



# Rwanda

## Commodity Market Price Update

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Inflation of food and non-alcoholic beverages in December rose by 9.7 percent from last year. Regarding the origin of products, year-to-year inflation rose by 5.7 percent for local goods and by 1.3 percent for imported goods. Fresh products' index increased by 16.2 percent from the previous year, but decreased by 3.5 percent from the previous month.
- In December, the prices of key staple commodities were on average 27 percent higher than their respective five-year-averages (the price averages of the past five Decembers).
- Prices stabilized in December compared to the previous month, but remained 26 percent higher than last year.

<sup>1</sup> According to NISR\_Consumer Price Index, fresh products involve food products which have seasonal fluctuation

<sup>2</sup> National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda (NISR),  
<http://statistics.gov.rw/publications/consumer-price-index-cpi-december-2015>

## COMMODITY PRICE DYNAMICS IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS

Bean prices were on average 460 RWF/Kg, with the lowest price at 350 RWF/Kg in Kabarondo and Rwagitima markets of Kayonza and Gatsibo Districts, and the highest price at 600 RWF/Kg in Kayenzi market of Kamonyi District. They exhibit a significantly increasing trend, with about 96 percent of markets experiencing a rise of more than 10 percent in comparison with last year's average and the five-year average (Figure 1). Rukomo, Ruhuha, Musha, Nyakarambi, Muhanga, Kayenzi and Karengé – markets in the south-eastern districts – faced price rises of more than 50 percent higher than the five-year average.

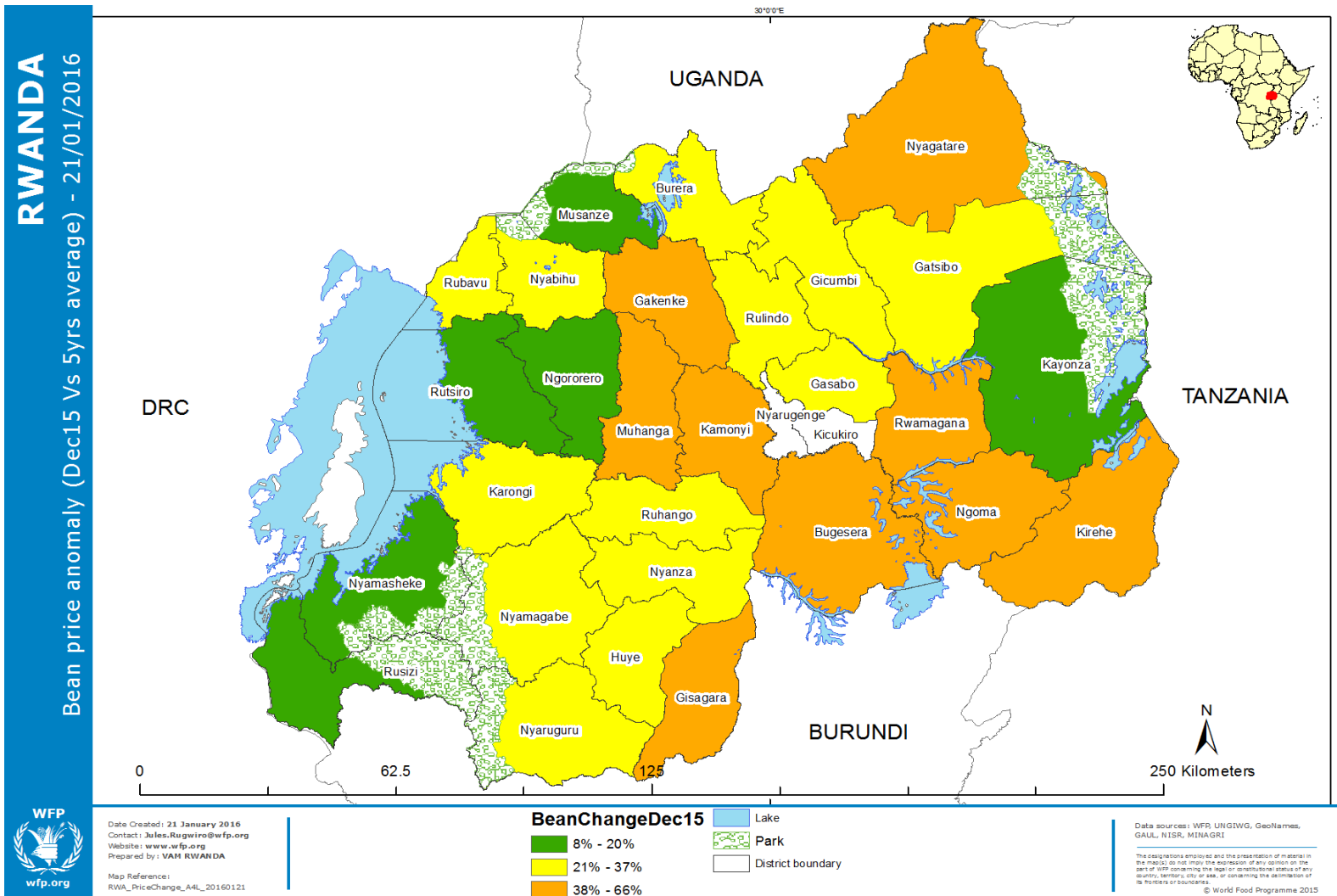
Nonetheless, on a month-to-month basis, bean prices either slightly decreased or stabilized in most markets, although 32 percent of markets were still subject to a price increase of more than 10 percent.

Maize grain prices also followed an upward trend across markets. Prices rose by more than 10 percent from December 2014 in 77 percent of markets and by more than 10 percent from the five-year average in 64 percent of markets.

Due to seasonal harvests, Irish potato prices have lowered across markets, with an average decrease of 12 percent from November 2015. However, about 67 percent of markets saw Irish potato prices higher than the five-year average while 71 percent of markets had Irish potato prices higher than December 2015 prices. In Musanze market, the commodity price soared by 63 percent, making it the second-to-highest level despite being located in a surplus area.

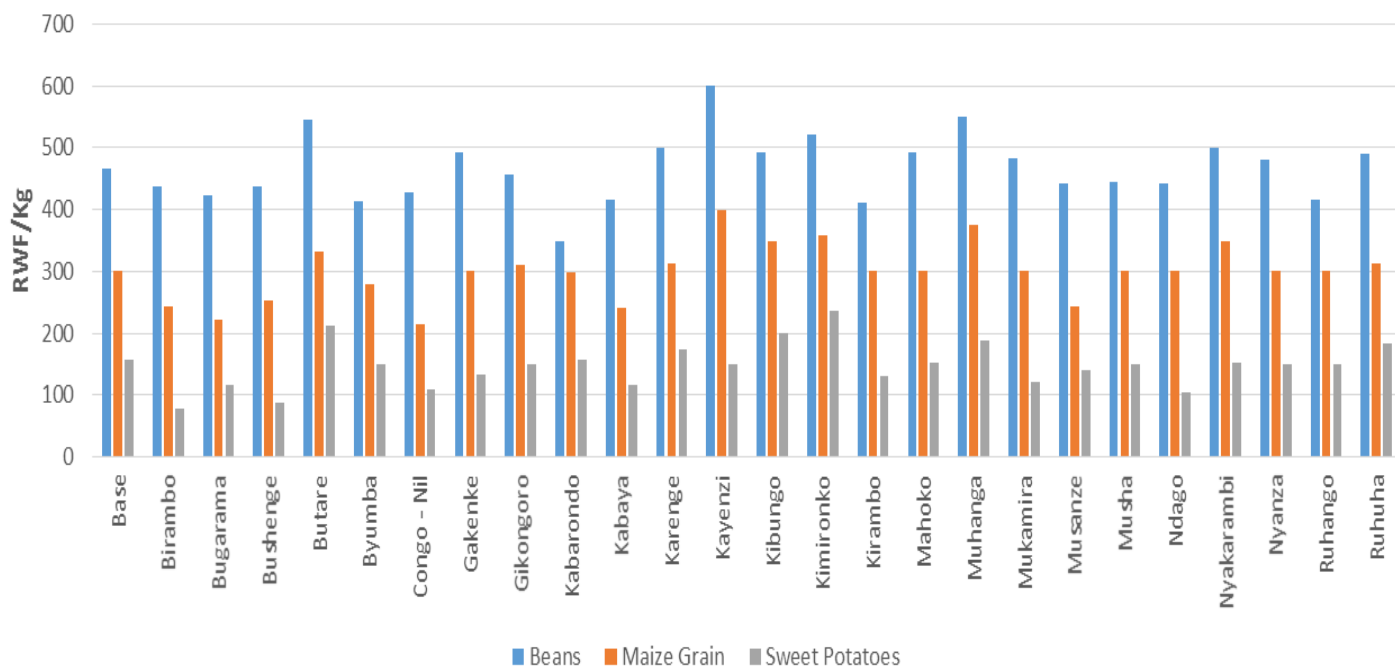
Cooking banana prices were also higher than normal in 85 percent of markets. Moreover, the same tendency occurred in 63 percent of markets compared to December 2014. The top five markets which faced more than average prices, ranging between 51 and 80 percent, included Ruhuha, Byumba, Base, Karengé and Nyakarambi; the latter two being in surplus areas.

Figure 1: Bean price % change\_December 2015 vs five-year average

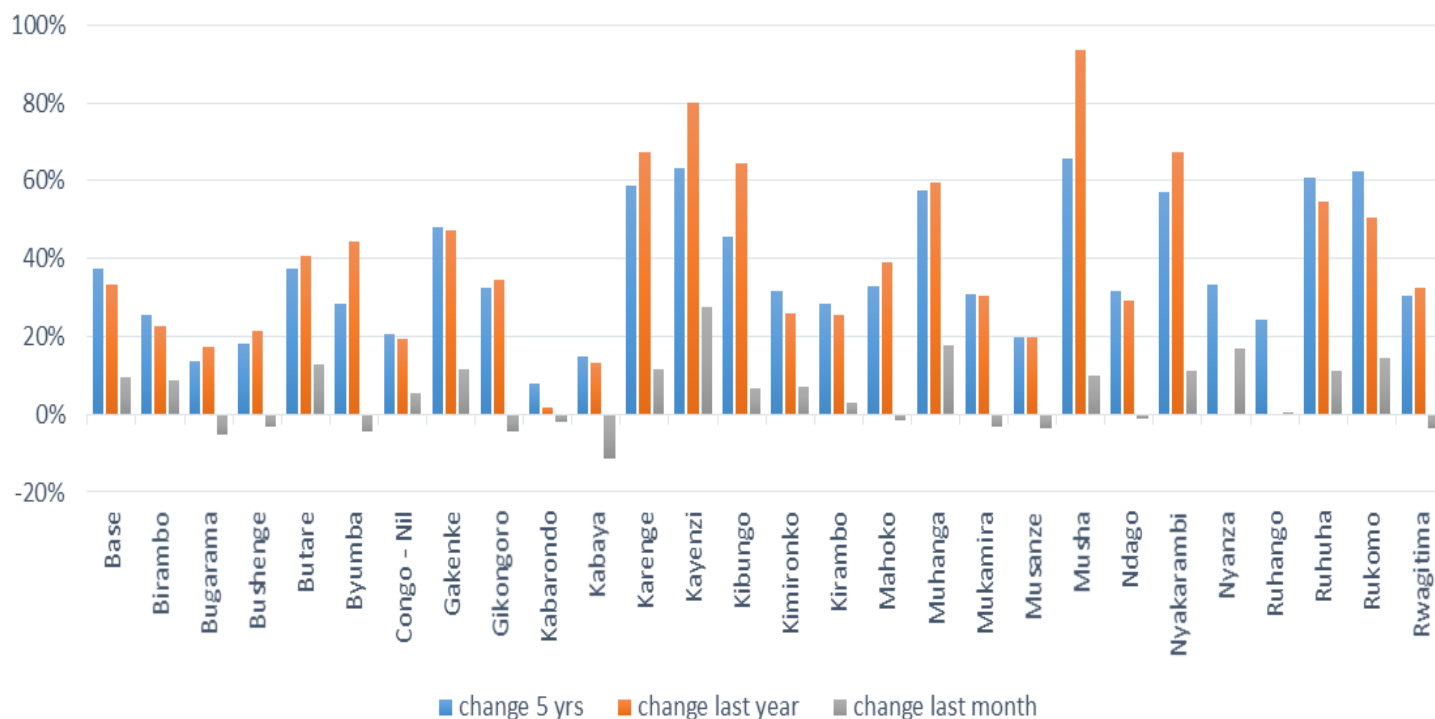


## Price graphs

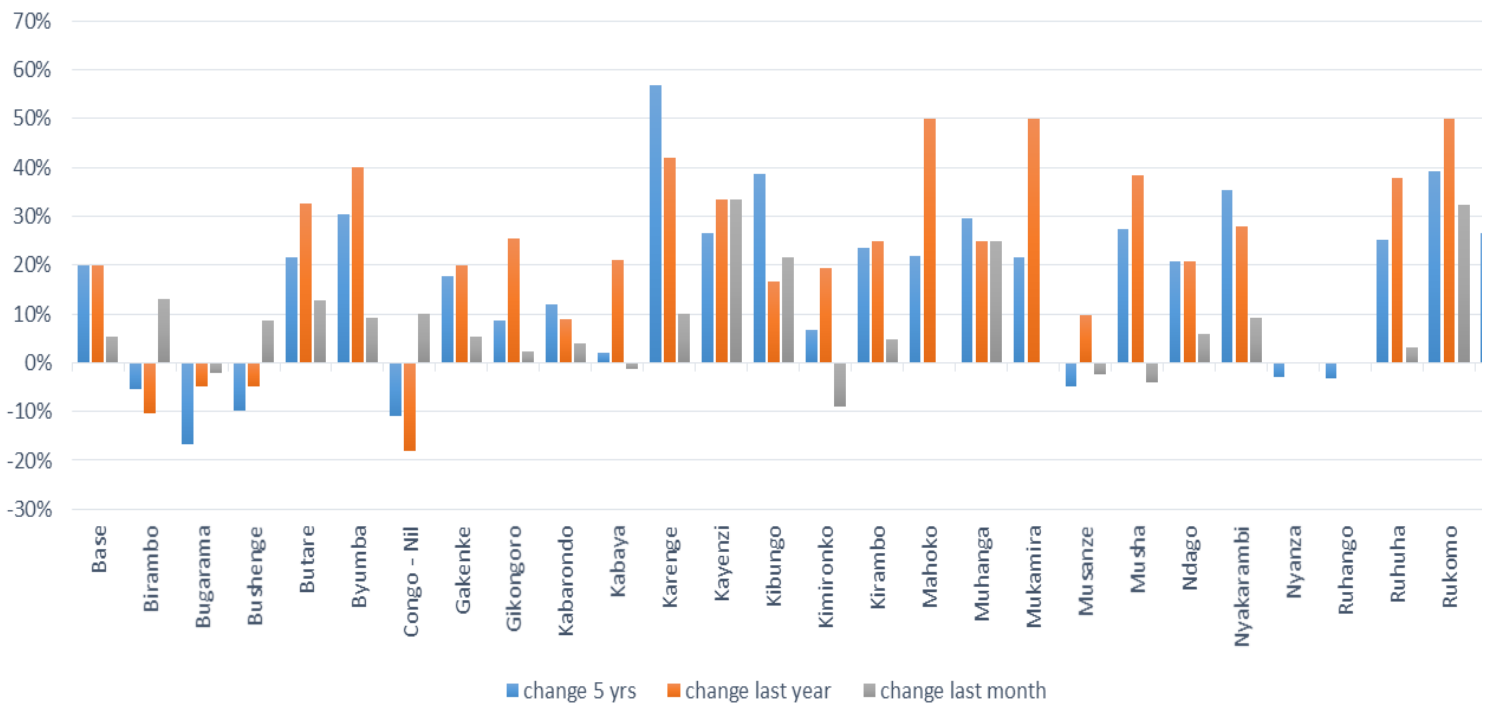
### December 15 Prices



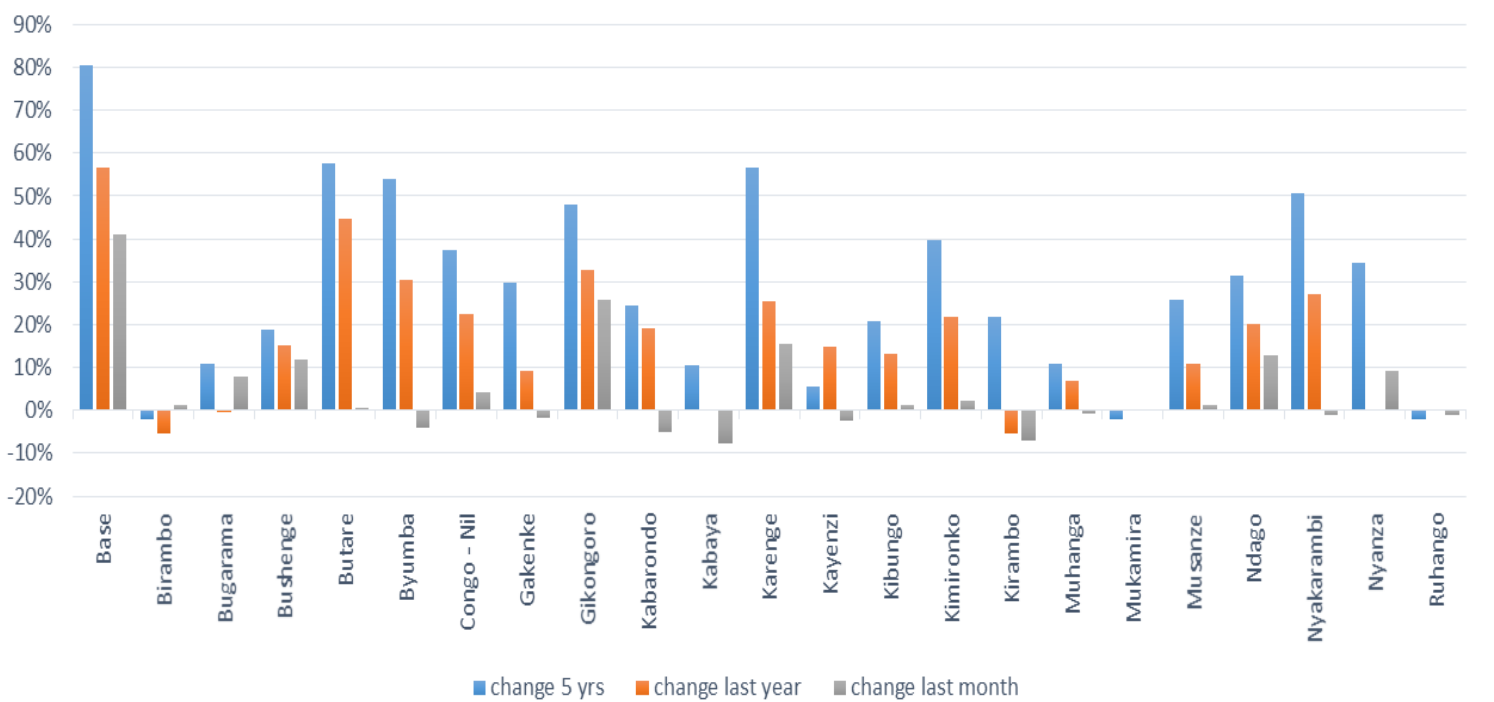
### Bean price anomalies\_December15



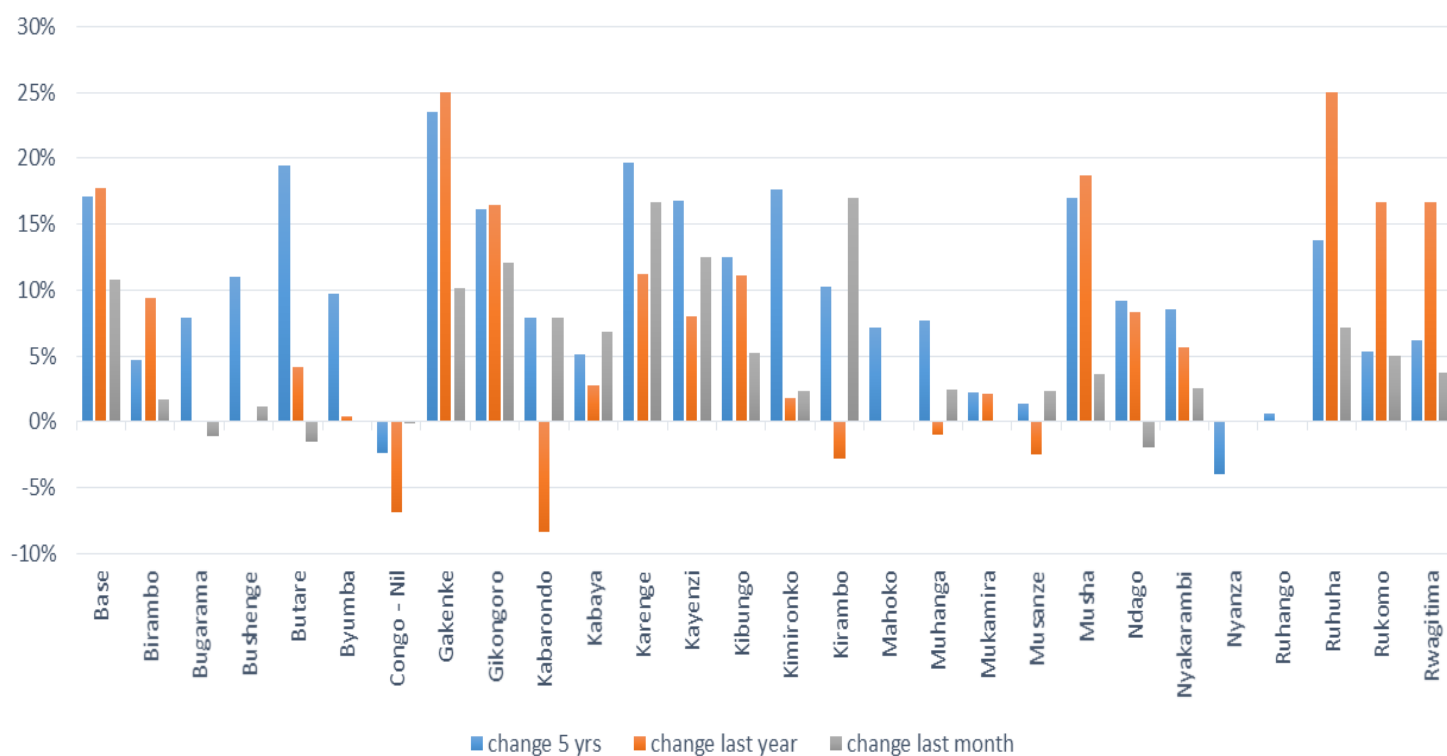
## Maize grain price anomalies\_December15



## Cooking banana price anomalies\_December15



## Local Maize flour price anomalies\_December15



### 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 and food access. Price shocks constrain households' ability, mostly the poor, to access 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.