rwanda-June 2015

Compared to last year, increase of more than 10 percent was observed in 37 percent of key markets for beans, 7 percent for Banana, 22 percent for Maize, 15 percent for Cassava flour, about 25 percent for Maize flour (local) and 4 percent for Irish potatoes.

In comparison with last month, price rise of more than 10 percent was in 41 percent of key markets for beans, 7 percent for Banana, 41 percent for Maize, 15 percent for Cassava flour and 4 percent for Irish potatoes.

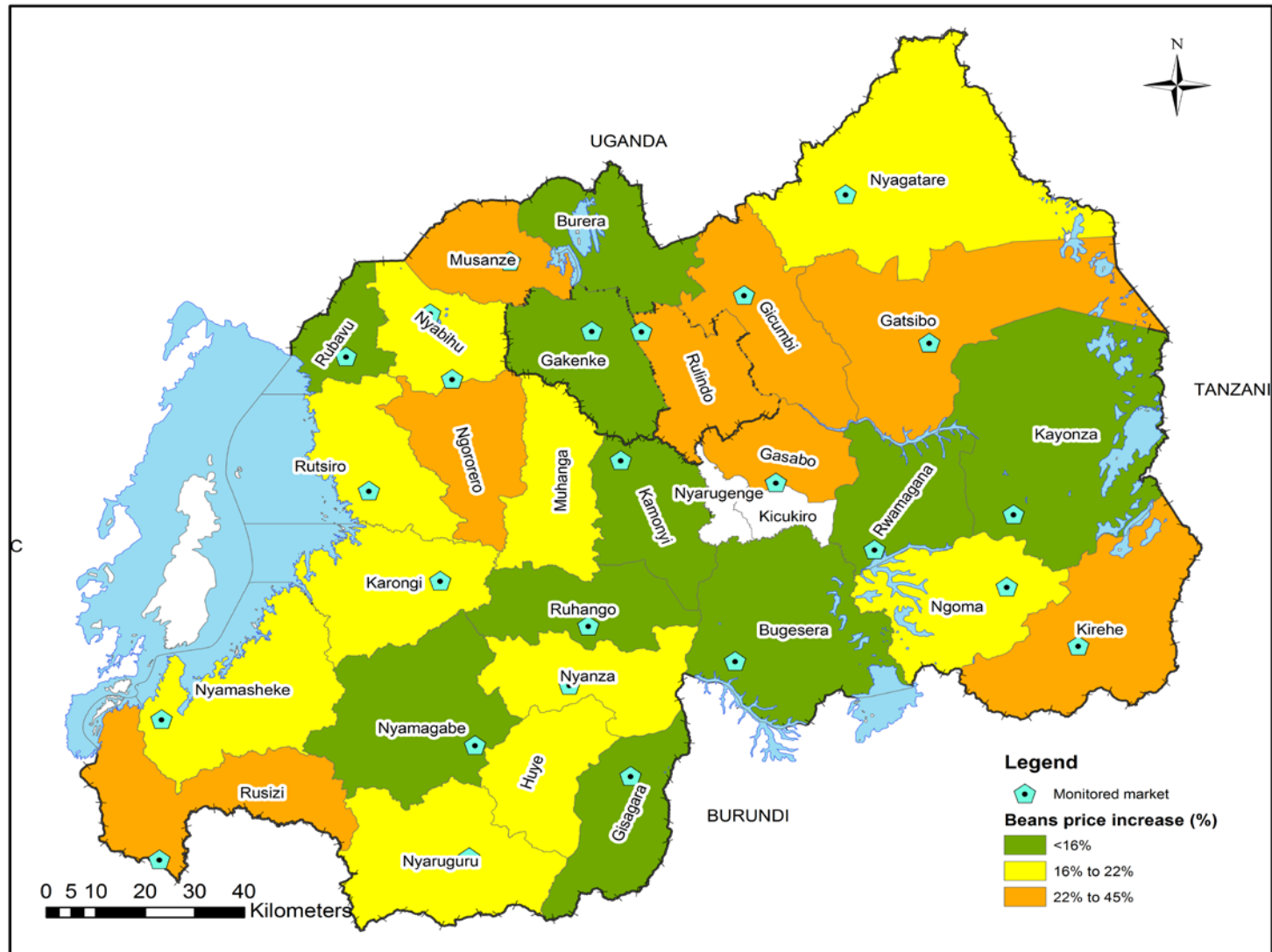
Although Irish potato prices show a general upward trend compared to long term average, they were seasonably lower in May compared to April, as a result of ongoing harvests and subsequent enhanced market supply.

Maize price trends were significantly variable, however, localized areas experienced lower prices; most likely attributable to season 2015 A which relatively performed well.

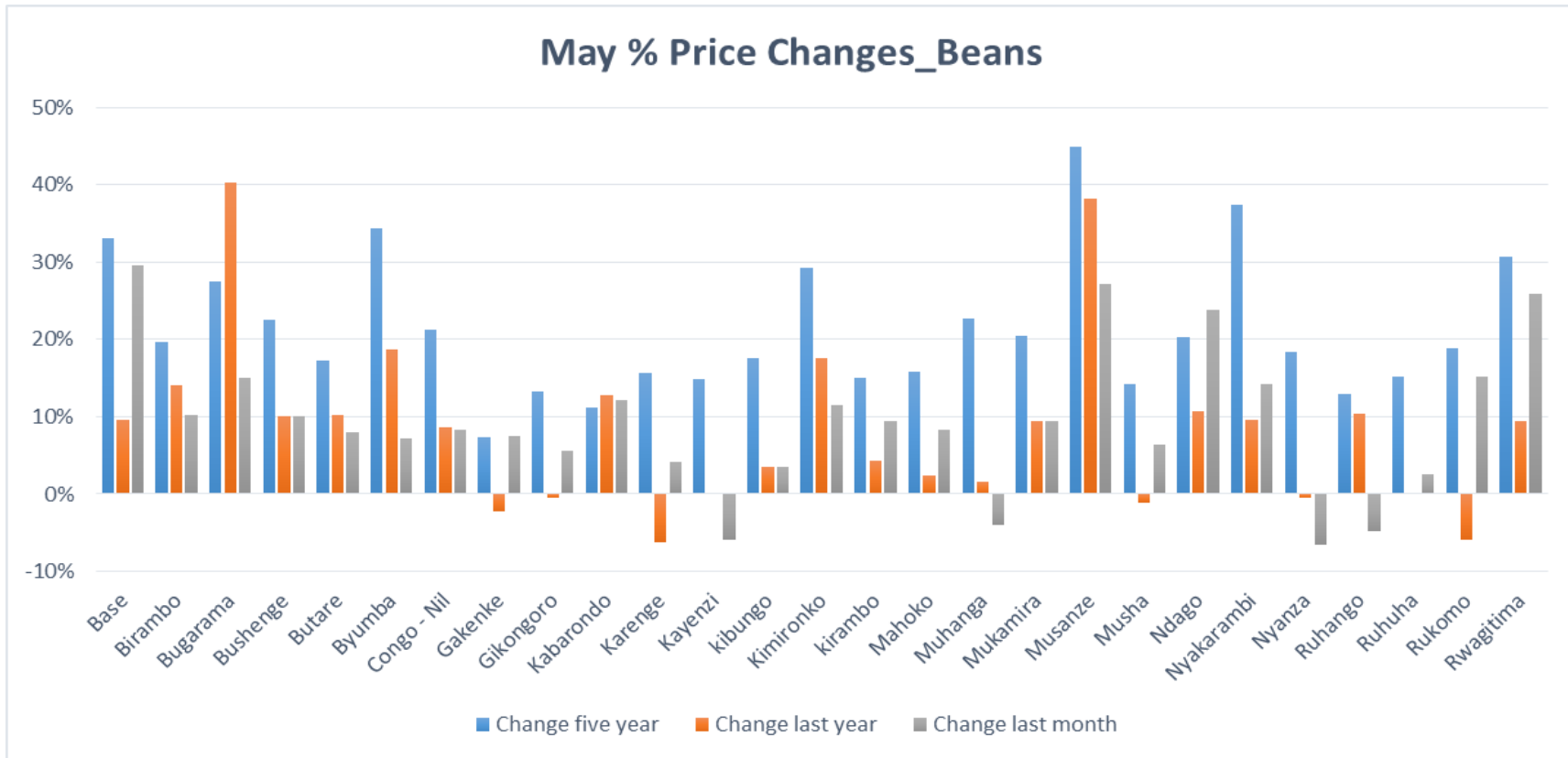
Rwanda-June 2015

Figure 1. Bean Price % increase\_ May 15 vs 5 year average

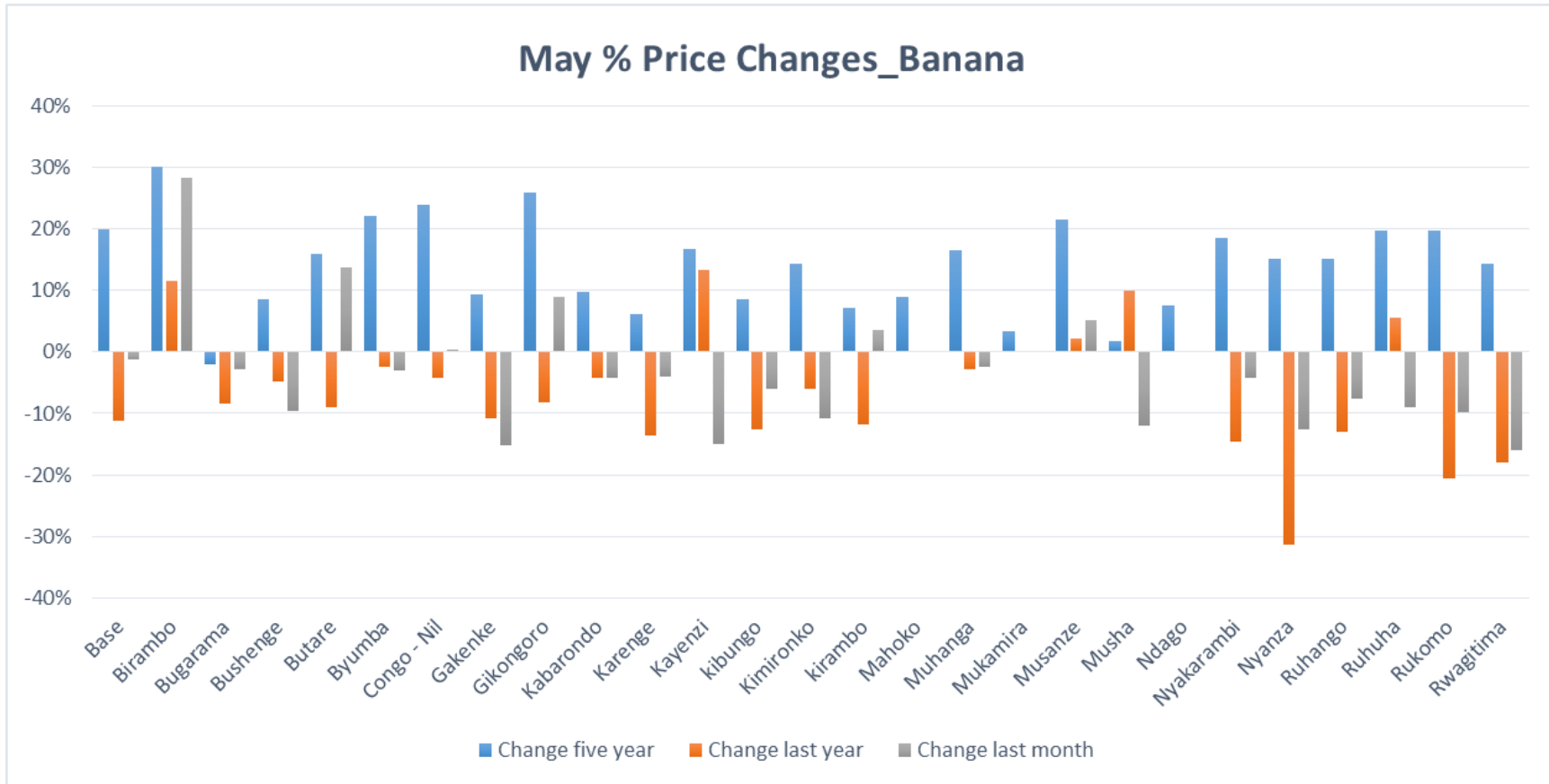
# Rwanda-June 2015

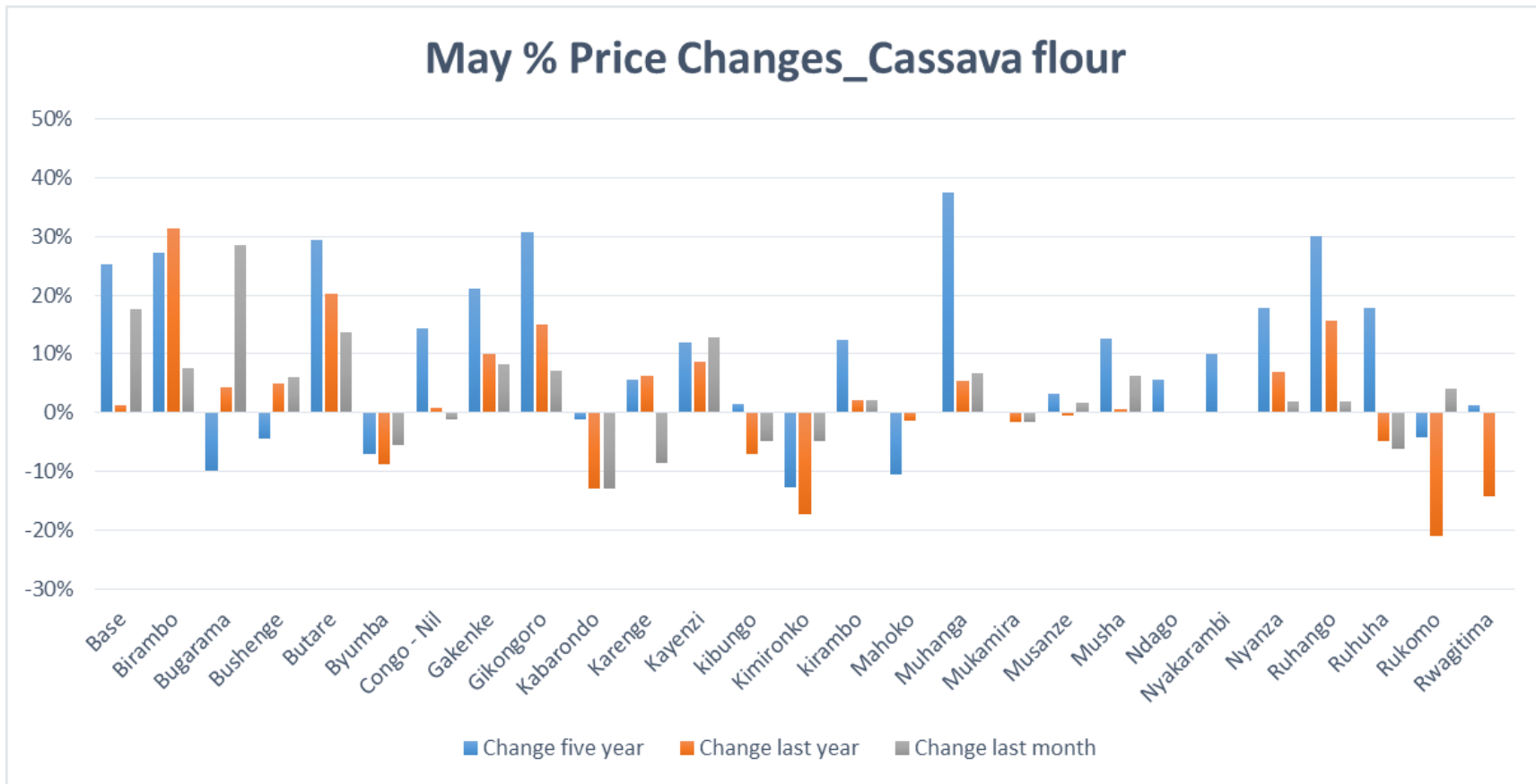


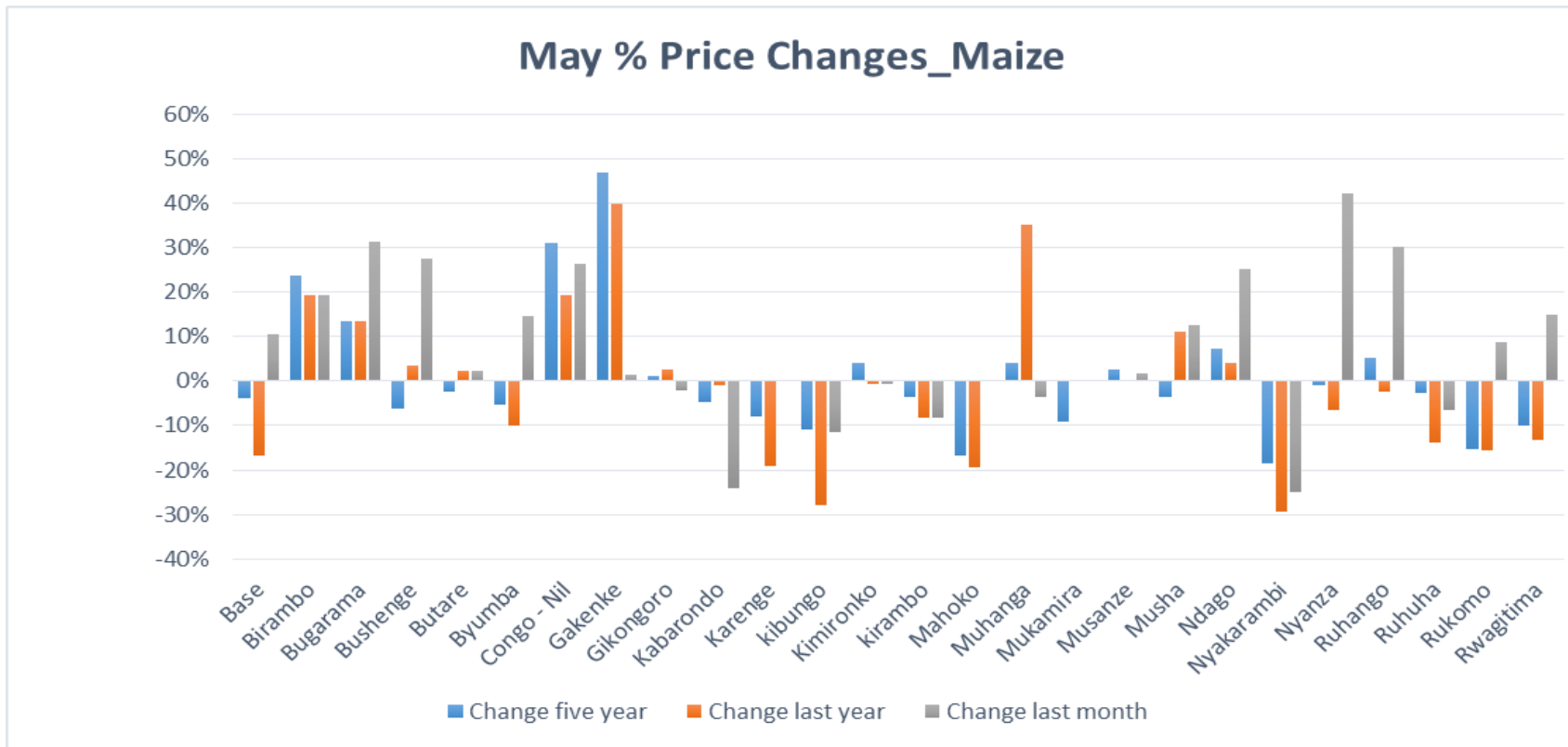
Price graphs



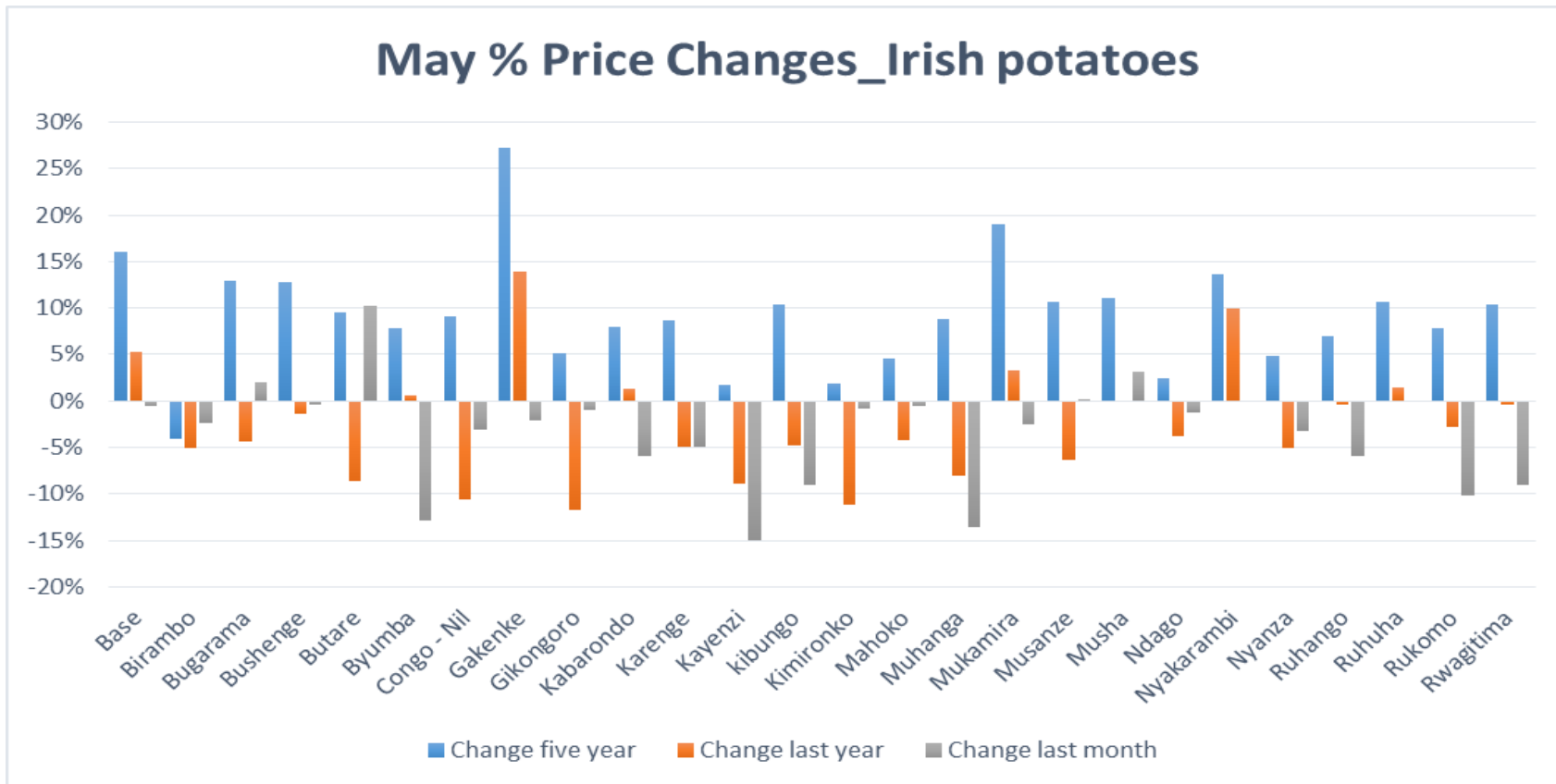
Rwanda-June 2015

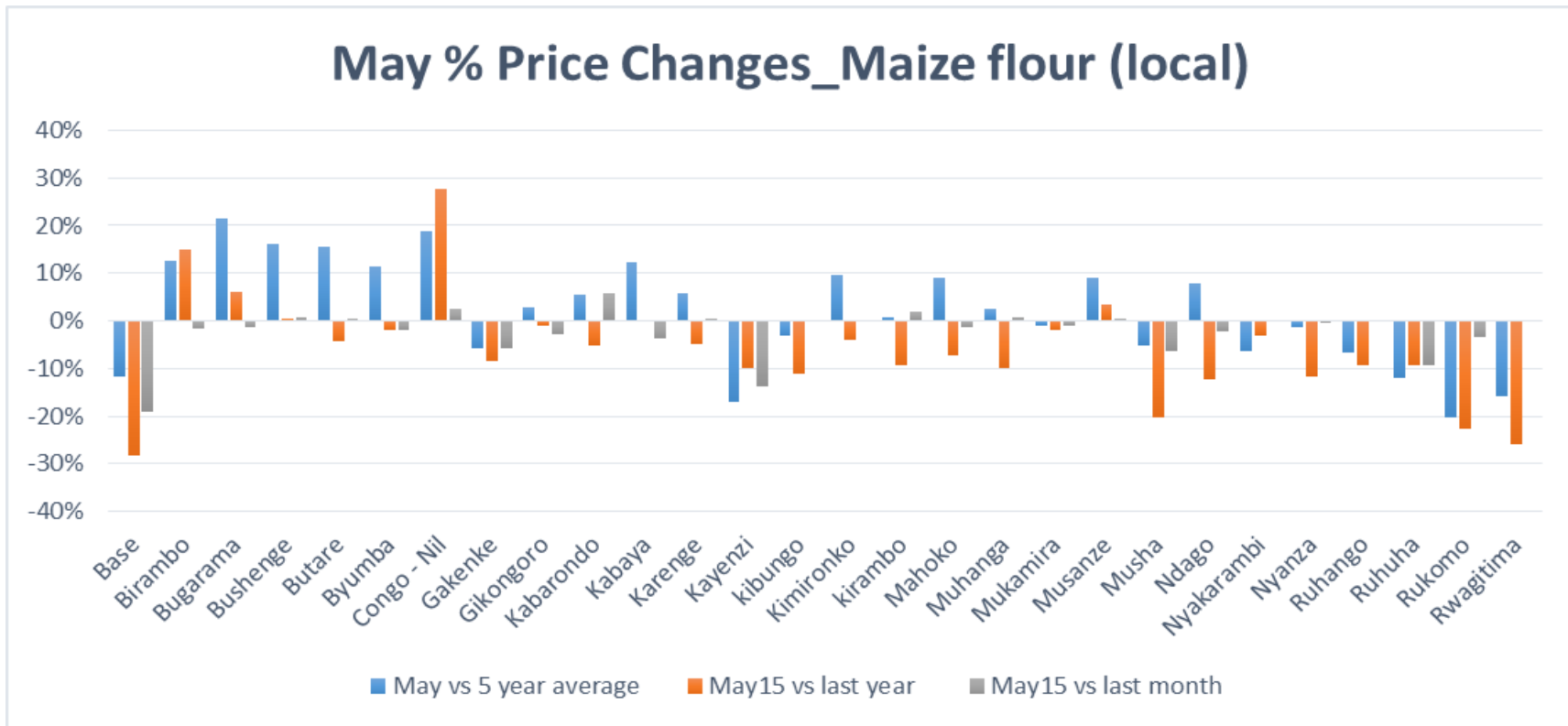












### **ABOUT THIS BULLETIN**

This bulletin intends to inform food security analysts, as well as decision makers, given the importance of markets and trade in income generation as well as food access. Price shocks constrain households' ability, mostly the poor, to access to food or gain acceptable income to cover their basic expenditures.

Data used in this bulletin are from e-soko project, housed in the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources (MINAGRI). The system collects retail prices in almost 61 markets for about 78 commodities. Price data collection is done twice a week in urban markets, while it is done once a week in rural markets. In this bulletin, we generally select one key market per district, with Kimironko being focused on in Kigali City for analysis.