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COVID-19 response to support Kenya's food system

August 2020



Rabobank SNV AGRI-WALLET



Impact of COVID-19 on agri-food value chains study by FtMA

| | | Countries | |
|----------------------------|--|-----------|----------|
| Topic Areas | | Kenya | Rwanda |
| 1. Access to Credit | change in available credit compared to last year | • | • |
| | % cost of credit (interest rates) | | |
| 2. Input and Services | % change of available supply versus to last year | • | • |
| | % change in prices of inputs and services | 1 | 1 |
| 3. Logistics and Trade | % storage availability | • | • |
| | % change in lead time | 1 | 1 |
| | % change in trade of commodities | • | • |
| 4. Production and Off-take | change in local production | | |
| | imports/exports blockages | YES | YES |
| | % change of demand in off-takers | | |
| 5. Market Prices | % change in farm gate prices | • | 1 |
| | % change in retail prices | 1 | • |

Positive change

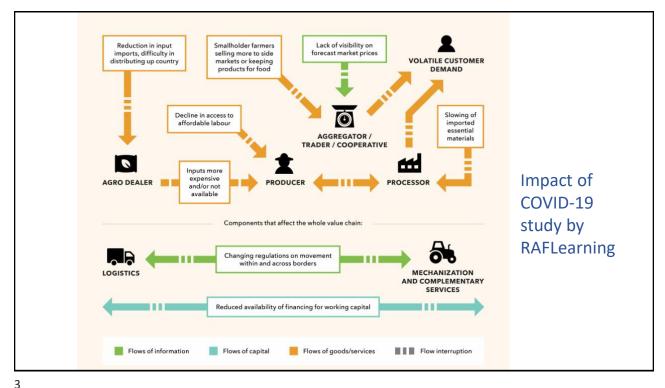
Negative change

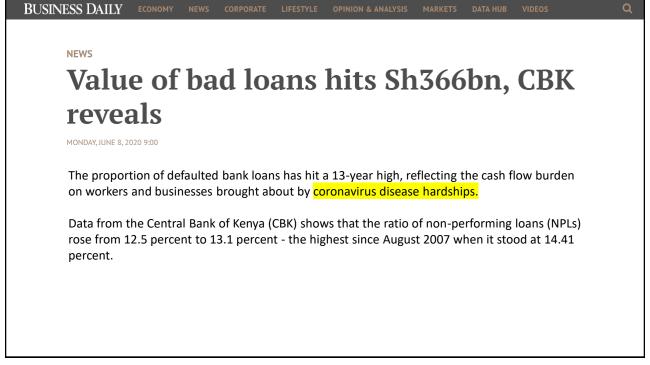
No major change





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Kenyan Banks Seen Sheltering in Bonds as Virus Slows Lending

By Eric Ombok

May 29, 2020, 10:29 AM GMT+2 Updated on May 29, 2020, 4:22 PM GMT+2

- ▶ Provisions for bad debts expected to rise from second quarter
- ► Covid-19 to hit interest income and non-interest income

Kenya's banks are likely to issue fewer loans this year and boost investments in government debt to safeguard earnings under threat from the fallout of the coronavirus.

That's the assessment of some analysts after the East African nation's lenders released first-quarter results that showed lower profit, a surge in loan-loss provisions and a wave of debt restructurings.

| CURRENT ACUTE FOOD | PROJECTED F | | | |
|--|-------------|---|---|--|
| | Phase 5 | 0 People in Catastrophe | | |
| 1.3M 9% of the population in | Phase 4 | 296 500 People in Emergency | 7% of the popul | |
| ASAL counties | Phase 3 | 1 022 500 People in Crisis | ASAL counties | |
| People facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) | Phase 2 | 3 745 000 People in Stressed | People facing acu insecurity (IPC Ph | |
| IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION | Phase 1 | 10 085 500 People minimally food insecure | IN NEED OF URGE ACTION | |

| PROJECTED FOOD INSECURITY APR - JULY 2020 | | | | |
|---|---------|---|--|--|
| | Phase 5 | 0 People in Catastrophe | | |
| 980K 7% of the population in ASAL counties People facing acute food insecurity (IPC Phase 3+) | Phase 4 | 112 500 People in Emergency | | |
| | Phase 3 | 872 000 People in Crisis | | |
| | Phase 2 | 3 469 500 People in Stressed | | |
| IN NEED OF URGENT ACTION | Phase 1 | 10 698 270 People minimally food insecure | | |

- Kenya's most vulnerable populations will be disproportionately affected
 - ASAL populations, female-headed households, refugees
 - Highly vulnerable to shocks
- Prior to COVID-19, food insecurity prevailed → food prices, conflict, mudslides, floods, desert locust, outbreaks of livestock disease









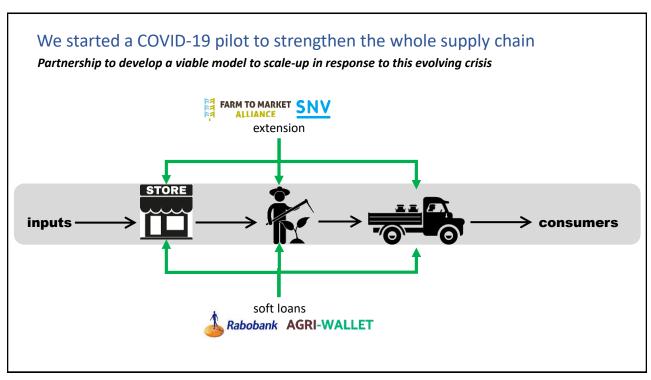
If value chain players lose liquidity, the implications on food systems will be grave – an immediate intervention is required

There is an urgent need to maintain food supplies and minimize economic damage

Outcomes: farmers and SMEs have less liquidity; citizens have a reduced purchasing power; domestic food production in Kenya will fall short of demand; food prices will spike; food and nutrition insecurity; pandemic hampers achievement of the SDGs

Immediate responses: many agribusinesses are already adapting their operations through innovation but access to resilience-enabling assets and direct working capital are <u>urgently required</u>





Agri-wallet distributes soft loans from Rabo Foundation

€50,000 risk sharing soft loans available:

- **\$100** in soft loans provided to **300 smallholders** each
- \$2,000 in soft loans provided to 5 agro-dealers each
- \$10,000 in soft loans provided to 1 offtaker





300 smallholders and potatoes in Nakuru County









AGRI-WALLET

About Agri-wallet

- Agri-wallet is an innovative agri-finance platform
- The digital Agri-wallet account provides smallholders/SMEs access to affordable loans and weather insurance
- Injects liquidity directly on mobile phones without direct human contact
 - Only name / phone-number are required to get
 - o Enrolment + credit scoring takes 2 minutes per farmer
- Loans can be used for farm inputs \rightarrow earmarked to increase food production and reduce diversion of funds
- User friendly and is designed to be used by anyone, even illiterate beneficiaries
- Simple SMS-training is freely available for all users

Each stakeholder plays a key role in the intervention

AGRI-WALLET

has the proven track record and infrastructure (banks, M-Pesa, farmer database) to get mobile money to smallholders, offtakers and agro-dealers. Agri-Wallet will provide and monitor the loans whilst also providing SMS-based financial literacy training.



has extensive agricultural expertise and a network of farmer organizations SMEs and aggregators in Kenya. **SNV will provide technical assistance throughout the programme.**



Rabobank partnerships has extensive experience in agricultural (value chain) finance and project management, a broad network in Kenya including an office in Nairobi. Rabobank will use its knowledge and network for the project.



has an extensive smallholder farmer database, a network of agri-businesses servicing farming needs and around 70 domestic private sector partners in Kenya. FtMA will coordinate input providers, mobilise farmers and support the production and market sides of the intervention.



are members of FtMA and have distribution networks in place for provision of quality inputs. The companies will play a critical role in ensuring input availability to farmers.



WFP is managing FtMA and has a significant Kenyan presence including a database of smallholders and expertise in recovery work as well as relationships with the Ministry of Agriculture



