MARCH 2018 ISSUE 48

WFP UGANDA

Monthly Market Monitor

HIGHLIGHTS

KARAMOJA

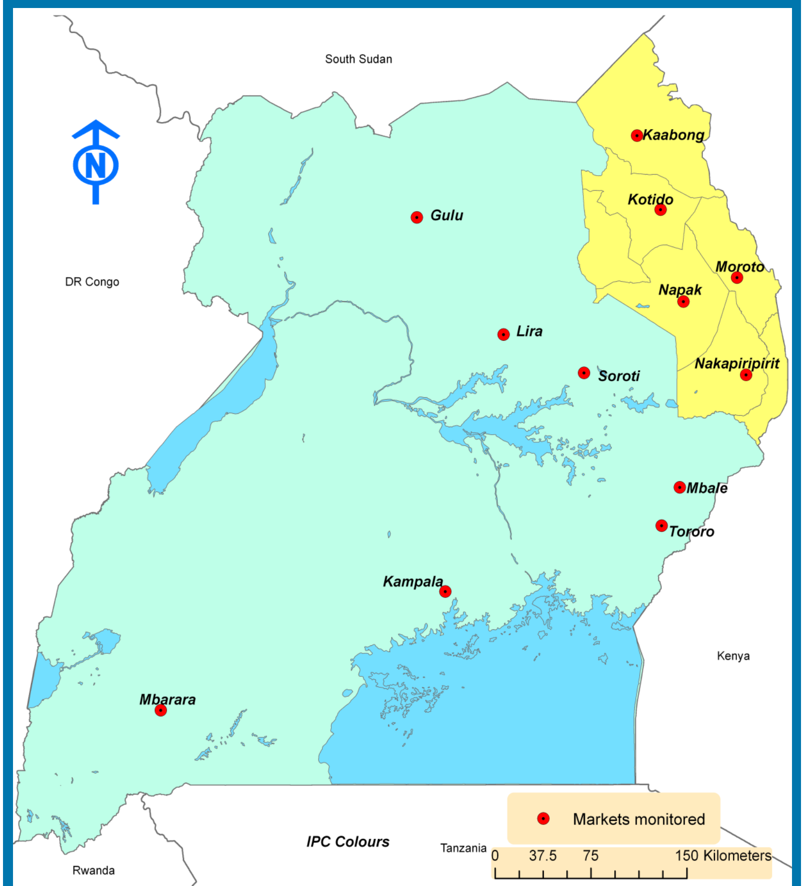
- Compared to February, **the overall average retail price for maize grain and beans were higher** in March by 8% and 5%, respectively. Prices for maize grain, was mainly high in Abim (29%), and Amudat (25%);
- The prices **for staple foods continue to be below 2017 average, reducing by 36%, 33% and 15% for maize grain, sorghum and beans,** respectively, due to a better harvest towards the end of 2017. Price declines were noted across all districts, **more so in Nakapiripirit, Kaabong and Abim**;
- Similarly, in March, **the average retail price for maize grain and sorghum were lower than the long term (2013-2017) average by 13% and 11%**, respectively, significantly in Nakapiripirit and Abim;
- The **terms of trade for goats against maize grain improved by 3% in March**, due to an increase in goats prices while those for **the daily labor wage deteriorated by 10%.**

REST OF THE COUNTRY

- In March, **the overall average retail price for maize grain, sorghum and beans were relatively stable**, compared to February. Prices **for beans and maize grain remained higher in Kampala**, by 11% and 10%, respectively, due to increased demand**;**
- The **overall price for maize grain and beans in March were below 2017 levels by 24% and 14%, respectively**, with prices falling significantly in Tororo and Soroti;
- In April, through May, **average retail prices for maize grain, sorghum and beans are likely to increase, but minimally**, due to demand coupled with tight supplies.

The Uganda Market Price Update is produced by the Analysis, Monitoring and Evaluation (AME) Unit of the World Food Programme Uganda on a monthly basis. Price data collected by staff at WFP Sub offices in Moroto, Kotido, Kaabong and Nakapiripirit is analyzed along with price data from Gulu, Kampala, Mbarara, Soroti, Tororo, Lira and Mbale. The update is divided into four sections; Karamoja markets, Price trends over one year, Other Markets and table on Price changes.

Markets Monitored & Analyzed by WFP Unit



Source: WFP Uganda AME

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SECTION ONE: KARAMOJA SUB-REGION

CEREALS

Figure 1. Maize grain retail price changes Mar –2018

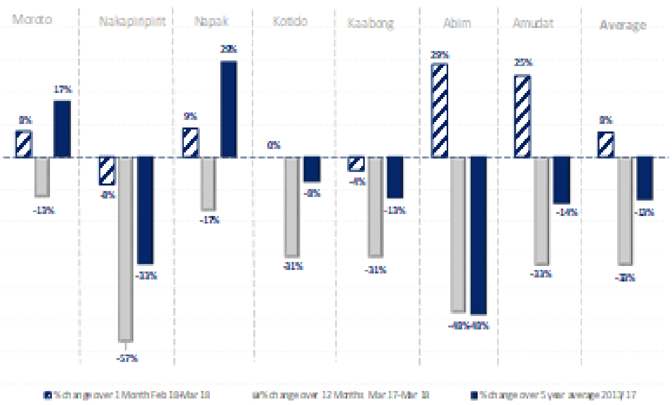
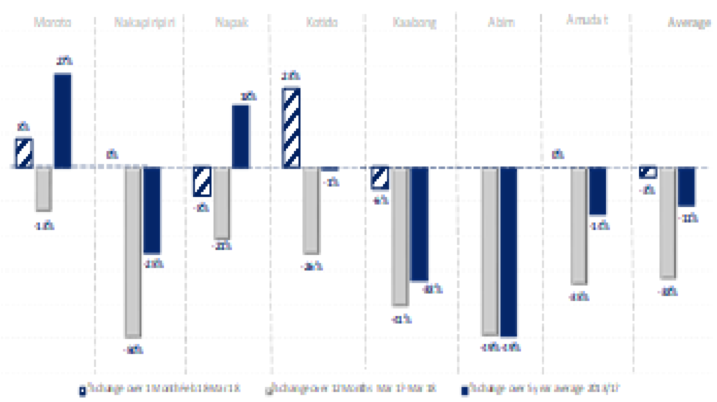


Figure 2. Sorghum grain retail price changes Mar—2018



In March, the overall average retail price for maize grain was above February average by 8%, with a surge in Abim (29%) and Amudat (25%), due to reduced supplies, coupled with increased demand. The price fell by 8% in Nakapiripirit, due to high supplies as farmers continue to sell their produce.

Compared to the same period in 2017, the overall average price fell significantly by 34%, due to a better harvest towards the end of 2017 that replenished household stocks. Price declines were seen across all key markets, but mainly in Nakapiripirit (57%) and Abim (48%).

Similarly, the average retail price was lower than the long term average (2013-2017) by 13%, significantly in Abim (48%) and Nakapiripirit (33%). However, the retail price for maize grain remained high in Napak and Moroto, by 29% and 17% respectively, due to reduced supplies on the markets.

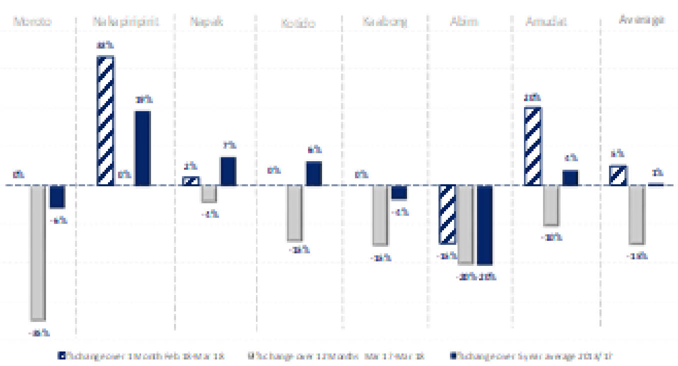
Compared to February, the overall price for sorghum reduced slightly by 3% in March. The price was low by 8% and 6% in Napak and Kaabong, respectively, possibly due to improved supplies. In Kotido, the price remained higher by 23%, due to low supplies on the market. Kaabong and Abim had the lowest prices, with one kilogram sold at UGX 506 and UGX 575, respectively.

The overall price remained significantly lower than the 2017 average in all markets in Karamoja, more so in Nakapiripirit (50%) and Abim (49%), due to a favorable harvest towards the end of 2017.

Furthermore, the overall retail price was below the long term average (2013-2017) by 11%, more so in Abim (49%) and Kaabong (33%). However, the price was above in Moroto (28%) and Napak (18%), due to a poor harvest in 2017 in these locations.

BEANS

Figure 3. Beans retail price changes Mar – 2018



In March, the overall retail price for beans increased by 5% compared to February, significantly in Nakapiripirit (33%) and Amudat (20%), due to reduced supplies on the market. The average price remained lower by 15% in Abim.

Compared to 2017, the average price fell across all markets, more so in Moroto (35%), and Abim (20%) following a better harvest towards the end of 2017.

The overall retail price remained stable with a 1% change compared to the long term average (2013-2017). However, the price remained lower in Abim and Moroto, while Nakapiripirit, and Napak observed an increase, due to high demand.

GOATS

Table 1: Goats retail price changes for Mar - 2018

Market	Current (Mar 2018)	% Change from:		
		Feb-18	Mar-17	Av 2013-17
Moroto	120,000	60%	-29.4%	-18%
Nakapiripirit	76,667	-4%	5.7%	-6%
Napak	106,500	33%	-33%	-19%
Kotido	90,000	3%	14.3%	10%
Kaabong	107,500	-8.5%	22.9%	11%
Abim	95,000	0%	24%	24%
Amudat	150,000	11.1%	130.8%	47.5%
Average	106,524	11.3%	5.0%	4%

The overall average price for goats was higher in March by 11% , compared to February, more so in Moroto and Napak by 60% and 33% respectively. This is attributed to the tight supplies on the markets. The price in Kaabong fell by 9%, possibly due to high supplies, as pastoral households start to sell animals to get money for food.

Compared to the same period in 2017, the average price was above by 5%. The increase was significant in Amudat and Abim. However, Napak and Moroto observed declines by 33% and 29%, respectively, due to improved supplies on the market.

The overall price was slightly higher than the long term (2013-2017) average by 4%, with Amudat (48%) and Abim (24%) having significant price increases. The price reduced by 20% and 18% in Napak and Moroto respectively, and this was due to increased supplies on the market.

LABOR

Table 2: Changes in Daily Wage Rates Mar -2018

Market	Current (Mar 2018)	% Change from:		
		Feb-18	Mar-17	Av 2013-17
Moroto	5,000	0%	0%	0%
Nakapiripirit	3,000	0%	0%	0%
Napak	5,000	0%	0%	4%
Kotido	2,000	-33%	-3.1%	-9.6%
Kaabong	5,000	0%	0%	32%
Abim	2,000	0%	-54%	-54%
Amudat	2,333	3.7%		
Average	3,476	-3.6%	-15%	-10.0%

In March, the average daily labor wage was below February levels by 33% in Kotido, due to increased labor supplies following the start of the planting season. However, there was a slight increase in Amudat (4%).

Furthermore, the average daily labor wage significantly declined in Abim by 54% in March, compared to the same period in 2017, this is attributed to the earlier start of the planting season, increasing the number of people looking for labor opportunities.

Compared to the long term average (2013-2017), the overall average daily labor wage rate was lower in Abim and Kotido, but remained higher in Kaabong.

TERMS OF TRADE

The major sources of income in Karamoja are from casual labour and the sale of goats. The table below shows the latest trend of purchasing power of labour and goats averaged across the seven districts in Karamoja.

Description	Mar-18	Feb-18	Mar-17
Kg of maize/goat	105.6	102.1	67.0
Kg of maize/day's wage	3.4	3.8	2.7

Compared to February, the terms of trade for goats against maize grain in March improved slightly by 3%, following an increase in the average price for goats, while those for the daily labor wage deteriorated by 10%.

Compared to the same period in 2017, there was a significant improvement in the terms of trade for goats and the daily labor wage rate against maize grain, increasing by 58% and 29% respectively, due to the reduced prices for maize grain. The harvest in 2017 across Karamoja was fair compared to 2015 and 2016 harvests. In April through May, the terms of trade for both goats and daily labor wage are likely to remain fairly stable, due to the projected stability in the average prices for maize grain.

SUMMARY BY DISTRICT

MOROTO

There was a slight increase in the average retail prices for maize grain and sorghum in March, compared to February by 8% (for each), due to increased market dependence as household stocks continue to deplete. Compared to 2017, the retail prices for sorghum, maize grain and beans reduced by 13%, 13% and 35%, respectively, due to the better harvest towards the end of 2017.

NAKAPIRIPIRIT

In March, the average retail price for maize grain fell by 8% compared to February, due to increased supplies, while the price for beans increased by 33%, possibly due to high demand coupled with low supplies. Generally, the retail prices for maize grain, sorghum and beans remain significantly below 2017 levels and the long term (2013-2017) average.

NAPAK

While the average retail price for maize grain and beans in March were above the February levels by 9% and 2% respectively, sorghum price declined by 8% due to improved supplies. However, prices for all commodities were lower than 2017 average, but remain above the long term (2013-2017) average.

KOTIDO

The average retail price for sorghum increased by 23% in March, compared to February due to high demand, while for maize grain and beans remained stable. Prices for all staple foods remained below 2017 and the long term (2013-2017) average.

KAABONG

In March, the average retail price for maize grain and sorghum fell minimally, compared to February by 4% and 6% respectively. Compared to 2017 and the long term (2013-2017), prices for all staple foods were significantly lower during the month, due to the replenishment of stocks from the 2017 September-to-October harvest.

ABIM

While the average retail price for maize grain was high by 29% in March, compared to February due to scarcity, the price for beans reduced by 15%, due to improved supplies. The prices for staple foods remain below 2017 and the long term (2013-2017) average.

AMUDAT

There was an increase in the average retail prices for maize grain (25%) and Beans (20%) in March, compared to February. The price for sorghum remained stable. Compared to 2017 and the long term (2013-2017) average, the retail prices for maize grain, sorghum and beans continue to be significantly below, due to a better harvest in 2017.

SECTION TWO: KARAMOJA PRICES TRENDS MAR 2018 AGAINST 2017 & AVG 2013-17

Figure 4. Maize Grain Price Trends

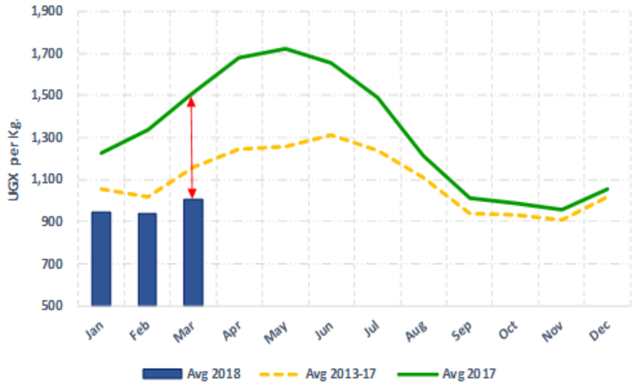


Figure 7. Maize Flour Price Trends

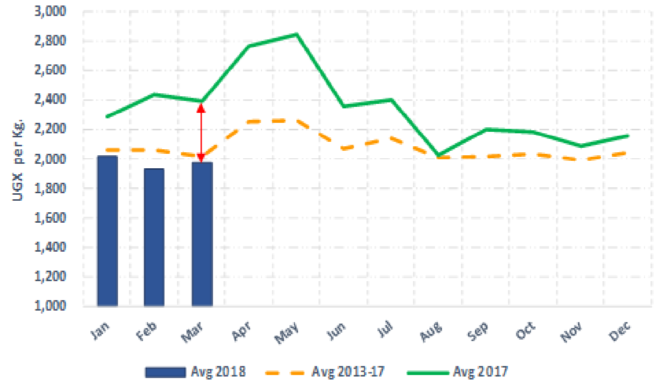


Figure 5. Sorghum Grain Price Trends

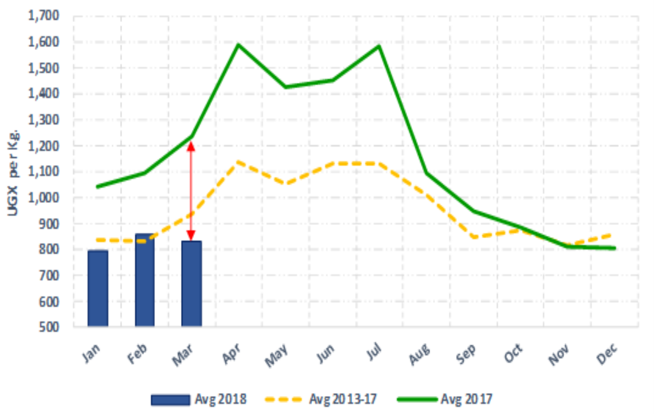


Figure 8. Terms of Trade Goats vs Maize grain

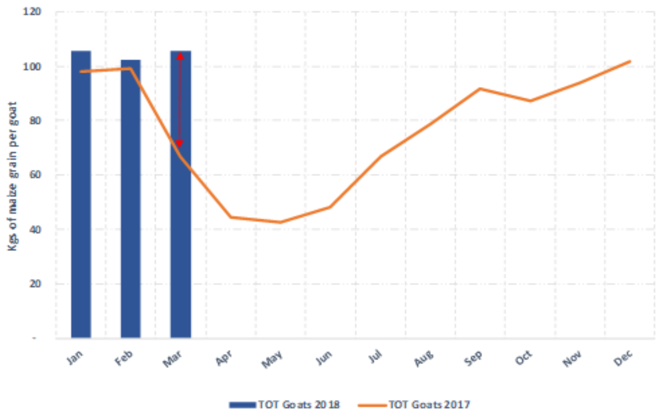


Figure 6. Beans Price Trends

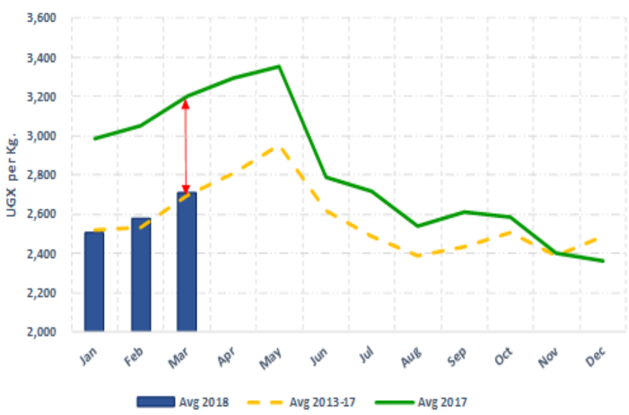
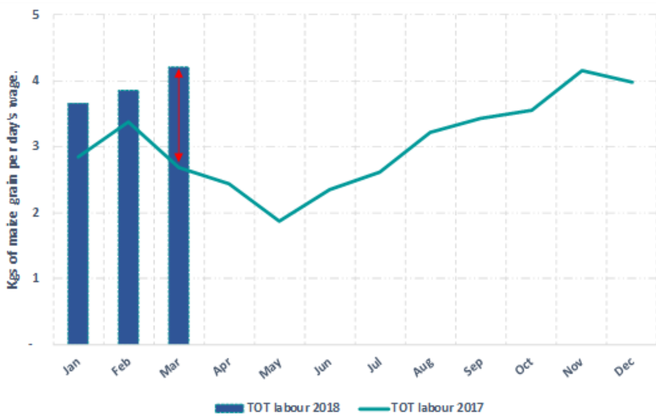


Figure 9. Terms of Trade Labour vs Maize grain



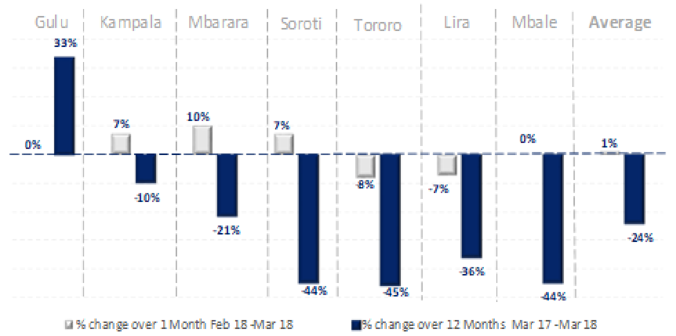
All data provided until this point has been sourced from WFP ProMIS

SECTION THREE: KAMPALA, WESTERN, NORTHERN AND EASTERN UGANDA

This section provides a snapshot of the price fluctuations and projections of beans and maize grain for selected markets in various regions of the country. Price data is collected by WFP staff at Sub offices in their respective areas of operation. The primary criteria for selecting the markets included in the analysis is their trade influence in food commodities in their respective regions and the relative consistency of data for the selected food commodities. More markets will be included in the analysis as we improve on the consistency of our data collection.

CEREALS

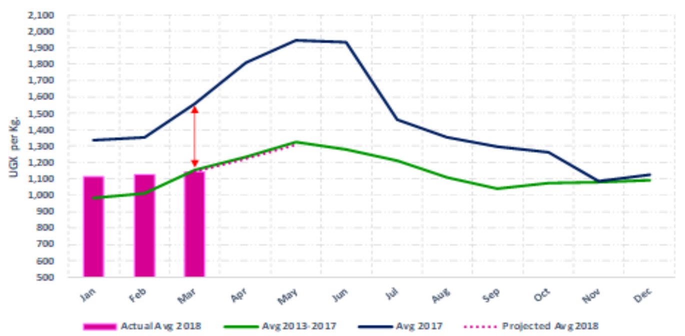
Fig. 10: Maize Grain Retail Price Changes Mar -2018



The average retail price for maize grain continues to remain stable, following an improved harvest in 2017. The price was high in Mbarara (10%) and Kampala (7%) compared to February, due to an increase in the demand.

The average retail price for maize grain was below 2017 levels in nearly all markets, due to improved supplies. However, the price was high by 33% in Gulu, due to demand.

Fig. 11: Maize Grain Price Trend & projections: May 2018

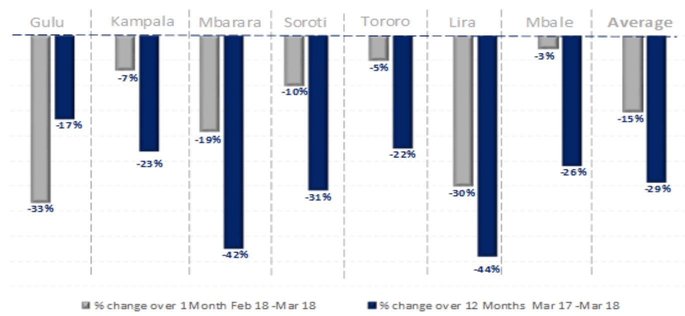


Source: WFP AME Trends

The overall retail price for maize grain continues to be fairly stable, and remain significantly below the 2017 levels, due to improved supplies following a better harvest last year.

The price for maize is expected to slightly increase in April and May, due to reducing supplies on the markets.

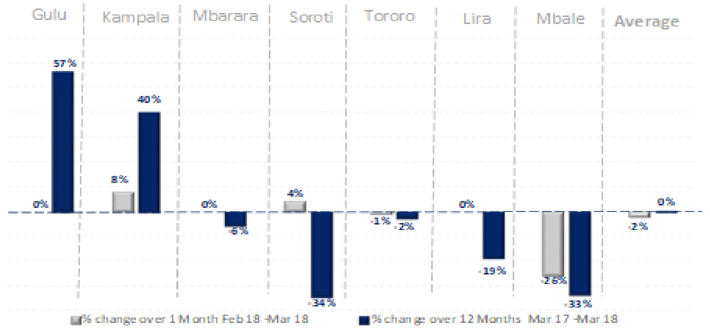
Fig. 12: Maize flour retail price changes Mar -2018



The overall average retail price for maize flour in March was below February levels by 15 percent, with reductions observed across all key markets, more so in Gulu (33%) and Lira (30%) due to increased supplies on the market.

Compared to 2017, the average price was significantly lower in all markets, significantly in Lira (44%) and Mbarara (42%).

Fig. 13: Sorghum Retail Price Changes Mar -2018

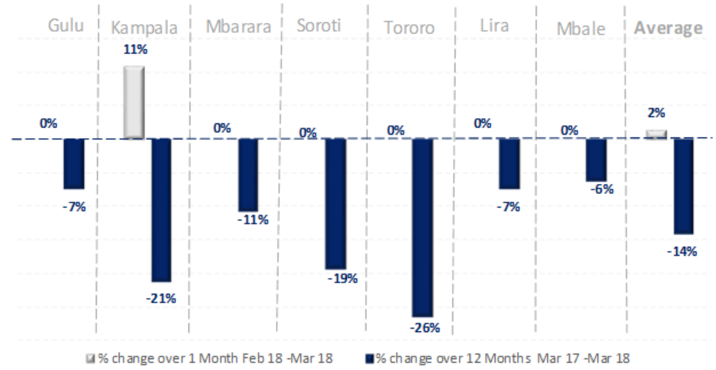


While the overall price for sorghum was fairly stable compared to February, Mbale observed a significant decline by 26 percent, and this could be due to the reduced demand as consumers have alternative foods.

In March, the retail price for sorghum was below 2017 average in Mbale (33%), Soroti (34%) and Lira (19%), this is attributable to improved supplies from the 2017 harvest. However, Gulu and Kampala observed a significant price increase, by 57% and 40% respectively, mainly due to high demand.

BEANS

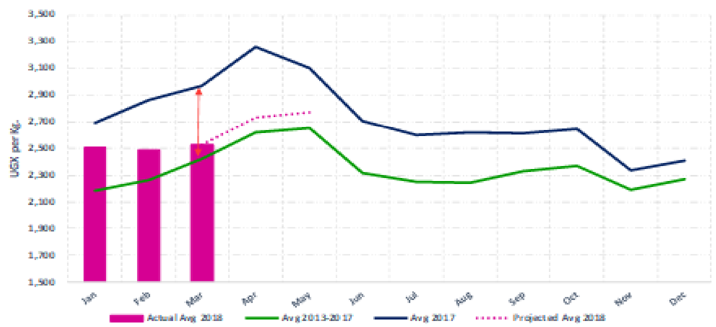
Fig. 14: Beans Retail Price Changes Mar -2018



In March, the average retail price for beans was fairly stable compared to February. Kampala observed an increase by 11 percent, due to reduced supplies on market.

The price for beans have continued to be below 2017 average across all markets, markedly in Tororo and Kampala.

Fig. 15: Beans Price Trend & projections: May 2018



Source: WFP AME Trends

Since January, the average retail price for beans has been relatively stable, and continue to be lower than 2017 levels. However, the retail price is expected to go up in April, through May, due to the anticipated low supplies on the market.

SECTION FOUR: PRICE CHANGES FOR KEY SELECTED COMMODITIES

Current Retail Price: Mar 2018			Current Price(Ushs.)	Price change (%)			
Region	District/Market	Major Commodities		1 M	1 Y	1 M	1 Y
Karamoja	Moroto	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,400	8%	-13%	↑	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	1,300	8%	-13%	↑	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,600	0%	-35%	↔	↓
		Medium size goat	120,000	60%	-29%	↑	↓
		Daily labour wage	5,000	0%	0%	↔	↔
	Nakapiripirit	Maize grain (per Kg)	733	-8%	-57%	↓	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	700	0%	-50%	↔	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	76,667	-4%	6%	↔	↑
		Medium size goat	3,000	0%	0%	↔	↔
		Daily labour wage	2,000	0%	-17%	↔	↓
	Napak	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,250	9%	-17%	↑	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	1,100	-8%	-21%	↓	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	106,500	33%	-33%	↑	↓
		Medium size goat	5,000	0%	0%	↔	↓
		Daily labour wage	2,000	0%	-20%	↔	↓
	Kotido	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,000	0%	-31%	↔	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	800	23%	-26%	↑	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,800	0%	-15%	↔	↓
		Medium size goat	90,000	3%	14%	↔	↑
		Daily labour wage	2,000	-33%	-3%	↓	↔
	Kaabong	Maize grain (per Kg)	776	-4%	-31%	↔	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	506	-6%	-41%	↓	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	3,000	0%	-15%	↔	↓
		Medium size goat	107,500	-9%	23%	↓	↑
		Daily labour wage	5,000	0%	0%	↔	↔
	Abim	Maize grain (per Kg)	900	29%	-48%	↑	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	575		-49%		↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,125	-15%	-20%	↓	↓
		Medium size goat	95,000	0%	24%	↔	↑
		Daily labour wage	2,000	0%	-54%	↔	↓
	Amudat	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,000	25%	-33%	↑	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	850	0%	-35%	↔	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	3,000	20%	-10%	↑	↓
		Medium size goat	150,000	11%	131%	↑	↑
		Daily labour wage	2,333	4%		↔	
Central	Kampala/Owino	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,500	7%	-10%	↑	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	3,500	8%	40%	↑	↑
		Maize flour (per Kg)	2,000	-7%	-23%	↓	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,700	11%	-21%	↑	↓
Western	Mbarara	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,100	10%	-21%	↑	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	3,000	0%	-6%	↔	↓
		Maize flour (per Kg)	1,800	-19%	-42%	↓	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,500	0%	-11%	↔	↓
Eastern	Tororo	Maize grain (per Kg)	900	-8%	-45%	↓	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	1,488	-1%	-2%	↔	↔
		Maize flour (per Kg)	1,900	-5%	-22%	↔	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,500	0%	-26%	↔	↓
	Mbale	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,000	0%	-44%	↔	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	1,000	-26%	-33%	↓	↓
		Maize flour (per Kg)	1,800	-3%	-26%	↔	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,500	0%	-6%	↔	↓
Northern	Gulu	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,600	0%	33%	↔	↑
		Sorghum (per Kg)	1,800	0%	57%	↔	↑
		Maize flour (per Kg)	2,000	-33%	-17%	↓	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,500	0%	-7%	↔	↓
	Soroti	Maize grain (per Kg)	1,000	7%	-44%	↑	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	833	4%	-34%	↔	↓
		Maize flour (per Kg)	1,800	-10%	-31%	↓	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,500	0%	-19%	↔	↓
	Lira	Maize grain (per Kg)	900	-7%	-36%	↓	↓
		Sorghum (per Kg)	1,000	0%	-19%	↔	↓
		Maize flour (per Kg)	1,400	-30%	-44%	↓	↓
		Beans (per Kg)	2,500	0%	-7%	↔	↓
Remark:	↑	Price increase above normal price fluctuation					
	↔	Normal Price fluctuation					
	↓	Price increase below normal price fluctuation					
Price fluctuation is considered normal if the price change is within 5% for 1 month and within 15% for 1 year.							
1 M =Feb 2018 compared to Mar 2018			1 Y = Mar 2017 compared to Mar 2018				