



BCEAO

BANQUE CENTRALE DES ETATS
DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

**REPORT ON MONETARY POLICY
IN THE WAMU UNION**

March 2026



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

BCEAO	Central Bank of West African States
BEAC	Bank of Central African States
BoG	Bank of Ghana
Bps	Basis points
BRVM	Regional stock exchange
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CEMAC	Central African Economic and Monetary Community
CG	Central government
CPI	Consumer price index
ECB	European Central Bank
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
Fed	United States Federal Reserve System
FOB	Free on board
GDP	Gross domestic product
HICP	Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IPI	Industrial Production Index
LBUBC	Large businesses using bank credit
MSCI	Morgan Stanley Capital International (stock market benchmark index provider)
NEAs	Net external assets
NPISH	Non-profit institutions serving households
NSI	National statistics institute
NYMEX	New York Mercantile Exchange (specializing in energy and metals)
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OPEC+	Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and 10 other oil-producing countries
Pps	Percentage points
REER	Real effective exchange rate
SARB	South African Reserve Bank
SA-WDC	Seasonally adjusted - working day corrected
SDRs	Special drawing rights
TI	Turnover Index
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WAMA	West African Monetary Agency
WAMU	West African Monetary Union
WTI	West Texas Intermediate, a benchmark for the price of oil on the US market

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STATEMENT OF CONCLUSIONS

1. On Wednesday, March 4, 2026, the Monetary Policy Committee of the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) held its first ordinary meeting of 2026 at the headquarters of the Central Bank of West African States in Dakar, Republic of Senegal, under the chairmanship of Dr. Jean-Claude Kassi Brou, Governor of the Central Bank and statutory chairman of the Committee.
2. The Committee reviewed the major trends in the international and regional economy and assessed the risk factors that could affect the medium-term outlook in terms of inflation and economic growth in the Union.
3. With regard to the international economic situation, the Committee noted that the global economy continued its positive trend in the fourth quarter of 2025, in an environment marked by lower inflation and easing of trade tensions. According to the latest IMF forecast published in January 2026, the global economic growth rate is expected to stand at 3.3% in 2026 and 3.2% in 2027. However, these forecasts remain subject to mainly downside risk factors, linked in particular to potentially lower-than-expected productivity gains due to artificial intelligence, rising geopolitical and trade tensions, climate shocks, and the growing weight of public debt, particularly in developing countries.
4. In the fourth quarter of 2025, energy prices on international commodity markets dropped by 6.1%, quarter on quarter. On the other hand, non-energy commodity prices recorded a 1.8% increase over the period, mainly due to higher prices for precious metals. Prices for non-oil commodities exported by WAEMU countries were down 0.9% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after easing by 4.7% in the previous quarter.
5. Reviewing the economic situation in the WAEMU Union, the Monetary Policy Committee noted strong momentum in economic activity, with real year-on-year GDP growth of 6.5% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 6.6% in the previous quarter. This trend was driven by all sectors, particularly by a strong performance in the mining industry. According to the latest BCEAO projections, the Union's economic growth should stand at 6.4% in 2026 and 6.3% in 2027, after an estimated 6.7% in 2025. The Monetary Policy Committee stated, however, that the growth outlook continued to be subject to international economic trends, the sociopolitical situation in Union and the impact of climate change.
6. In 2025, public finance management in the Union resulted in a budget deficit of 5.5599 trillion, or 3.7% of GDP, on a commitment basis, including grants, compared with 5.4% of GDP one year prior. The budget deficit is expected to stand at 3.2% of GDP in 2026.
7. WAEMU countries' external trade in 2025 resulted in an overall balance of payments surplus of 7.0276 trillion, after a surplus of 3.0127 trillion in 2024. This performance was mainly due to a significant decrease in the current account deficit, which rang in at 2.0% of GDP in 2025, after 5.7% in 2024, in line with an improvement in the terms of trade and a buoyant export profile, driven by sales of oil and gold. It was also boosted by external resources raised by Member States. External accounts are expected to remain in surplus in 2026.
8. The Committee noted a significant improvement in bank liquidity in the fourth quarter of 2025, owing in particular to a surplus in customer fund transfers. Against that backdrop, the weighted average interest rate on Treasury bills dropped by 95 basis points (bps) compared to the previous quarter to stand at 5.88% in the fourth quarter of 2025. On the other hand, the average yield on bonds rose overall by 28 bps over the fourth quarter of 2025, to stand at 7.39%.

9. Funding for activities remained adequate, although its pace continued to be moderate. Growth in bank lending to the private sector rang in at 5.6% at the end of December 2025, up from its rate of 4.5% at the end of December 2024, but still below the average of 9.4% over the 2022-2024 period. Meanwhile, the average interest rate charged by banks on loans to their customers stood at 6.73% in the fourth quarter of 2025, up 6 basis points over the previous quarter.
10. The Monetary Policy Committee observed a continuing decline in consumer prices in the Union. The year-on-year inflation rate stood at -0.8% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after -1.4% a quarter earlier. This was mainly due to lower prices for food products, thanks to high availability of local staple foods and price drops on imported foodstuffs. Core inflation stood at 0.1% during the quarter under review. The inflation rate was 0.0% for 2025 as a whole.
11. According to the latest Central Bank forecasts, annual average inflation in the Union is expected to return gradually to its target range, reaching 1.4% in 2026, then 2.1% in 2027. The Committee pointed out, however, that the balance of risks leans to the upside, due to the continuing security situation in the Sahel and a resurgence of geopolitical and trade tensions, which could put pressure on imported goods prices and transportation costs.
12. The Committee further noted that although the Union's external balance remains favorable, it is subject to downside risks amid an international environment marked by high levels of uncertainty. The positive trend is mainly predicated on improvements in the terms of trade and the mobilization of external financing by national governments. The materialization of geopolitical and trade risks could jeopardize the projected favorable outlook.
13. In view of these recent trends and short-term outlooks, the Committee deemed it expedient to ease its monetary policy stance in order to increase support to the private sector. Accordingly, the Committee decided to lower the key Central Bank interest rates by 25 basis points. Consequently, the minimum bid rate for tender operations drops from 3.25% to 3.00%, and the marginal lending facility rate from 5.25% to 5.00%. The Committee also decided to set the required reserve coefficient applicable to regulated institutions in the Union at 3.0%, to ensure the effectiveness of the policy rate.
14. The Monetary Policy Committee will continue to pay particular attention to any risks that could affect price trends. It will also implement all appropriate measures, as required, to ensure the financial and monetary stability of the Union.

Done in Dakar on March 4, 2026

The Chairman,

Jean-Claude Kassi Brou

SUMMARY

1. **Global economic activity** continued to grow in the fourth quarter of 2025, in a context of lower inflation and easing trade tensions. According to the latest available data, GDP growth in the United States stood at 1.8% year on year in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 2.3% in the previous quarter. In the Eurozone, GDP growth was 1.3% over the same period, down slightly from 1.4% a quarter earlier. In emerging countries, economic activity remained buoyant in China, with production up 4.5% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 4.8% in the third quarter. In South Africa, growth rang in at 1.9% in the final quarter of the year, after 2.1% in the previous quarter. In the West African sub-region, economic growth rose by 5.1% and 5.5% respectively in Nigeria and Ghana during the fourth quarter, after 4.0% and 5.5% previously.
2. **Disinflation continued worldwide.** Prices in the United States rose by 2.7% in December 2025, compared with 2.8% in the previous quarter, while in the Eurozone, inflation dropped from 2.2% to 1.9%. In emerging economies, inflation was up slightly in China and South Africa, respectively standing at 0.8% and 3.6% in December 2025, against -0.3% and 3.4% three months earlier. In West Africa, the inflation rate dropped, particularly in Nigeria (15.2% compared with 21.0%) and Ghana (5.4% versus 9.4%). However, the inflation outlook remains subject to upside risks linked to the resurgence of geopolitical tensions and the negative effects of climate change. More specifically, geopolitical tensions are likely to cause disruptions in supply chains, which in turn will impact commodity prices. Against that backdrop, in the fourth quarter of 2025, major central banks either implemented cautious monetary policy easing or kept their key rates unchanged.
3. **International financial and monetary conditions in the fourth quarter of 2025 were marked by easing in short-term rates.** In the United States, the overnight bank funding rate averaged 3.90% in the fourth quarter of 2025, down from the previous quarter (4.30%), following the easing measures implemented by the Fed. The benchmark index for the Eurozone interbank market (€STR) averaged 1.93%, after 1.92% a quarter earlier, in line with the status quo maintained by the European Central Bank (ECB) over the period. Bond market yields showed mixed trends. In the Eurozone, prospects of expansionary fiscal policy in Germany and public finance concerns in France led to respective overall rises in 10-year government bond yields of 2.7 basis points (bps) and 5.4 bps in those countries, to stand at 2.72% and 3.48% in the fourth quarter of 2025. In the United States, however, long-term yields fell by 16.3 bps in the fourth quarter of 2025, to stand at 4.09% in connection with investors' expectations of further key rate easing by the Fed. Similarly, in South Africa, 10-year Treasury bond yields contracted by 89.8 bps over the period to stand at 8.70%. On the foreign exchange market, the value of the euro was virtually unchanged (-0.03%) compared to other major foreign currencies, after rising by 1.8% in the third quarter of 2025.
4. On the **commodities market**, energy prices dropped by 6.1% quarter on quarter, compared with an increase of 1.2% in the previous quarter. This was due to lower oil prices driven by expectations of a global crude oil supply surplus. Prices for non-energy commodities, on the other hand, rose by 1.8%, after dropping by 0.4% in the previous quarter, mainly due to higher prices for precious metals. The price index for non-oil commodities exported by WAEMU countries fell by 0.9% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after contracting by 4.7% in the previous quarter. The largest declines were in cocoa and palm kernel oil.
5. **Within the WAEMU Union**, economic activity remained buoyant in the fourth quarter of 2025, with real GDP growing by 6.5% year on year, following a 6.6% increase in the previous quarter. Growth was driven by overall positive trends across all sectors. Yearly economic growth is estimated at 6.7% for 2025, after 6.2% in 2024.
6. The year-over-year **inflation rate** stood at -0.8% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after -1.4% in the previous quarter. This overall consumer price drop stemmed mainly from lower prices recorded in the "Food products" (-1.6% versus -2.0% previously) and "Restaurants and Hotels" (-2.8% versus -1.4%) categories. The core inflation rate, which tracks price changes excluding fresh food and energy, stood at 0.1% during the quarter under review, following a 0.0% change in the third quarter of 2025. Over 2025 as a whole, the inflation rate came in at 0.0%, following +3.5% in 2024.

7. **Public finance management in the WAEMU Union** in 2025 resulted in an overall budget deficit, on an accrual basis, including grants, of 5.5599 trillion, or 3.7% of GDP, as at the end of December 2025, compared with 7.2881 trillion, or 5.4% of GDP, a year earlier. The deficit was financed by mobilizing internal and external resources. The total public debt in the Union was estimated at 63.0% of GDP at the end of December 2025, compared with 64.7% one year prior.
8. In the fourth quarter of 2025, WAEMU countries' **external trade** showed an overall balance of payments surplus of 4.9126 trillion, after a surplus of 3.6366 trillion in the same period of the previous year. This improvement was primarily due to an increase of 3.1959 trillion in the balance of goods and services, partially offset by a decline in net inflows under the financial account, which contracted by 44.0% compared to the level recorded one year earlier. The current account deficit as a percentage of GDP stood at 2.0% for 2025 as a whole, compared with 5.7% in 2024, reflecting improved terms of trade and increased hydrocarbon exports. The overall balance of payments showed a surplus of 7.0276 trillion for the whole of 2025, compared to a surplus of 3.0127 trillion in 2024.
9. On the **interbank market**, the weighted average interest rate stood at 5.11% over the period under review, against 4.92% in the previous quarter, and 6.12% over the same period the year before. The weighted average interest rate for the one-week maturity, which accounted for 66% of all transactions for the quarter, stood at 4.94%, against 4.85% in the previous quarter. Similarly, the average lending rate applied by the Union's banks on customer loans, exclusive of taxes and charges, stood at 6.73% in the fourth quarter of 2025, up 6 basis points from the quarter before.
10. On the **regional public securities market**, the weighted average interest rate on Treasury bills dropped by 95 basis points (bps) to reach 5.88%, after falling by 89 bps in the third quarter of 2025. On the other hand, average bond yields rose by 28 bps overall during the quarter under review, to stand at 7.39%, driven by increased yields of 84 bps and 6 bps, respectively, on 3-year and 5-year maturities. Over the year 2025 as a whole, the weighted average interest rate on Treasury bills rose by 8 bps compared to 2024, while bond yields dropped by 3 bps, on average, over the same period.
11. The **monetary situation** at the end of December 2025 was marked by 17.4% growth in the money supply, year over year, after 15.1% one quarter earlier. This trend was due to an increase in net external assets, which were up 8.4134 trillion, primarily in connection with improvements in the aggregate external trade balance as well as the balance of internal claims, which rose by 4.0282 trillion. The increase in internal claims was driven by higher net claims of deposit-taking institutions on central governments (+2.0145 trillion or +7.8%) and loans to the economy (+2.0137 trillion or +5.6%).
12. On the **regional stock market**, the overall index, the BRVM Composite, rose by 8.1% in the fourth quarter of 2025, following an increase of 6.0% in the previous quarter. Market capitalization of all listed securities rose by 5.7% on a quarterly basis, after 4.5% three months earlier, reflecting increases of 6.8% in equity market capitalization and 4.4% in bond market capitalization. On an annual basis, overall stock market capitalization was up 20.2% at end-December 2025.
13. The **economic outlook** remains broadly favorable in the Union, with growth expected to reach 6.4% in 2026 and 6.3% in 2027, following 6.7% in 2025. This trend is expected to be driven primarily by a boom in the extractive and manufacturing industries, momentum in trade and services, and favorable prospects for the 2026/2027 agricultural season. However, this positive outlook remains contingent on international economic trends, the sociopolitical and security situation in the Union, and the impact of climate change.
14. **Public finance management** is expected to focus on maintaining the downward trend in the aggregate budget deficit, which is projected to fall from 3.7% of the Union's GDP in 2025 to 3.2% in 2026 and then to 2.9% in 2027. This anticipated reduction in the public deficit should result from the combined effects of economic growth and increased tax collection, as the tax burden is expected to reach 15.8% in 2026 and 15.9% in 2027, compared to 14.9% in 2025. At the same time, total expenditure and net lending as a percentage of GDP should be contained, at 21.8% in 2026 and 21.4% in 2027, after 21.7% in 2025, primarily reflecting continuing government efforts to

streamline expenditure. Across the Union, the public debt ratio is forecast to stand at 62.3% of GDP in 2026 and 60.7% in 2027, versus 63.0% in 2025.

15. The WAEMU Union's **external trade** is expected to show a surplus in 2026 and 2027, as in 2025. The aggregate balance of payments should reach 1.0169 trillion in 2026 and 793.0 billion in 2027, after a surplus of 7.0276 trillion in 2025. The expected downturn in the surplus mainly reflects an anticipated deterioration in the terms of trade resulting from lower prices for certain export commodities. The current account deficit is projected to reach 2.5% of GDP in 2026 and 3.3% in 2027, compared with 2.0% in 2025.
16. The **monetary situation** is expected to show an acceleration in private sector financing, following the slowdown observed in 2025. The rate of growth in loans to the private sector should reach 9.1% in 2026 and 9.4% in 2027, after 5.6% in 2025.
17. The average annual **inflation rate** in the Union is expected to return to the target zone of 1-3%, rising from 0.0% in 2025 to 1.4% in 2026, then to 2.1% in 2027. This projection reflects a more moderate decrease in prices for imported foodstuffs in 2026, a slower increase in local cereal supplies, and a decision not to renew government measures to combat cost-of-living increases, as well as base effects related to the low inflation rate observed in 2025.
18. **The balance of risks surrounding the inflation outlook remains skewed to the upside**, mainly due to ongoing insecurity in certain areas of the WAEMU zone and heightened international geopolitical and trade tensions, through their impact on the prices of imported petroleum and food products, as well as on transportation and freight costs. Nevertheless, this outlook could be mitigated by further declines in global food prices as well as sufficient supplies of cereals on the Union's markets.

1 - RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The global economy continued to improve in the fourth quarter of 2025, amid falling inflation and easing trade tensions. According to the latest available data, year-over-year GDP growth in the fourth quarter of 2025 stood at 1.8% in the United States and 1.3% in the Eurozone, compared with respective figures of 2.3% and 1.4% in the previous quarter. Emerging economies remained dynamic, particularly in China, with growth of 4.5% in the fourth quarter of 2025, following a rate of 4.8% one quarter earlier. In South Africa, growth stood at 1.9%, down from 2.1% in the previous quarter.

Inflation remained largely contained in most regions of the world. In advanced economies, notably the United States and the Eurozone, the year-on-year inflation rate was respectively 2.7% and 1.9% in December 2025, compared with 2.8% and 2.2% three months earlier. In emerging economies, prices rose 0.8% in China and 3.6% in South Africa, compared with -0.3% and 3.4% respectively in September 2025. In the West African sub-region, the disinflationary trend continued, particularly in Nigeria (14.2% versus 21.0%) and Ghana (5.4% versus 9.4%).

On the commodity market, energy prices dropped by 6.1%, quarter on quarter, over the fourth quarter of 2025, due to falling oil prices connected with an anticipated global supply surplus linked to OPEC+ production increases. On the other hand, non-energy prices rose by 1.8%, mainly due to an increase in precious metals prices. In addition, prices for non-petroleum commodities exported by WAEMU countries fell by 0.9% in the final quarter of 2025, after dropping by 4.7% a quarter earlier. The largest decreases were in cocoa and palm kernel oil prices.

International financial and monetary conditions in the fourth quarter of 2025 were marked by contrasting trends influenced by differing monetary and fiscal policy stances. Monetary policy easing by certain central banks in advanced economies has contributed to lower short-term interest rates, particularly in the United States. Conversely, the prospect of expansionary fiscal policy in Germany and concerns about public finance in France have led to an overall rise in 10-year government bond yields across the Eurozone. On the foreign exchange market, the euro remained virtually stable against other major currencies (-0.03%), following a 1.8% appreciation in the third quarter of 2025.

1.1 - Economic activity

1. Economic growth in the **United States** rose 1.8% year on year in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 2.3% in the previous quarter. This slowdown reflected lower public spending due to a partial government shutdown.¹ On the other hand, economic activity was buoyed by investments in the technology sector, household spending and a reduction in the trade deficit, against a backdrop of Fed rate easing. The inflation rate, measured using changes in the personal consumption expenditure price index, stood at 2.7% in December 2025, down from 2.8% in September 2025, reflecting the effects of lower prices in the energy

sector, linked to a decrease in gasoline prices (-8.8%).

In the **Eurozone**, the real GDP growth rate stood at 1.3% year on year in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 1.4% in the previous quarter. Growth was driven by a booming service sector, strong household consumption buoyed by favorable financing terms, additional public spending on defence and infrastructure, and a resilient labor market. The annual inflation rate stood at 1.9% in December 2025, versus 2.2% in September 2025, primarily due to lower energy prices.

¹ The federal government shutdown lasted from October 1 to November 13, 2025. It was caused by the US Congress's failure to reach an agreement on a federal budget for fiscal year 2026.

Table 1 - Global trends in real GDP growth, year on year (%)

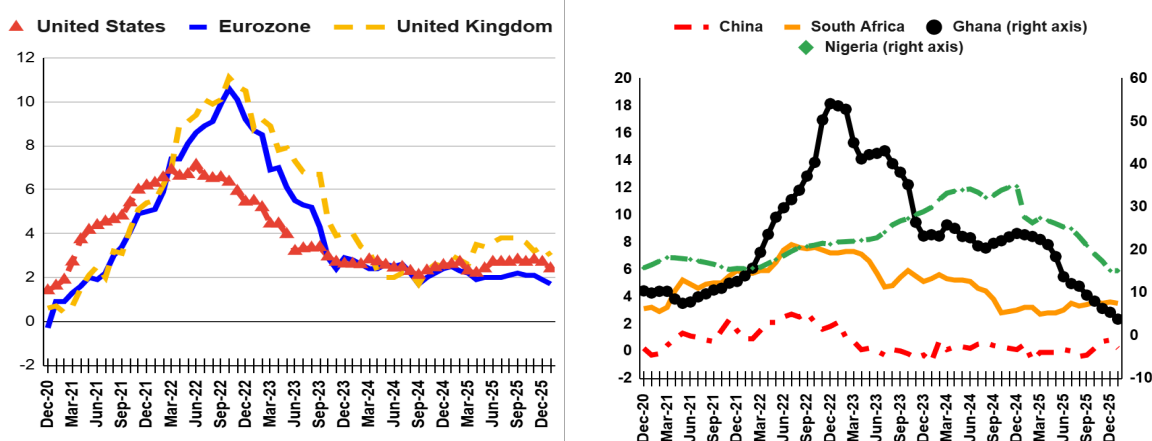
	2023		2023 (over 1 year)	2024				2024 (over 1 year)	2025				2025 (over 1 year)
	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Advanced economies													
United States	3.2	3.2	3.2	2.9	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.8	2.0	2.1	2.3	1.8	2.1
Eurozone	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.3	0.8	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.5
Germany	-0.9	-0.8	-0.9	-0.4	-0.7	-0.6	-0.2	-0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
France	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.0	1.1	0.6	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.1	0.8
Netherlands	-1.5	-1.1	-1.3	-0.3	0.9	1.7	2.0	1.1	2.2	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.8
Emerging economies													
China	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.3	4.7	4.6	5.4	5.0	5.4	5.2	4.8	4.5	5.0
South Africa	-0.8	1.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.9	2.1	1.9	1.4
Neighboring countries													
Nigeria	2.5	3.5	3.0	2.3	3.2	3.5	3.8	3.2	3.1	4.2	4.0	5.1	4.1
Ghana	1.9	5.1	3.5	4.9	7.5	7.2	3.6	5.8	6.3	6.3	5.5	5.5	5.9

Sources: OECD, Eurostat, IMF, Tradingeconomics, Bloomberg

3. Economic momentum in emerging economies continued to be strong in China, with year-on-year growth of 4.5% in the fourth quarter of 2025, following 4.8% in the previous quarter. The slowdown was due to ongoing vulnerabilities in the real estate sector and external pressures, along with the gradual withdrawal of support measures. However, economic growth continued to be supported by robust industrial activity, strong foreign trade, and buoyant consumer spending. The inflation rate rang in at 0.8% in December 2025, after a level of -0.3% three months prior, reflecting higher food prices. GDP growth in South Africa was 1.9% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 2.1% in the previous quarter, driven by exceptional harvests leading to increased exports, while logistical challenges pertaining to rail and port operations had a dampening effect. The inflation rate was 3.6% in December 2025, versus 3.4% in September 2025, driven by rising prices for housing and food.
4. In Nigeria, the WAEMU Member States' main trading partner within ECOWAS, economic activity increased by 5.1% year on year in the fourth quarter of 2025, versus 4.0% a quarter earlier. Growth was mainly driven by expansion in services, particularly in the financial, technological and communications sectors. The inflation rate continued on its downward trend, reaching 15.2% in December 2025,² after 21.0% in September 2025, due to lower energy prices and the appreciation of the naira, which was up 7.0% against the US dollar at the end of December 2025. In Ghana, economic activity remained buoyant in the fourth quarter of 2025, with growth ringing in at 5.4%, after 5.5% in the previous quarter. This momentum was driven by strong performances in service sectors and increased domestic demand. Inflationary pressures eased significantly, with an inflation rate of 5.4% in December 2025, after 9.4% in September 2025. The downward trend in inflation was primarily due to a slowdown in food prices and an appreciation in the national currency.

² The relatively low level of inflation in Nigeria was largely due to the rebasing of the price index to 2024 instead of 2009. Since 2024 was a year of high inflation, rebasing systematically creates base effects for the following years.

Graph 1 - Trends in the inflation rate in major partner countries (change in relation to the same quarter the previous year, as a %)



Sources: OECD, Eurostat, national statistics institutes, Tradingeconomics

1.2 - Financial and monetary conditions

1.2.1 - Central bank decisions

5. During the fourth quarter of 2025, central banks took contrasting approaches to monetary policy. Some lowered their key rates to support economic activity as inflation neared target levels, while others maintained the status quo in anticipation of robust growth.
6. Over the fourth quarter of 2025, the **US Federal Reserve (Fed)** lowered the target range for the Fed Fund Rate by 25 basis points (bps) on two occasions—in October and December 2025—to move it to between 3.50% and 3.75%. These easing measures were designed to support the labor market amid slowing inflation. At its most recent meeting on January 28, 2026, the Fed kept its interest rates unchanged, reflecting a stronger growth outlook and a reduction in the risk of inflationary pressures.
7. The **European Central Bank (ECB)** has maintained the status quo since it reduced its key interest rates by 25 bps in June 2025. The deposit facility rate, which is the main key interest rate of the ECB, was kept at 2.00%. The primary refinancing operations rate and the marginal lending facility rate remained at 2.15% and 2.40%, respectively. This stance reflects a view that economic growth remains resilient, despite an international environment marked by geopolitical tensions, with inflation expected to stabilize at 2% over the medium term.
8. The **People's Bank of China (PBoC)**, at its fourth-quarter meeting on December 18, 2025, kept its policy rates unchanged, at historically low levels, in order to support growth and preserve the stability of the yuan, despite the persistent crisis in the real estate sector. The one-year LPR (Loan Prime Rate), China's main policy rate, remained at 3.0%, the level in force since May 2025.
9. In the fourth quarter of 2025, the **South African Reserve Bank (SARB)** lowered its key interest rate by 25 bps to 6.75% on November 20, 2025, considering that the improved inflation outlook warranted a more accommodative stance. At its most recent meeting, on January 29, 2026, the SARB left its key policy rate unchanged in the light of potential pressures on electricity prices and ongoing global uncertainties.

10. In the fourth quarter of 2025, the **Bank of Ghana (BoG)** lowered its policy rate by 350 bps to 18.0% on November 25, 2025, against the backdrop of an improved macroeconomic outlook and expectations of a continuing slowdown in inflation. On January 28, 2026, the BoG lowered its policy rate by 250 bps to 15.50%. This decision, prompted by a marked slowdown in inflation (5.4% in December 2025, compared with 23.8% in December 2024), aimed to support economic growth and reduce the cost of borrowing. The **Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN)**, for its part, lowered its key interest rate by to 27.00% on November 25, 2025, after cutting it by 50 bps in September 2025, due to a sharp decline in the inflation rate (down 1.7 pp to 17.3% in November 2025) and a stronger naira.
11. The **Bank of Central African States (BEAC)** raised its key rates on December 15, 2025. Accordingly, the interest rate on tender operations was raised from 4.50% to 4.75%, and the marginal lending facility rate from 6.00% to 6.25%. This decision comes amid a decline in foreign exchange reserves, expected to cover 4.2 months of imports as at end-December 2025, down from 4.9 months at end-December 2024.

Table 2 - Summary of actions taken by major central banks

	Change in the key rate in 2025 (in bps)	Change in the main key rate since the beginning of 2026 as at Feb. 20 (in bps)	Key rate on Feb. 20, 2025 (%)	Inflation target (%)	December 2025 inflation rate (%)
Advanced economies					
United States	-75	0	{3.50-3.75}	2.0	2.7
Eurozone	-100	0	2.00	2.0	2.1
Emerging countries					
China	-10	0	3.00	3.0	0.8
South Africa	-100	0	6.75	{3.0-6.0}	3.6
Partner countries					
Nigeria	-50	0	27.00	{6.0-9.0}	15.2
Ghana	-900	-250	15.50	{8.0+/-2.0}	5.4
CEMAC	-50	0	4.75	NA	2.8
WAEMU zone					
WAEMU	-25	0	3.25	{1.0-3.0}	-0.8

Sources: Central banks of the countries concerned and Bloomberg for the inflation forecasts

NA: Not applicable - In accordance with Article 1 of its Articles of Association, the ultimate objective of the BEAC's monetary policy is to guarantee monetary stability, as measured by a low inflation rate and an adequate currency coverage ratio (the minimum threshold is 20%).

1.2.2 - Financial conditions

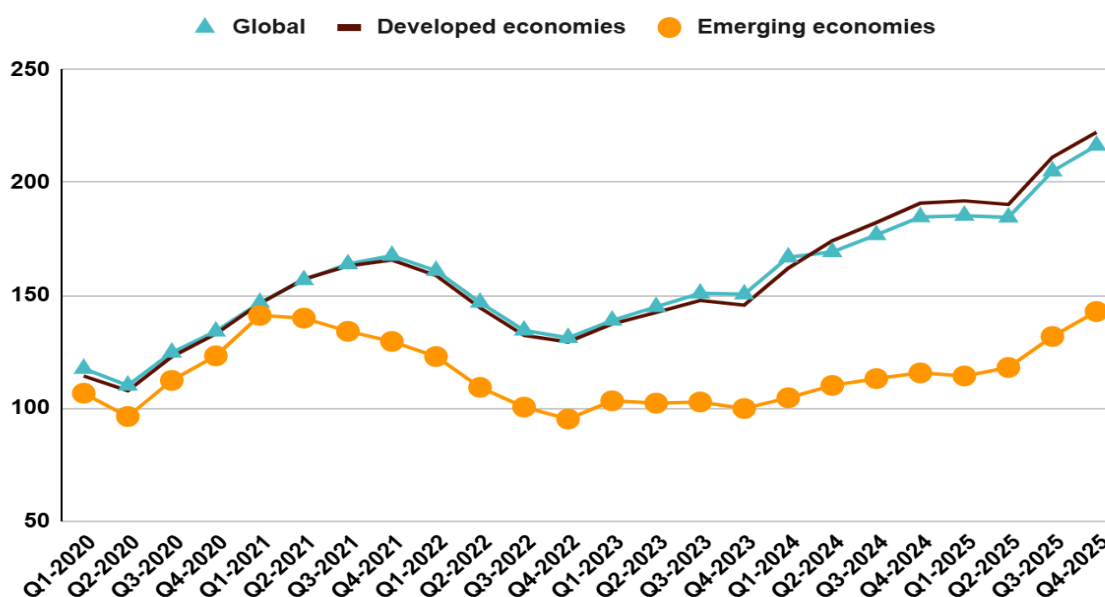
12. In the fourth quarter of 2025, international financial and monetary conditions were marked by contrasting trends, influenced by different monetary and fiscal policy stances.
13. In the Eurozone, money market rates were virtually stable. More specifically, the €STR (euro short-term rate), which is the benchmark overnight interbank rate, averaged 1.93% in the fourth quarter of 2025, compared with 1.92% a quarter earlier and 3.20% in the fourth quarter of 2024. In the United States, the overnight bank funding rate (OBFR), which is the main benchmark rate on the interbank market, dropped to 3.90% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 4.30% in the third quarter of 2025, and 4.66% a year earlier, consistent with successive Fed policy rate cuts over the final quarter of 2025.

14. On the equity markets, the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) Developed Economies Index was up 5.2% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after rising by 11.0% in the previous quarter. This performance was driven by enthusiasm for artificial intelligence (AI) and investor optimism about the monetary policy easing

cycle in the United States. At the same time, the MSCI Emerging Markets Index rose 8.4%, following an 11.7% increase in the previous quarter. This trend was driven mainly by global demand for semiconductors. The MSCI Global Index, for its part, rose by 5.6%, after increasing by 11.1% in the previous quarter.

Graph 2 - Trends in the MSCI indicators³ (base 100 = 2019)

(change in relation to the same quarter the previous year, as a %)

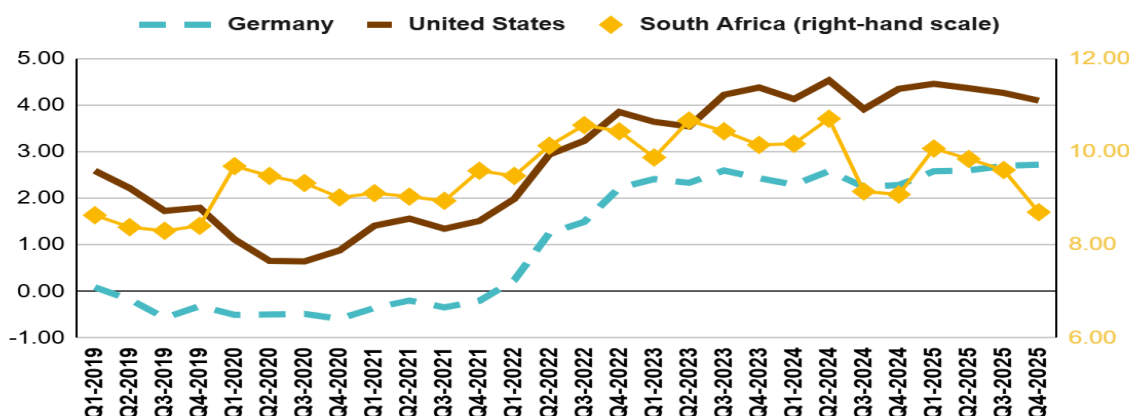


Source: Bloomberg

15. On the bond markets, yields on benchmark 10-year government bonds rose by 5.4 bps in France and 2.7 bps in Germany, reaching 3.48% and 2.72%, respectively, in the fourth quarter of 2025. This increase was mainly due to expectations of higher public spending in Germany and concerns surrounding the adoption of France's 2026 budget, which pushed up the risk premium. On the other hand, yields on 10-year US government bonds were down 16.3 bps in the fourth quarter of 2025, reaching 4.09% after falling by 10.6 bps in the previous quarter. This trend was due to investor expectations of future Fed policy rate cuts, as well as a resilient US economy. Similarly, in South Africa, yields on 10-year Treasury bonds were down 89.8 bps in the fourth quarter of 2025, reaching 8.70%, after a contraction of 86.1 bps in the previous quarter, driven by lower inflation

and a significant influx of foreign capital into the national economy.

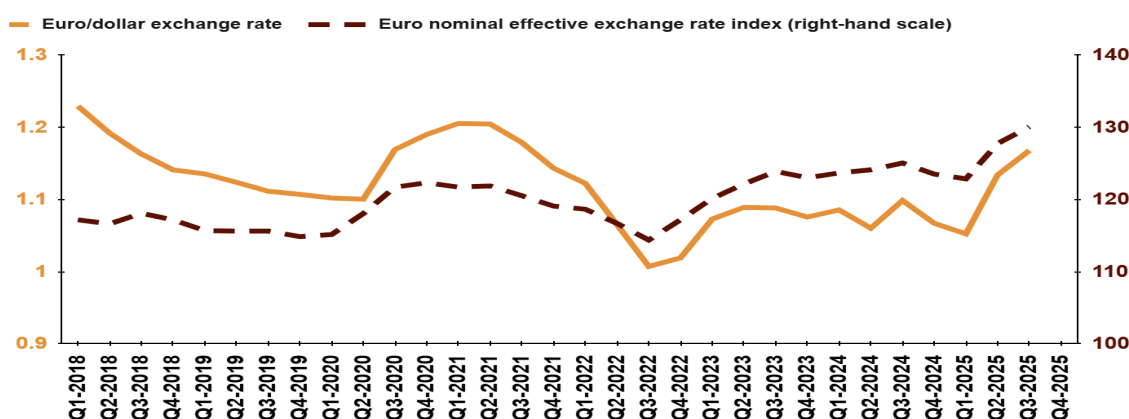
³ The MSCI ACWI, the All Country World Index developed by MSCI, tracks 3,000 companies in 50 countries (23 developed countries and 27 emerging countries). There are a number of versions of the index, two of which are widely used. The MSCI Developed Economies Index covers capitalizations in the 23 economies with the most highly developed financial markets. Equities listed on US stock exchanges account for 66% of this component. A complementary index, the MSCI Emerging Economies Index, tracks stock markets in 27 emerging countries.

Graph 3 - Benchmark 10-year bond yields (%)

Source: Bloomberg, Investing

1.3 - Major developments on the foreign exchange market

16. On the foreign exchange market, the **euro** remained virtually stable (-0.03%), quarter on quarter, in the final quarter of 2025, compared to other major currencies, after rising by 1.8% in the third quarter of 2025. More specifically, the euro dropped against the **Chinese yuan** (-1.3%) and the **US dollar** (-0.4%). On the other hand, the European currency appreciated against the **pound sterling** (+1.1%).
17. Year on year, the Eurozone currency appreciated overall by 5.3% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after rising by 4.0% in the previous quarter. It was up 9.0% and 7.5% against the US dollar and the Chinese yuan, respectively.

Graph 4 - Trends in the nominal effective euro exchange rate (base 100 = 2013)

Sources: Banque de France, ECB

18. In the West African subregion, in the fourth quarter of 2025, the CFA franc depreciated by 3.8% overall on a quarterly basis against the currencies of the other ECOWAS countries, following a depreciation of 2.0% in the previous quarter, according to official figures published by the countries' monetary authorities. The WAEMU currency weakened against the Liberian dollar (-8.2%), the naira (-4.9%) and the Guinean franc (-0.1%). Conversely, the CFA franc rose against the dalasi (+2.0%), the cedi (+3.1%), and the leone (+0.1%).

19. On an annual basis, the CFA franc was down 5.6% overall against the other currencies in the West African subregion, notably due to its depreciation against the cedi (-21.3%), the leone (-8.6%), and the

naira (-2.4%). On the other hand, it strengthened against the dalasi (+11.9%), the Guinean franc (+10.3%), and the Liberian dollar (+5.6%).

Table 3 - CFA franc exchange rates against other West African currencies (Foreign currency units per 1,000 CFA F)

	2024				2025				Change (%)	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	quarterly	annual
Gambian dalasi	109.5	110.6	111.6	114.1	114.3	121.7	125.2	127.8	2.0	11.9
Ghanaian cedi	20.3	22.4	25.3	25.4	24.5	21.7	19.7	20.0	1.3	-21.3
Guinean franc	14,088.2	13,980.7	14,335.4	13,949.9	13,791.7	14,881.1	15,394.0	15,381.2	-0.1	10.3
Liberian dollar	315.7	316.0	326.4	302.9	313.8	344.5	348.5	319.9	-8.2	5.6
Nigerian naira	2,155.2	2,252.2	2,652.9	2,637.6	2,435.8	2,724.7	2,708.4	2,574.9	-4.9	-2.4
Sierra Leonean leone	26,661.9	26,979.3	26,535.9	27,175.4	27,547.7	25,574.1	24,820.1	24,846.2	0.1	-8.6
All West Africa (*)	417.0	443.0	513.4	511.9	478.0	512.6	502.2	483.1	-3.8	-5.6

Sources: WAMA (official central bank data), BCEAO (*) Index (base 100=2016)

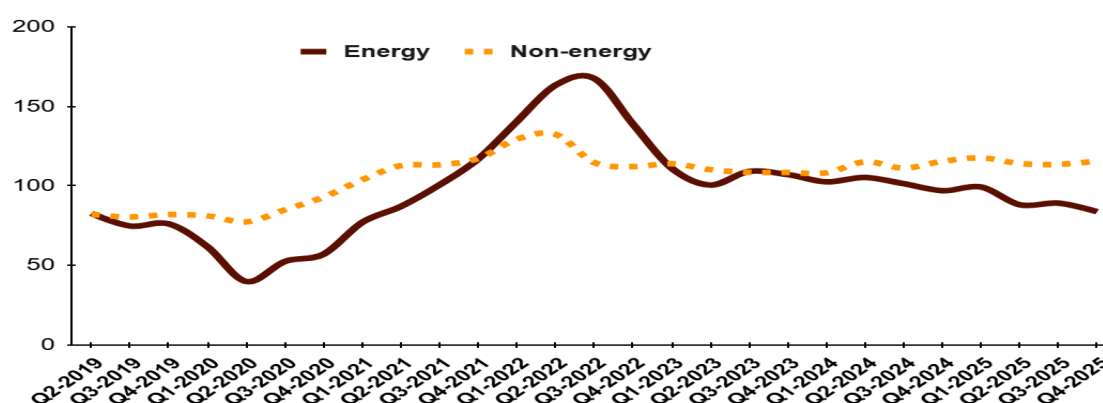
1.4 - Commodity prices

20. In the fourth quarter of 2025, international energy commodity prices dropped at a quarterly rate of 6.1%, after rising 1.2% in the previous quarter. The decrease was mainly due to crude oil prices, which fell by 8.0%, after rising 2.4% in the previous quarter. The decline in oil prices was driven by expectations of a production surplus following higher production by OPEC+. The International Energy Agency (IEA) reported a rise in global inventories and a further increase in the production surplus. In contrast, natural gas prices rose by 23.8% due to a shortage after

winter demand for liquefied natural gas (LNG) exceeded production.

21. Non-energy commodity prices rose 1.8% on a quarterly basis in the fourth quarter of 2025, after dropping 0.4% the quarter before, driven mainly by price increases for precious metals (+22.4%) and metals and minerals (+6.9%). On the other hand, prices for fertilizers (-10.3%), and agricultural products (-1.1%), were down, following respective changes of +13.5% and -3.4% in the previous quarter.

Graph 5 - Commodity price indexes (base 100 = 2010)



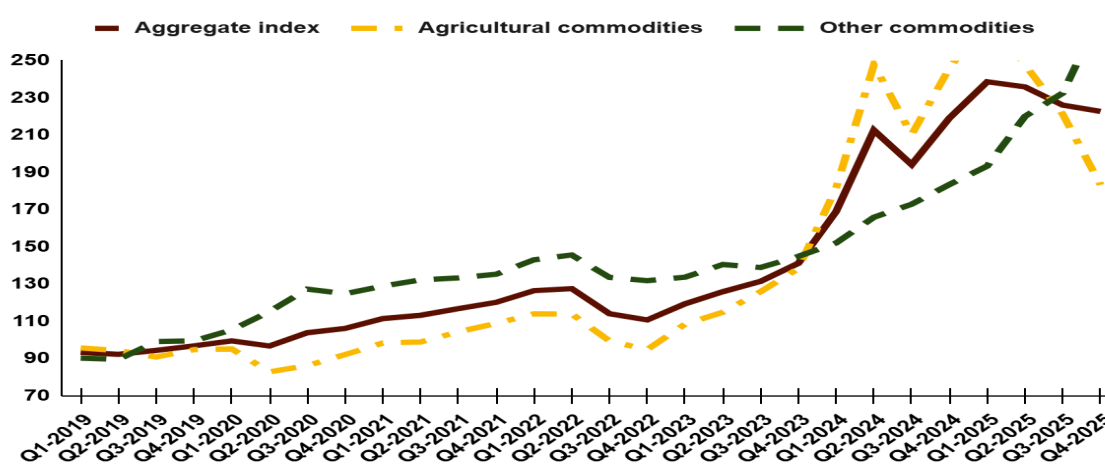
Source: World Bank

1.4.1 - Price index⁴ of non-petroleum commodities exported by WAEMU countries

22. The price index for non-oil commodities exported by WAEMU countries was down 0.9%, on a quarterly basis, in the fourth quarter of 2025, continuing on from the drop of 4.7% recorded a quarter earlier. This contraction mainly reflected sharp drops in prices for agricultural products, particularly cocoa (-20.9%), palm kernel oil

(-4.9%), cashew nuts (-3.9%), cotton (-3.8%), rubber (-3.4%), round timber (-11.9%), and phosphate (-9.6%). The downward trend was mitigated, however, by higher prices for gold (+20.1%), zinc (+11.9%), coffee (+6.4%), and uranium (+4.9%).

Graph 6 - Price index of non-petroleum commodities exported by WAEMU (base 100=2013)



Sources: World Bank Commodity Price Data, Reuters, BCEAO calculations

23. **Cocoa** prices were down, mainly due to lower industrial demand in Europe. The drop in **timber** prices stems from an oversupply due to high inventories, combined with sluggish demand owing to a slowdown in the construction and renovation sectors in the United States. Lower **phosphate** prices followed a decline in global demand for fertilizer. The drop in **palm kernel oil** prices, meanwhile, was driven by increased supplies in Malaysia and Indonesia, supported by high inventories among major importers, particularly India, China, and Pakistan. The downturn in **cashew** prices was linked to increased production, especially in Côte d'Ivoire, where output reached a record high thanks to favorable weather conditions in the main producing areas in the north and center of the country. The

upturn in global **cotton** production, driven by better-than-expected yields, fuelled expectations of a supply surplus and exerted downward pressure on cotton prices. The drop in **rubber** prices can be chalked up to increased supplies in Southeast Asia, against a backdrop of moderate demand and weather conditions favorable to harvests .

24. In contrast, **gold** prices rose, driven by strong demand for the safe-haven asset amid a weakening US dollar and expectations of lower US interest rates. Rising **zinc** prices can be attributed to supply constraints and prospects of increased demand. Refined zinc production was down in 2025 due to

⁴ Index in foreign currency.

production constraints among smelters in Kazakhstan and Japan.⁵ The rise in **coffee** prices was driven by limited global availability, due to the impact of US tariffs on Brazilian coffee, as well as poor harvests in Brazil and unfavorable rainfall conditions in Vietnam. **Uranium** prices

were buoyed by expectations of tight supplies in the nuclear energy sector, driven by the US nuclear renaissance program and strategic stockpiling in response to restrictions on Russian imports.

Table 4 - Prices of commodities exported by WAEMU countries

	Average prices in Q4-2025				Change compared to Q3-2025 (%)		Change compared to Q4-2024 (%)	
	units and value in foreign currency		units and value in CFA F		foreign currencies	CFA F	foreign currencies	CFA F
Crude oil (NYMEX)	\$/barrel	60.6	mt	244,119.4	-6.5	-6.2	-13.3	-20.4
Robusta coffee (ICO)	cents/lb.	216.7	kg	2,694.5	6.4	6.8	-11.4	-18.8
Cocoa (ICCO)	cents/lb.	262.6	kg	3,264.5	-20.9	-20.6	-30.2	-36
Cotton (NY #2)	cents/lb.	64.7	kg	803.8	-3.8	-3.4	-9.7	-17.2
Palm oil	\$/metric ton	1,181.0	kg	666.0	2.3	2.7	-6.4	-14.1
Palm kernel oil	\$/metric ton	1,867.0	kg	1,052.8	-4.9	-4.5	2	-6.4
Rubber	eurocents/kg	163.4	kg	1,071.6	-3.4	-3.4	-21.3	-21.3
Cashew nuts	\$/metric ton	1,530.0	kg	862.8	-3.9	-3.5	-14.4	-21.5
Gold	\$/ounce	4,153.1	gram	82,609.4	20.1	20.6	56	43.1
Uranium	\$/lb.	63.2	kg	78,612.5	4.9	5.4	-0.1	-8.4
Phosphates	\$/metric ton	188.4	kg	106.3	-9.6	-9.2	21.8	11.7

Sources: Reuters, BCEAO calculations

25. **1.4.2 - Price index⁶ of food commodities imported by WAEMU countries**

26. On a quarterly basis, the price index for the main foodstuffs imported by WAEMU countries dropped 8.9% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after falling 3.7% in the previous quarter. This trend reflects lower prices for rice (-15.9%), sugar (-5.9%), soybean oil (-5.3%), and milk (-4.1%). On the other hand, wheat prices rose by 7.0% quarter on quarter.

27. **Rice** prices contracted amid expectations of a global oversupply mainly due abundant harvests among the main Asian exporting countries, particularly in India and Indonesia. **Sugar** prices dropped due to improved supply prospects, buoyed by strong production in India and Brazil. **Soybean oil** prices fell because of low

demand in the United States and expectations of abundant harvests in the South America, especially in Brazil. Lower **milk** prices can be explained by higher supplies in the main producing areas, while international demand remained subdued.

28. Conversely, the rise in **wheat** prices mainly reflects renewed attacks on production infrastructure in Ukraine, which have reignited concerns about wheat exports via the Black Sea.

29. On an annual basis, **the price index for the main food products imported by WAEMU countries** dropped by 17.8% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after falling by 11.5% in the previous quarter. This trend was mainly driven by lower prices for rice (-30.9%), milk (-18.1%), and sugar (-11.4%). However, it was partially offset by higher prices for vegetable oil (+17.0%) and wheat (+1.0%).

⁵ In Japan, the closure of the Toho Zinc plant in Annaka pulled significant production capacity out of the market, leading to a net drop in refined output. Refined output also fell in Kazakhstan, largely due to operational issues at certain processing facilities.

⁶ The index is in foreign currency. The base year is 2017.

2 - AGGREGATE SUPPLY AND DEMAND

According to the latest estimates, real GDP growth in the Union is estimated at 6.5%, year on year, in the fourth quarter of 2025, after 6.6% the previous quarter. This trend was driven by an increase in value added across all sectors.

2.1 - Aggregate supply

30. Economic activity in the WAEMU Union remained buoyant in the fourth quarter of 2025, with annual growth in the gross domestic product (GDP) ringing in at 6.5%, following a performance of 6.6% in the previous quarter. The business climate indicator, which summarizes the opinions of business leaders, remained above its long-term trend at 101.0 points compared to 101.2 points in the previous quarter, reflecting continuing business leader confidence in the economic outlook.
31. Real GDP growth in the Union reflected the continued positive trend across all sectors of the economy, with particularly strong momentum in the tertiary sector. Over the quarter under review, the contribution of the tertiary sector rose 0.2 pp to reach 3.5 pps. The contribution of the primary sector was 1.1 pp, up 0.1 pp from the previous quarter, while the secondary sector contributed 1.9 pp, compared with 2.3 pps one quarter earlier.

Table 5 - Contributions to GDP growth, year on year (seasonally adjusted and working-day adjusted (SA-WDA) data, as a %)

	2024	2024	2025				2025
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Primary sector	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0
Secondary sector	1.4	1.9	2.3	2.3	2.3	1.9	2.3
Tertiary sector	3.4	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.4
GDP	6.2	7.3	7.1	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.7

Source: BCEAO

32. Year-on-year trends in economic activity broken down by country are shown in Table 6 below.

Table 6 - Trends in the GDP (year-over-year SA-WDC data, in %)

	2024	2024	2025				2025
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Benin	7.5	7.4	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.4	7.5
Burkina Faso	4.8	5.5	6.5	6.5	6.6	5.5	6.5
Côte d'Ivoire	6.0	7.1	6.4	6.7	6.1	7.0	6.5
Guinea-Bissau	4.1	3.7	5.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.5
Mali	5.0	3.5	5.2	5.5	6.6	7.2	6.1
Niger	10.3	15.9	10.8	5.6	6.9	3.5	6.9
Senegal	6.1	7.2	8.3	8.8	7.4	6.6	7.8
Togo	6.5	6.3	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.0	6.2
WAEMU	6.2	7.3	7.1	6.8	6.6	6.5	6.7

Sources: National Statistics Institutes, BCEAO

2.1.1. Primary sector

33. Value added in the primary sector increased by 4.6% year on year in the fourth quarter of 2025, after rising 3.9% in the previous quarter, driven in particular by positive trends in agriculture for the 2025/2026 growing season, which was marked by adequate rainfall in most countries of the Union.
34. According to the latest data available for the 2025/2026 agricultural season, food-crop production in the Union increased 4.9% year on year, reaching 86,082,988 metric tons. This upswing is mainly due to higher production of cereals (+2,599,429 metric tons, or +7.7%) and tubers (+1,521,054 metric tons, or +5.3%). Compared to the average of the previous five seasons, harvests in the 2025/2026 growing season are expected to increase by 12.9%.

Table 7 - Trends in food crop production in WAEMU (in metric tons except where otherwise indicated)

	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025 (1)	2025/2026* (2)	Average over the past five crop years (3)	Change (%)	
							(2)/(1)	(2)/(3)
Cereals	27,294,963	31,898,704	32,558,165	33,758,814	36,358,243	31,394,199	7.7	15.8
Tubers	25,944,245	26,934,859	28,261,916	28,877,564	30,398,618	27,248,503	5.3	11.6
Other crops	15,712,552	18,060,633	18,135,550	19,395,397	19,326,127	17,581,698	-0.4	9.9
Total	68,951,760	76,894,196	78,955,632	86,031,775	86,082,988	76,224,400	4.9	12.9

Source: Member States' national agriculture departments, BCEAO calculations

(*) Estimates

35. Supplies of export crops were also up during the 2025/2026 agricultural season compared with the previous year, with the exception of cocoa and coffee.

Table 8 - Cash crop production in WAEMU (in metric tons)

	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025 (1)	2025/2026* (2)	Average over the past five crop years (3)	Change (%)	
							(2)/(1)	(2)/(3)
Cocoa	2,244,122	2,376,300	1,841,820	1,912,042	1,731,900	2,112,821	-9.4	-18.0
Coffee	84,312	120,000	74,202	101,833	60,000	97,290	-41.1	-38.3
Seed cotton	2,757,929	2,094,499	2,020,814	2,141,404	2,260,252	2,218,245	5.6	1.9
Groundnut	3,631,804	3,759,759	4,059,345	4,455,981	5,293,591	3,999,129	18.8	32.4
Cashew nut	1,414,166	1,539,292	1,779,388	1,486,900	2,079,150	1,491,711	39.8	39.4
Rubber	1,100,386	1,332,600	1,624,824	1,686,600	1,956,500	1,338,737	16.0	46.1

Source: National marketing authorities

(*) Estimates at end-September 2025

36. **Seed cotton** production is estimated at 2,260,252 metric tons, up 5.6% compared to the 2024/2025 crop year. The strong performance of cotton production in the Union was primarily due to results in Togo (+21.9%), Burkina Faso (+17.7%), Senegal (+10.4%), Benin (+7.4%), and Mali (+5.1%), partially offset by a decline in Côte d'Ivoire (-10.4%).
37. **Groundnut** harvests rose by 18.8% to 5,293,591 metric tons, reflecting the favorable spatial and temporal distribution of rainfall in producing countries. Significant increases were recorded in Senegal (+26.8%), Burkina Faso (+24.0%), Benin (+21.3%), and Côte d'Ivoire (+16.8%).
38. The regional **rubber** supply stood at 1,956,500 metric tons, up 16.0% from the previous growing season, due in particular to the Ivorian government's support for the organization of the sector.

39. **Cashew nut** production increased by 39.8% to 2,079,150 metric tons in connection with increased supplies in Côte d'Ivoire (+58.8%), Guinea-Bissau (+11.0%), and Burkina Faso (+10.0%). This trend was due to favorable weather conditions in production areas, especially in Côte d'Ivoire, thanks to the introduction of new high-yield cashew varieties and training for producers on best agricultural practices, as well as an increase in farm-gate prices, incentivizing production.
40. In contrast, **cocoa** production fell by 9.4% to a volume of 1,731,900 metric tons. This drop can be ascribed to a lower supply of cocoa in Côte d'Ivoire (-9.5%) due to unfavorable weather conditions for the crop between November 2024 and March 2025.
41. The **coffee** harvest also contracted by 41.1% at the end of the 2025/2026 growing season, settling at 60,000 metric tons, primarily due to the 58.4% drop in the harvest in Côte d'Ivoire owing to adverse weather conditions.
42. Over the fourth quarter of 2025, value added in the secondary sector grew by 8.5% in real terms, year on year, down from an increase of 10.7% recorded in the previous quarter. The business climate indicator for the secondary sector stood at its long-term trend (100.0 points), reflecting business leaders' continuing confidence in the soundness of the economic outlook, despite a slight drop of 0.1 point from the previous quarter.
43. The industrial production index showed growth of 5.8% in the fourth quarter of 2025, following an 8.3% increase in the previous quarter. This trend mainly reflected a slowdown in activities in the hydrocarbon extraction sector in Niger and Senegal.
44. However, the slowdown in the pace of growth in industrial production was mitigated by renewed momentum in the beverage manufacturing sectors in Burkina Faso, Benin, and Senegal, as well as in the mineral materials manufacturing sectors in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo, and Niger.

2.1.2. Secondary sector

Table 9 - Trends in the Industrial Production Index (IPI) in WAEMU, year on year (SA-WDC data, in %)

Industries	2024	2024	2025				2025
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
B - EXTRACTIVE ACTIVITIES	23.8	25.9	50.0	24.7	16.3	7.0	22.4
Hydrocarbon extraction	317.9	394.5	386.2	203.1	51.7	5.8	84.1
Metal ore mining	-6.7	-13.0	-2.5	-21.4	-3.5	10.1	-4.9
Other extractive activities	15.0	16.8	12.5	18.0	4.8	-1.7	7.7
MANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES	1.5	0.4	4.7	2.9	4.7	4.9	4.3
Food manufacturing	6.5	7.7	9.2	5.3	-0.7	-1.8	3.1
Beverage manufacturing	-4.8	6.8	33.1	14.9	12.7	26.5	21.7
Textile manufacturing	-15.4	-50.7	-17.4	11.3	7.5	-43.7	-16.5
Petroleum refining and coking	13.9	8.1	3.0	5.0	10.4	12.5	7.7
Chemical manufacturing	-19.7	-14.9	-5.1	-0.4	32.9	40.3	16.2
Rubber and plastic manufacturing	0.5	-30.9	-1.6	0.7	-0.4	-3.7	-1.4
Production of mineral materials	-2.1	4.1	3.4	8.6	-3.0	6.1	3.7
ELECTRICITY AND GAS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION	1.9	-6.3	4.9	4.6	7.6	8.0	6.2
Electricity and gas production and distribution	1.9	-6.3	4.9	4.6	7.6	8.0	6.2
WATER PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION, SANITATION, WASTE TREATMENT AND REMEDIATION	3.8	3.7	4.1	5.3	5.8	5.4	5.2
Water collection, purification and distribution	3.8	3.7	4.1	5.3	5.8	5.4	5.2
INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INDEX	7.0	6.6	15.4	8.7	8.3	5.8	9.5

Source: BCEAO

2.1.3 Tertiary sector

45. Value added in the tertiary sector grew by 6.4% year on year in the fourth quarter of 2025, compared with 5.9% in the previous quarter. The business climate indicator for the tertiary sector remained above its long-term trend at 102.0 points, up 0.4 point, reflecting rising optimism among business leaders regarding the economic situation, particularly in the financial services and trade sectors.
46. The turnover index in trade rose by 3.6% over the quarter under review, following a 0.1% increase in the previous quarter. This trend was driven by buoyant retail markets for foodstuffs in Senegal, Togo, and Côte d'Ivoire, as well as by the performance of the wholesale market for petroleum products, particularly in Togo, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, and Niger.
47. The financial services activity index⁷ recorded 15.5% growth in the quarter under review, compared with 15.1% in the previous quarter, mainly due to continued positive momentum in banking transactions, especially loans.
48. Year-on-year turnover in market services (excluding financial services) rose by 5.0% in the fourth quarter of 2025, following growth of 9.7% in the previous quarter. This slowdown can be explained, for the most part, by a decline in specialized, scientific, and technical services in Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, and Mali, as well as in real estate services in Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Togo, Niger, and Senegal. The slowdown was also driven by a contraction in information and communication services in Burkina Faso.

Table 10 - Year-on-year change in the turnover index (TI) in WAEMU (SA-WDC data, in %)

	2024	2024	2025			
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Wholesale and Retail Trade Turnover Index	2.5	4.0	1.5	1.1	0.1	3.6
<i>Trade and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles</i>	0.6	12.1	5.9	7.3	10.0	2.0
<i>Wholesale trade and commission trade</i>	3.6	8.2	5.1	4.7	3.9	5.2
<i>Retail trade</i>	2.4	2.0	0.0	-0.5	-1.9	3.4
Market Services Turnover Index	3.9	-2.7	2.8	6.6	9.7	5.0
<i>Transportation and storage services</i>	7.4	4.4	1.3	4.4	9.7	11.7
<i>Accommodations and food services</i>	2.3	1.5	-0.5	1.0	3.3	2.1
<i>Information and communication services</i>	7.9	-5.6	-7.5	-3.3	24.6	12.0
<i>Real estate services</i>	-11.7	-31.1	65.6	10.3	5.0	-4.0
<i>Specialized, scientific, and technical services</i>	1.9	-6.5	15.9	67.6	46.9	-0.1

Source: BCEAO

2.2 - Aggregate demand

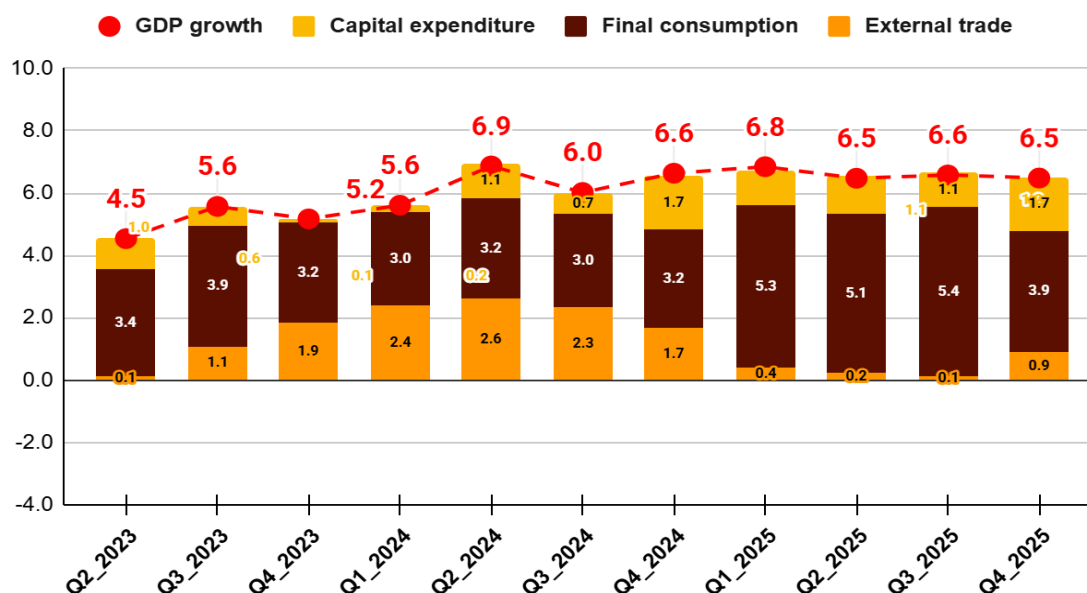
49. In the fourth quarter of 2025, the growth recorded in the Union was driven primarily by domestic demand, which rose by 6.4% year over year, following a 6.2% increase in the previous quarter.
50. CapEx rose by 8.7%, up from 7.6% in the previous quarter, driven by a rebound in building and civil engineering in both the public and private sectors. Final consumption, meanwhile, increased by

⁷ The financial services turnover index is based on the sum of financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM) of banks and financial institutions. The FISIM index represents the profits that financial intermediaries earn from managing their customers' loans and deposits.

5.5% during the quarter under review, following a 5.7% increase in the third quarter of 2025. The continued momentum in consumption was largely due to the easing of price pressures across the Union.

51. External trade made a positive contribution to economic growth in the fourth quarter of 2025 (+0.1 percentage point), reflecting an improvement in the trade balance.

Graph 7 - Contributions of demand items to growth (in % points)



Source: BCEAO

52. For 2025 as a whole, the GDP in the Union rose by 6.7%, after 6.2% in 2024. This improvement was primarily driven by an upturn in activity in the tertiary and secondary sectors. The tertiary sector remained the main driver of growth, contributing 3.4 percentage points, fueled by buoyant retail trade and services. The contribution of the secondary sector to economic growth rang in at 2.3 pps, driven by increased production in the extractive sector, with the exploitation of hydrocarbon deposits in Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, and Niger, as well as rising output in the mining and manufacturing sectors. The primary sector contributed 1.0 pp, due to increased agricultural production, especially food crop production (+4.8%), during the 2025/2026 crop year.

53. Analyzed through the prism of GDP uses, economic growth in 2025 was primarily

driven by final consumption and investment, with respective contributions of 3.7 and 1.8 pps. The contribution made by the external sector was 1.2 pp, driven by higher exports, particularly of mining, oil, and gas products.

54. Compared to the estimates previously published in the December 2025 report, the Union's economic growth has remained unchanged, despite upward revisions of 0.6 pp for Mali and 0.2 pp for Burkina Faso. Mali's GDP growth rate has been raised to 6.1%, reflecting the less severe-than-expected impact of fuel supply difficulties, the strong performance of the tertiary and primary sectors, the consolidation of gold production, and the start of lithium mining operations. In Burkina Faso, the upward revision in growth is linked to increased investment in public works.

Table 11 - Trends in GDP growth rates, in real terms (%)

	2023	2024	2025
Primary sector	0.5	1.4	1.0
Secondary sector	2.2	1.4	2.3
<i>incl.: - Manufacturing industries</i>	1.4	0.5	0.6
- Extractive industries	0.2	0.8	1.4
- Public works and civil eng.	0.5	0.1	0.2
Tertiary sector	2.5	3.4	3.4
Real GDP	5.2	6.2	6.7
Final consumption	2.8	1.9	3.7
<i>Private</i>	2.5	1.7	2.7
<i>Public</i>	0.3	0.2	1.0
Capital Expenditures	1.9	2.0	1.8
<i>Private</i>	1.4	1.4	1.3
<i>Public</i>	0.5	0.6	0.5
External sector	0.5	2.3	1.2

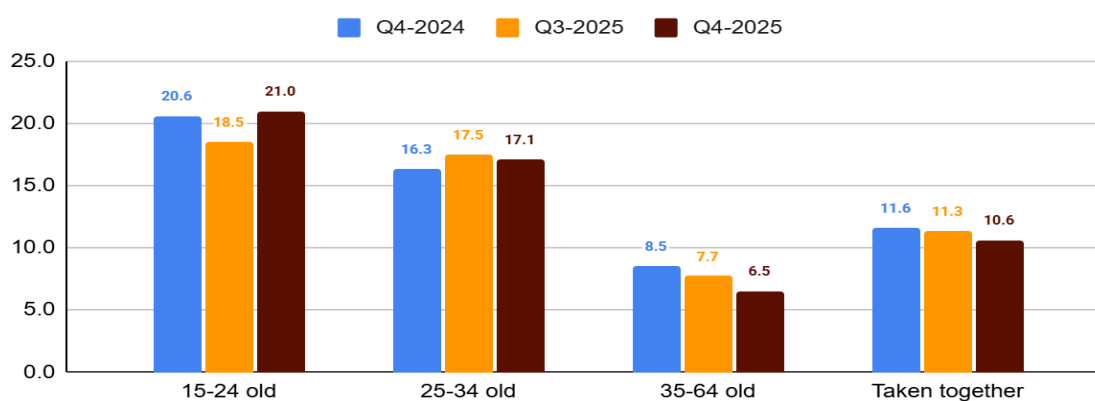
Sources: BCEAO, National Statistics Institutes

2.3 - Labor market

55. Labor market data is derived from household surveys conducted by the BCEAO in the largest urban centers of each country in the Union. According to household survey responses, the employment rate, defined as the proportion of the working-age population who are employed, stood at 53.7% in the fourth quarter of 2025, versus 53.3% in the previous quarter, representing an increase of 0.4 percentage point (pp).
56. The unemployment rate reported in the Union's main conurbations was 10.6% in the fourth quarter of 2025, down 0.7 pp from the previous quarter. In comparison

with the same period a year earlier, the unemployment rate was down 1.0 pp.

57. According to the breakdown by gender, the unemployment rate for women was 15.5%, down slightly by 0.1 pp compared to the previous quarter. The rate among men was down 0.9 pp, standing at 6.0%.
58. The breakdown by age shows lower unemployment among adults over the age of 25. The rate was down 1.2 pp among adults aged 35-64 and 0.4 pp among adults aged 25-34. On the other hand, the unemployment rate rose by 2.5 pps among youths aged 15-24.

Graph 8 - Unemployment rate by age (%)

Source: BCEAO

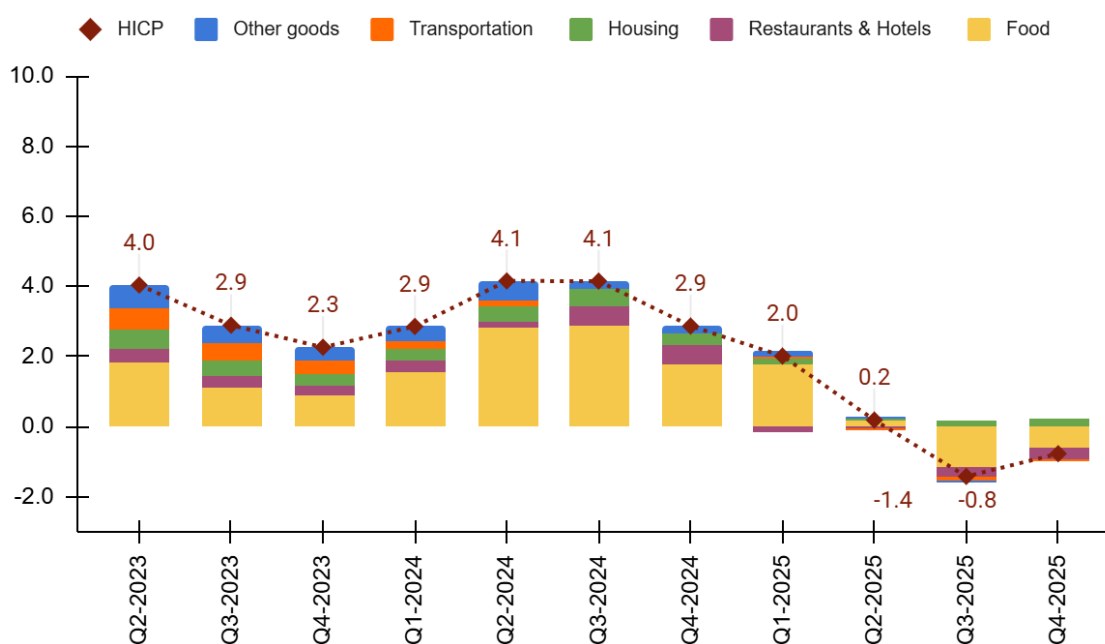
3 - RECENT TRENDS IN INFLATION AND COMPETITIVENESS

The inflation rate in the Union stood at -0.8%, year over year, in the fourth quarter of 2025, following -1.4% in the previous quarter. This trend was primarily due to smaller declines in price levels under the "Food products" category (-1.6% versus -2.0% previously) and price increases in the "Housing" category (+2.1% versus +0.9%). The core inflation rate was also down, standing at 0.1% during the quarter under review, after 0% in the third quarter of 2025.

The real effective exchange rate (REER) fell 1.7% in the fourth quarter of 2025 compared with the same period the previous year, following a drop of 6.2% in the third quarter of 2025. This trend, reflecting a gain in price competitiveness for the Union, was due to a favorable inflation differential of 4.9 percentage points, partially offset by an appreciation of 3.3% in the nominal effective exchange rate.

3.1- Recent trends in inflation

59. The overall price trend in the Union, compared with the same period one year earlier, rang in at -0.8% in the fourth quarter of 2025, following -1.4% in the previous quarter. This slowdown in deflation was mainly driven by price increases in the "Housing" category, where costs were up 2.1% compared to 0.9% the quarter before, and by a slower rate of decrease in prices for "Food products", which fell 1.6%, compared with a drop of 2.0% one quarter previously.
60. The downward trend in food prices was driven by favorable supply conditions for staple foods and lower costs for major imported food items. Preliminary estimates from the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) point to a significant increase in cereal production for the 2025/2026 crop year across the Union (+7.7%). In addition, steady supplies of cereal products on the markets have led to a drop in prices for cereals (-10.9% after -11.8%). This price drop was also aided by various interventions by governments and partners to ensure household food security. In Niger, rice prices fell by 26.2%, on top of a 29.3% decrease the quarter before, while in Burkina Faso, they were down 23.2% following a decrease of 16.8%. Rice prices in Mali contracted by 15.4% after a drop of 9.7% in the previous quarter. The price of millet also eased, particularly in Mali (-39.7% after -26.3%), Burkina Faso (-37.3% versus -25.4%), and Niger (-29.1% after -37.0%). The maize market displayed similar dynamics, with a significant contraction in prices in Niger (-33.7% after -36.7%), Mali (-29.4% versus -20.6%), and Burkina Faso (-27.1% versus -15.7%).
61. In addition, the price index for foodstuffs imported by the member countries of the Union, expressed in CFA francs, contracted by 26.1% over the fourth quarter of 2025, after a drop of 15.6% the quarter before. In particular, decreases were seen in world prices for rice (-36.6% after -25.3%), sugar (-32.7% after -19.9%), milk (-10.5% after +8.3%), and oil (-4.7% after +16.1%).
62. The rise in prices observed in the "housing" category (+1.2 pp) during the quarter under review can be explained by an increase in the price of charcoal (+1.9% compared with +0.4%), as well as higher prices for home maintenance and repair services (+1.1% compared with -0.1%).

Graph 9 - Contributions to change in the HICP in WAEMU (in pps)

Source: BCEAO

63. The breakdown by category showed a drop of 1.0% in the prices of goods in the fourth quarter of 2025, after a decrease of 1.2% in the previous quarter. Prices for services were down 0.3% in the period under review, after dropping 1.7% in the previous quarter, due to a contraction in the costs of transportation and housing.
64. Core inflation, which measures change in overall price levels excluding fresh food and energy, was 0.1% during the quarter under review, after 0% change in the third quarter of 2025. This slight increase can be explained by price increases on certain foodstuffs included in the core index, particularly flour and pasta. As for non-food products included under the core inflation index, increases were recorded in prices for housing and communications services.
65. In the fourth quarter of 2025, the fresh food price index was down 3.5%, after dropping by 4.8% in the previous quarter, in line with decreases in the cost of cereals, vegetable oils and fresh vegetables. Energy product prices saw an increase of 1.8%, after a 0.9% drop in the previous quarter, due to rising prices for solid fuels.

Table 12 - Trends in inflation and its components

	Annual change (%)			Contributions (% points)		
	Q2-2025	Q3-2025	Q4-2025	Q2-2025	Q3-2025	Q4-2025
Fresh food	0.2	-4.5	-3.5	0.1	-1.3	-1.0
Energy	-1.0	-0.9	1.8	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
Core inflation	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.1
Headline inflation	0.2	-1.4	-0.8	0.2	-1.4	-0.8
Food products	1.1	-2.0	-1.6	0.2	-1.2	-0.6
Alcoholic beverages	1.3	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Clothing	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1
Housing	1.0	0.9	2.1	0.0	0.1	0.2
Furnishings	-0.4	-1.1	-2.5	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Health	-1.3	-2.4	-1.9	0.0	-0.2	-0.1
Transportation	-0.6	-0.6	-0.7	0.0	-0.1	-0.1
Communications	1.6	1.0	1.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
Recreation and Culture	-1.4	-0.6	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Education	1.4	1.5	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Restaurants & Hotels	-1.1	-1.4	-2.8	-0.1	-0.3	-0.3
Insurance & Financial Services	-1.1	-0.9	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other goods	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Sources: BCEAO, National statistics institute

66. Country analysis showed price levels falling overall in Niger (-8.3% versus -9.4% previously), Burkina Faso (-2.7% after -2.7%), Guinea-Bissau (-2.1% versus -1.8%), Togo (-0.1% versus -0.7%), and Mali (-0.1% versus -0.5%). On the other hand, positive inflation was recorded in Senegal (+2.5% versus +2.2%), Benin (+1.4% versus +1.5%), and Côte d'Ivoire (+0.1% versus -0.6%).
67. Deflation in Niger reflected lower costs in the "Food products" category (-11.8% compared with -12.8%), driven by falling prices for cereals (-27.9% compared with -34.5%), vegetables (-22.0% versus -12.5%), tubers (-7.6% versus +0.4%), and fresh fish (-5.1% versus -6.3%). This trend was mitigated by rising prices in the "housing" component (+4.2% compared with +0.9%), driven by higher rates for home maintenance and repair services (+0.3% compared with -1.5%) and higher maintenance charges (+7.9%, after +1.4%).
68. compared with +0.9%), driven by higher rates for home maintenance and repair services (+0.3% compared with -1.5%) and higher maintenance charges (+7.9%, after +1.4%).
69. Price drops in Burkina Faso (-4.2 pps) were driven by decreases in prices for foodstuffs (-4.2% versus -2.0%), especially cereals (-14.2% versus -8.4%) and vegetable oils (-3.4% versus +2.5%). This trend was partially offset by an acceleration in the "housing" category (+0.7% after -2.6%), in connection with higher prices for charcoal (+2.6% versus -5.6%) and housing services (+1.4% versus 0.0%).
70. Negative inflation in Guinea-Bissau was mainly driven by a contraction in food prices (-1.4% versus +0.3%), reflecting

drops in prices for local cereals (-13.9% versus -2.4%), tubers (-2.4% versus +15.0%), and vegetables (-9.7% versus +4.5%). The negative trend in inflation was partly offset by an increase in prices for vegetable oils (+5.7% after +5.4%).

71. The downward price trend in Togo was mainly due to lower food costs (-1.9% after -1.7%), following price drops on local cereals (-16.5% after -15.8%) and meat (-13.3% versus +11.4%). It was also driven by price slowdowns in the "Restaurants and Hotels" category (+3.0% after +5.0%).
72. Deflation in Mali was driven by food prices (-2.5% after -2.6%), particularly cereals (-14.7% after -2.2%) and tubers (-3.7% versus -3.2%), as well as transportation services (-5.0% versus -4.7%).
73. The slowdown in inflation in Benin reflected prices in the "Food products" category (+5.2% after +6.0%), particularly prices for vegetable oils (+11.6% after +18.2%). It was also driven by lower prices in the "Restaurants and Hotels"

component (-7.6% after -5.8%), whose impact was mitigated by rising prices in the "Housing" category (+2.1% against +0.5%).

74. In Senegal, the increase in inflation was primarily due to higher prices in the "Restaurants and Hotels" (+2.8% after +2.0%) and "Communications" categories (+1.0% after -3.1%). This trend was partially offset by slower price rises for food products (+2.2% after +3.8%), particularly meat (+3.0% versus +4.6%) and milk (+1.4% after +2.4%).
75. The slight rise in the inflation rate in Côte d'Ivoire was due to higher price rises in the "Food products" category (+2.0% after +0.6%), particularly for fresh meat (+8.4% after +5.9%) and tubers (+6.9% after +2.8%), mitigated by lower prices in the transportation sector (-2.8% after -1.5%), in connection with the 1.2% reduction in the price of gasoline imposed by the national government as of November 1, 2025.

Table 13 - Year-on-year trends in inflation by country in WAEMU (%)

Countries	2024(*)	2025(*)	Q4-2024	Q1-2025	Q2-2025	Q3-2025	Q4-2025
Benin	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.5	1.1	1.5	1.4
Burkina Faso	4.2	-0.5	4.9	2.0	1.5	-2.7	-2.7
Côte d'Ivoire	3.5	0.1	2.4	1.0	0.0	-0.6	0.1
Guinea-Bissau	3.7	0.9	5.3	6.1	1.4	-1.8	-2.1
Mali	3.2	2.3	5.5	6.3	3.7	-0.5	-0.1
Niger	9.1	-4.7	4.6	3.8	-4.2	-9.4	-8.3
Senegal	0.8	1.4	0.0	0.7	0.3	2.2	2.5
Togo	2.9	0.4	1.4	2.0	0.4	-0.7	-0.1
WAEMU	3.5	0.0	2.9	2.0	0.2	-1.4	-0.8

Sources: BCEAO, National Statistics Institutes

(*) Annual average

76. The aggregate inflation rate for the whole of 2025 stood at 0.0%, after reaching a level of +3.5% in 2024.

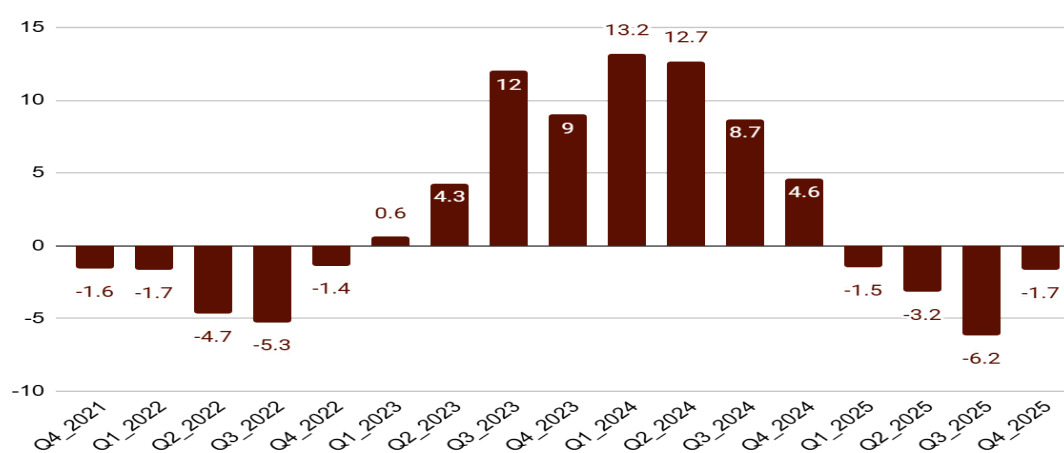
3.2- External competitiveness

77. The real effective exchange rate (REER) fell by 1.7% in the fourth quarter of 2025 compared to the same period the year before, after dropping by 6.2% in the third quarter of 2025. This trend reflects a gain in price competitiveness for the Union due to an inflation differential of 4.9 pps in the Union's favor, partially offset by an appreciation of 3.3% in the nominal effective exchange rate.
78. The inflation rate in the Union came in at -0.8% in the fourth quarter of 2025, compared with an average of 4.3% in partner countries. More specifically, in

neighboring partner countries such as Nigeria and Ghana, inflation remained high during the quarter under review, reaching 15.2% and 5.4%, respectively.

79. The year-on-year appreciation of the nominal effective exchange rate in the fourth quarter of 2025 notably reflected the year-on-year appreciation of the CFA franc against the Turkish lira (+33.4%), the US dollar (+9.0%), and the Chinese yuan (+7.5%), mitigated by its depreciation against the Ghanaian cedi (-21.3%), the naira (-2.4%) and the Swiss franc (-0.6%).

Graph 10 - Year-on-year trends in the REER



Source: BCEAO

(-) gain in competitiveness and (+) decreased competitiveness

80. An analysis of the REER misalignment based on the Eba-Lite method developed by the IMF showed that the trend in the REER reflected an undervaluation of the Union's external position relative to the fundamentals of the economy. The REER gap is estimated at -11.5%, which is outside the corridor of [-5%; 5%] defined by the IMF, implying that the CFA franc is positioned below its equilibrium value, which could make domestic products more competitive abroad.

81. Most of the gains from the January 1994 parity change have been maintained by the WAEMU Union. At the end of December 2025, the Union posted a net competitiveness gain of 23.5% relative to its partners, taken together, as compared with 1993. The gain was 35.3% at the end of December 1994. Thus, at the end of December 2025, 66.6% of the benefits of the CFA franc parity change remained intact.

82. The table below tracks gains (-) and losses (+) in global competitiveness compared to partner groups.

Table 14 - Trends in competitiveness by partner group (%)

	Year		Quarterly change				Annual change			
	2024	2025	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025(*)	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025(*)
Developed countries	1.0	-1.6	-1.6	0.6	1.1	-0.7	-0.7	-1.8	-2.0	-0.7
Eurozone	0.8	-1.9	-1.4	-0.1	-0.3	-0.8	-0.2	-1.5	-3.1	-2.5
Neighboring countries	48.5	-9.8	-1.3	-4.6	-16.9	8.5	0.0	-5.1	-28.1	-15.1
Asian countries	2.9	-0.8	2.5	-0.4	10.3	-2.1	-3.1	-3.2	6.8	10.2
EU countries	0.5	-0.2	-1.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.8	-0.5	-1.8	-3.1	-2.4
Emerging countries	2.2	-1.7	1.4	-1.0	9.1	-2.7	-3.8	-3.9	4.5	6.6
CEMAC	-1.0	-4.3	-2.7	0.8	-1.3	-2.0	-2.4	-4.0	-5.6	-5.1
All	9.6	-3.4	-0.6	-1.0	-0.6	0.4	-1.5	-3.2	-6.2	-1.7

Source: BCEAO (*) Estimates (+) Increase in the REER or decrease in competitiveness
 (-) Decrease in the REER or gain in competitiveness

4 - TRENDS IN PUBLIC FINANCE

Public finance management in 2025 resulted in an overall budget deficit of 5.5599 trillion or 3.7% of GDP, on a commitment basis, including grants, compared with 7.2881 trillion or 5.4% of GDP in 2024. This trend reflects a higher increase in "budgetary revenue and grants" compared to "public expenditure and net loans".

The trend in tax revenue is consistent with the strong performance of the economy in the Union. Expenditure growth, meanwhile, primarily reflects an increase in debt service costs as well as a rise in the total payroll resulting from the hiring and promotion of civil servants.

Funds raised on the regional financial market in 2025 totaled 15.1052 trillion, an increase of 61.5% compared to 2024. Some Member States tapped international financial markets through Eurobond issues totaling 1.821 trillion, down from 2.6639 trillion in 2024.

4.1 - Revenue and grants

83. Fiscal revenue stood at 25.3965 trillion CFA F in 2025, representing an increase of 2.9732 trillion or 13.3%, compared with the year before. This was primarily due to growth of 2.6706 trillion or 13.7% in tax revenue, which reached 22.1605 trillion, reflecting strong economic activity. The tax burden stood at 14.9% in 2025, up from 14.4% in 2024.
84. Grants increased by 268.5 billion or 28.1%, reaching 1.2234 trillion for 2025.

Table 15 - Financial operations of WAEMU Member States (in billions, unless otherwise indicated)

	2024 (1)	2025(*) (2)	Change (2) – (1)	
			en milliards	en %
Budgetary revenue and grants	23,378.2	26,629.9	3,251.7	13.9
(% of GDP)	17.2	17.9	-	-
Budgetary revenue	22,423.3	25,396.5	2,973.2	13.3
Fiscal revenue	19,489.9	22,160.5	2,670.6	13.7
(% of GDP)	14.4	14.9	-	-
Other revenue (incl. non fiscal)	2,933.4	3,246.0	312.6	10.7
Grants	954.9	1,223.4	268.5	28.1
Total expenditure and net loans	30,666.3	32,189.9	1,523.6	5.0
(% of GDP)	22.6	21.7	-	-
Current expenditure	19,556.0	20,716.0	1,160.0	5.9
payroll	7,183.0	7,700.3	517.3	7.2
grants and transfers	4,653.4	4,584.3	-69.1	-1.5
interest on the debt	3,426.6	3,869.9	443.3	12.9
(as a % of tax revenue)	17.6	17.5	-	-
other current expenditure	4,293.0	4,561.5	268.5	6.3
CapEx	9,806.5	9,777.3	-29.2	-0.3
(% of GDP)	7.2	6.6	-	-
Other expenditure	1,312.8	1,635.2	322.4	24.6
Net loans	-8.9	61.3	70.2	-788.8
Balance, commitment basis (incl. grants)	-7,288.1	-5,559.9	1,728.2	23.7
(% of GDP)	-5.4	-3.7	-	-
Balance, cash basis (incl. grants)	-7,172.1	-5,512.1	1,660.0	23.1
(% of GDP)	-5.3	-3.7	-	-

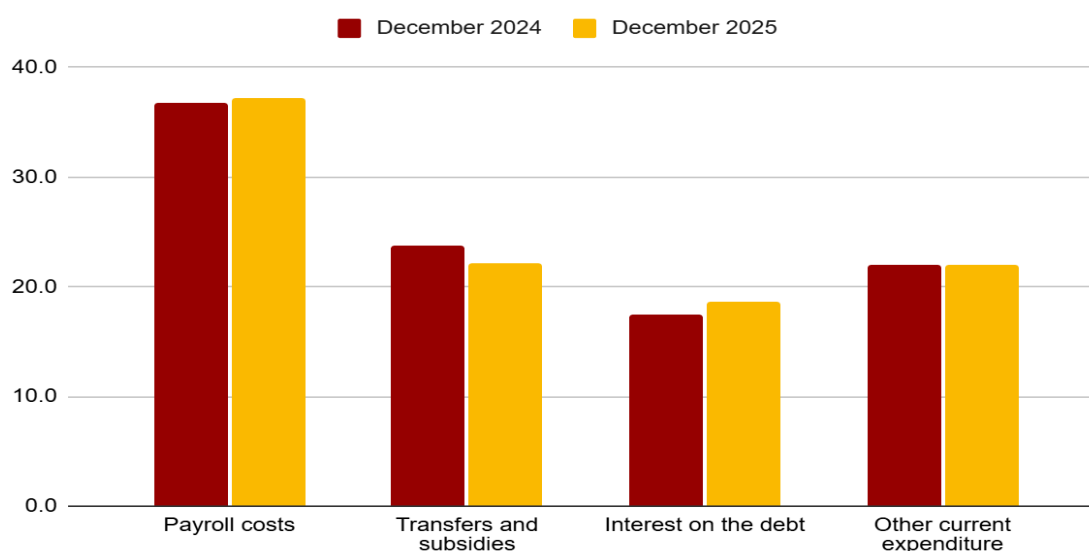
Sources: National departments, BCEAO

(*) Estimates

4.2 - Total expenditure and net loans

85. Total expenditure and net loans stood at 32.1899 trillion, up 1.5236 trillion or 5.0% compared to 2024. This trend was driven by growth in current expenditure (+5.9%) and other expenditure (+24.6%), mitigated by a drop in capital expenditure (-0.3%).
86. Growth in current expenses was due to simultaneous increases in interest payments on public debt (+12.9%), payroll costs (+7.2%), and recurrent expenditure (+6.3%), mitigated by a decrease in transfers and subsidies (-1.5%). The increase in payroll costs can be explained in part by new hires and promotions within the civil service.
87. As a percentage of GDP, total expenditure and net loans decreased by 0.9 pp to 21.7% of GDP in 2025.

Graph 11 - Trends in the structure of current expenses (%)



Sources: National departments, BCEAO

4.3 - Budget balance and financing

88. In light of the trends described above, the budget deficit, on a commitment basis, including grants, dropped by 1.7282 trillion, to stand at 5.5599 trillion, or 3.7% of GDP, at the end of December 2025. It was 7.2881 trillion, or 5.4% of GDP, in 2024.
89. **4.3.1 - Issues on the regional public securities market**
90. WAEMU Member States raised 15.1052 trillion on the regional public debt market in 2025, up 5.7532 trillion, or +61.5%, compared with 2024. In net terms, the funds raised totaled 3.5213 trillion, compared with 3.1003 trillion in 2024.
91. Member States raised 6.0362 trillion on the Treasury bill market in 2025, accounting for 40.0% of the funds raised on the regional financial market, compared with 5.0550 trillion a year earlier. Twelve-month maturities were the most sought-after, with issues for a total value of 4.0217 trillion, or 66.6% of all bills issued during the period.

92. The Union's public treasuries raised 9.069 trillion on the bond market in 2025, compared with 4.297 trillion the previous year. The most popular maturity was 3 years (representing 48.2% of total issues),

followed by 5-year maturities (27.3% of total), 7-year maturities (18.3% of total), 10-year maturities (5.6% of total), and 15-year maturities (0.6% of total).

Table 16 - Gross issues of public securities on the regional market (in billions of CFA F)

Instrument	2024				Total 2024	2025				Total 2025
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Bills	1,121.4	1,333.2	1,067.8	1,532.6	5,055.0	1,833.5	1,847.4	981.1	1,374.2	6,036.2
Bonds	889.2	1,219.1	1,019.5	1,169.2	4,297.0	1,898.5	2,592.9	2,215.1	2,362.5	9,069.0
<i>By auction</i>	469.4	830.3	832.4	940.2	3,072.3	1,136.6	2,176.3	1,378.7	1,131.1	5,822.7
<i>By syndication(*)</i>	419.8	388.8	187.1	229.0	1,224.7	761.9	416.6	836.4	1,231.4	3,246.3
Total	2,010.6	2,552.3	2,087.3	2,701.8	9,352.0	3,732.0	4,440.3	3,196.2	3,736.7	15,105.2

Sources: WAMU Securities, AMF-UMOA (*) preliminary data on syndication

93. On the regional financial market, the weighted average interest rate on Treasury bills stood at 5.88%, down 95 basis points compared to the previous quarter, after dropping by 89 bps in the third quarter of 2025. Easing was driven by increased bank liquidity during the quarter.

94. Bond yields rose 28 bps in the fourth quarter of 2025, to reach 7.39%, driven by higher yields for 3-year and 5-year maturities, up respectively by 84 bps and 6 bps.

95. In 2025 as a whole, the weighted average interest rate on bills rose 8 bps compared with 2024. Bond yields fell by an average of 3 bps over the same period.

Table 17 - Average interest rates and yields on public securities (%)

	2024				2024 Average	2025				2025 Average
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
1 month	-	5.39	6.00	5.80	5.71	-	-	-	4.50	4.50
3 months	6.64	6.56	5.77	6.13	6.17	6.27	9.41	5.21	5.44	5.68
6 months	7.10	7.33	7.28	6.24	7.01	6.48	7.40	9.80	-	7.02
12 months	7.25	8.12	7.84	7.14	7.63	7.85	7.74	7.25	6.88	7.59
WAR* on bills	7.09	7.60	6.80	6.48	6.98	7.41	7.72	6.83	5.88	7.06
3 yrs	8.46	8.51	8.04	7.95	8.24	7.89	7.65	7.53	8.37	7.81
5 yrs	6.47	6.99	6.98	7.32	6.99	6.7	7.13	6.72	6.78	6.81
7 yrs	6.25	6.61	5.84	6.73	6.30	6.44	7.04	6.65	6.59	6.65
10 yrs	6.81	6.47	7.41	6.99	6.70	7.47	6.95	6.97	6.87	6.93
15 yrs	-	0.00	-	-	0.00	-	-	-	7.14	7.14
WAY** on bonds	7.31	7.37	7.02	7.46	7.30	7.07	7.45	7.11	7.39	7.27

Sources: WAMU Securities, AMF-UMOA (*) Weighted average rate (**) Weighted average yield

4.3.2 - Outstanding public securities on the regional market

96. Aggregate outstanding public securities were estimated at 31.3085 trillion, or 21.1% of GDP, at end-December 2025, compared

with 27.7872 trillion or 20.5% of GDP at the end of December 2024. The structure of outstanding securities was dominated by Treasury bonds, which represented 87.7% of the total.

Table 18 - Outstanding public securities by country (billions of CFA F)

		Benin	Burkina Faso	Côte d'Ivoire	Guinea-Bissau	Mali	Niger	Senegal	Togo	WAEMU
Bills	Auction	5.6	429.9	1,134.7	160.9	568.3	660.4	781.5	117.9	3,859.3
Bonds	Auction	1,121.3	2,386.9	5,178.8	341.3	2,028.1	1,359.2	3,672.0	1,692.6	17,780.2
	Syndication	618.0	1,338.3	5,311.6	0.0	1,238.2	507.0	388.1	267.8	9,669.0
	Total	1,739.3	3,725.2	10,490.4	341.3	3,266.4	1,866.2	4,060.1	1,960.4	27,449.3
Total outstanding		1 744,9	4,155.1	11,625.1	502.2	3,834.7	2,526.6	4,841.6	2,078.3	31,308.5

Sources: WAMU Securities, AMF-UMOA, BCEAO. Data as of September 30, 2025.

4.3.3 - External resource mobilization by the WAEMU Member States

97. Throughout 2025, the countries of the Union received financial support from external partners. The gross total of external resources—excluding IMF funds—mobilized by Member States and channeled through the BCEAO totaled 8.9974 trillion, compared with 8.5873 trillion in 2024.
98. WAEMU Member States also received IMF disbursements under their economic and financial programs. Benin mobilized a total of 51.1 billion CFA francs for its

program supported by the Extended Credit Facility (ECF), the Extended Fund Facility (EFF), and the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF). Burkina Faso received 18.6 billion CFA francs under the ECF, while Côte d'Ivoire received 899.7 billion CFA francs through the ECF, the RSF, and the EFF. Guinea-Bissau mobilized 3.6 billion CFA francs under the ECF, and Niger received 55.2 billion CFA francs through the ECF and the RSF. Togo obtained 33.8 billion CFA francs under the ECF. Mali, for its part, received 72.9 billion CFA francs under the Rapid Credit Facility (RCF).

Table 19 – Drawdowns under financial programs entered into with the IMF, by country (in billions of CFA F)

	Jan.-Dec. 2024	Jan.-Dec. 2025
Benin	91.2	51.1
Burkina Faso	39.2	18.6
Côte d'Ivoire	852.2	899.7
Guinea-Bissau	13.7	3.6
Mali	0.0	72.9
Niger	43.1	55.2
Senegal	0.0	0.0
Togo	77.5	33.8
WAEMU	1,116.9	1,134.9

Source : BCEAO

99. In addition, two (2) of the Union's countries raised resources totaling 1.821 trillion CFA francs on international markets through

Eurobond issues. In January 2025, Benin conducted operations on international

markets, raising a total of 318 billion CFA francs. Côte d'Ivoire, for its part, issued international bonds in March and July 2025 for a total amount of 1.503 trillion CFA francs.

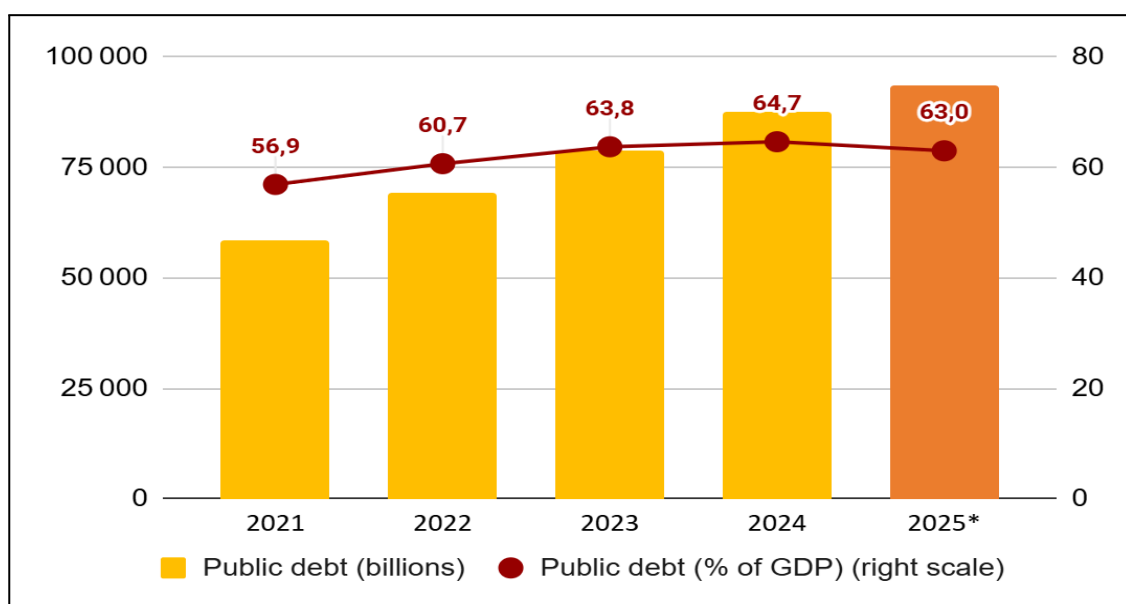
4.3.4 - Trends in total public debt

100. In connection with the loan resources mobilized to finance the budget deficit, the Union's total public debt outstanding was estimated at 93.6229 trillion at the end of 2025, representing an increase of 5.8509 trillion or 6.7% compared to December 2024

It stood at 63.0% of GDP, compared with 64.7% one year prior.

101. Debt service is projected to reach 15.3871 trillion in 2025. It represented 69.4% of tax revenue in 2025, compared with 64.5% in 2024.

Graph 12 - Trends in outstanding public debt in WAEMU (in billions of CFA F, except where otherwise indicated)



Sources: BCEAO, National departments

(*) Estimates

5 - TRENDS IN EXTERNAL ACCOUNTS

In the fourth quarter of 2025, the Union's aggregate balance of payments showed a surplus of 4.9126 billion, compared with a deficit of 3.6366 trillion recorded for the same period the year before. This development was primarily due to the surplus in the current account, which stood at 3.4% of GDP, following a deficit of 5.7% one year prior. Net capital inflows under the financial account fell by 44.0%.

The aggregate balance of payments for the whole of 2025 showed a surplus of 7.0276 trillion, after 3.0127 trillion in 2024.

5.1 - Current and capital transactions

102. The current account showed a surplus balance of 1.2781 trillion in the fourth quarter of 2025, after a deficit of 1.9688 trillion in the same period of the previous year, representing an improvement of 3.2469 trillion, owing to a surplus of 1.1436 trillion in the goods and services

account, combined with an increase of 51.0 billion in the primary and secondary income balance. As a percentage of GDP, the balance of the current transactions account showed a surplus of 3.4% of GDP in the fourth quarter of 2025, compared with a deficit of 5.7% a year earlier

Table 20 - Trends in the current transactions account (in billions, except where otherwise stated)

Items Headings	2024		2025		
	Q4	2024	Q3	Q4	2025
Trade balance	44.9	- 171.0	279.8	3,301.9	6,318.2
Balance of services	-2,097.2	-6,769.1	-1,784.5	-2,158.3	-7,512.8
- Travel	330.0	1 066.3	332.3	368.4	1,036.3
- Freight	-1,181.8	-4,601.4	-1,146.1	-1,205.5	-5,156.6
Balance of primary and secondary income	83.5	- 833.7	- 599.0	134.5	-1,776.1
Primary income	- 960.5	-4,978.7	-1,724.5	-1,074.5	-5,965.9
incl. interest on the ext. debt	- 490.9	-1,942.7	- 855.1	- 598.1	-1,979.8
Secondary income	1,044.0	4,145.0	1,125.5	1,209.0	4,189.8
- Public transfers	102.3	600.2	310.0	123.5	424.1
- Private transfers	941.7	3,544.8	815.5	1,085.5	3,765.7
Balance of the current transactions account	-1,968.8	-7,773.7	-2,103.7	1,278.1	-2,970.8
(% of GDP)	-5.7	-5.7	-5.6	3.4	-2.0

Sources: National statistics institutes, Customs, BCEAO

5.1.1 - Trend in external trade in the Union

103. In the fourth quarter of 2025, the Union's external balance of trade in goods consolidated by 3.257 trillion year on year, resulting in a surplus of 3.3019 trillion, due to an increase in exports (+50.4%) greater than the increase in imports (+3.5%).

. The increase in exports was driven by higher sales of petroleum products (+100.0%), gold and precious metals (+81.1%), cocoa (+27.0%), and rubber (+25.6%). The positive trend in sales of petroleum products and rubber was mainly driven by higher shipping volumes, partially offset by lower international prices. Conversely, gold exports were mainly buoyed by continuing high prices on international markets. The rising trend in

exports was mitigated by declines in export sales of cotton (-50.9%), coffee (-9.8%) and

cashew nuts (-2.9%), primarily reflecting drops in their international prices.

Table 21 - Trends in the trade balance (in billions, except where otherwise stated)

	2024		2025			Year-on-year change (Q4-2025 / Q4-2024)	
	Q4	2024	Q3	Q4	2025	(in billions)	(%)
Exports (*)	6,942.6	23,944.9	7,066.3	10,439.5	33,177.7	3,496.9	50.4
<i>incl. Cocoa products</i>	1,971.7	4,423.1	964.1	2,503.9	7,031.2	532.2	27.0
<i>Gold and precious metals</i>	1,995.4	8,121.9	2,965.5	3,613.4	12,050.8	1,618.0	81.1
<i>Petroleum products</i>	703.6	2,081.0	1,080.1	1,407.1	4,406.3	703.5	100.0
<i>Cotton products</i>	208.6	986.7	103.6	102.4	825.8	-106.2	-50.9
<i>Coffee products</i>	23.2	99.2	16.7	20.9	123.5	-2.3	-9.8
<i>Cashew products</i>	247.8	676.6	177.4	240.6	825.0	-7.2	-2.9
<i>Rubber</i>	391.7	1,474.4	386.0	491.8	1,978.5	100.1	25.6
<i>Uranium</i>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Imports (FOB) (*)	-6,897.7	-24,115.9	-6,786.5	-7,137.6	-26,859.5	-240.0	3.5
<i>incl. Food products</i>	-1,151.4	-4,490.8	-1,138.7	-1,119.0	-4,884.1	32.4	-2.8
<i>Basic consumer goods</i>	-1,162.8	-4,188.2	-1,242.9	-1,220.4	-4,532.0	-57.6	5.0
<i>Energy products</i>	-1,757.7	-6,735.3	-1,474.9	-1,850.0	-7,598.7	-92.3	5.3
<i>Intermediate goods</i>	-1,640.3	-4,459.8	-1,669.0	-1,476.3	-5,013.4	164.0	-10.0
<i>Capital goods</i>	-1,888.6	-6,157.5	-1,910.0	-1,982.0	-7,381.9	-93.4	4.9
Trade balance	44.9	-171.0	279.8	3,301.9	6,318.2	3,257.0	7,250.7
(% of GDP)	0.1	-0.1	0.7	8.7	4.3		

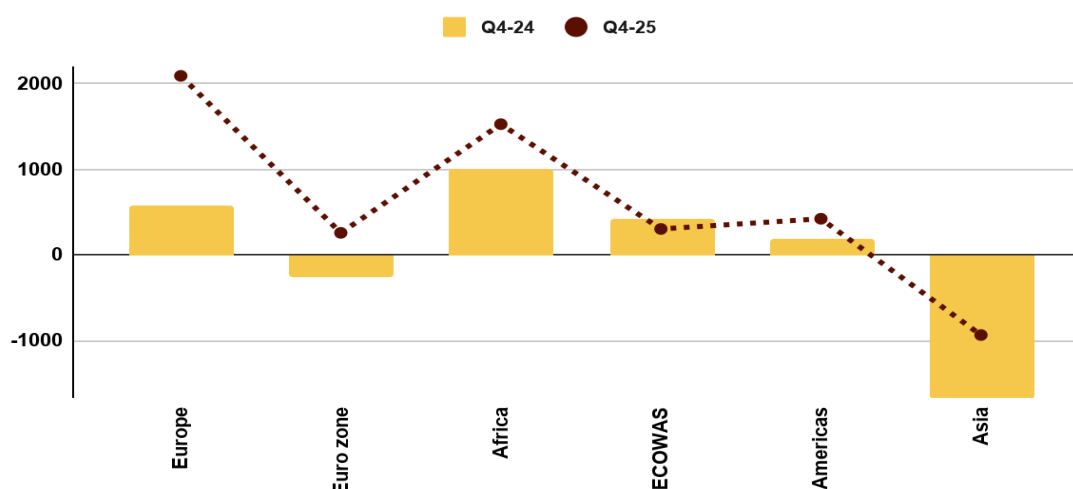
Sources: National statistics institutes, Customs, BCEAO. (*) The items presented here do not include intra-WAEMU trade.

105. Import trends were driven by increased imports of energy products (+5.3%) and consumer goods (+5.0%), mitigated by a drop in purchases of food products (-2.8%) and capital and intermediate goods (-2.0%).

5.1.2 - Geographical breakdown of foreign trade

106. The geographical trend in the Union's trade in the fourth quarter of 2025, shows a

surplus balance with Europe, the rest of Africa, ECOWAS, and the Americas, similar to the same period in the previous year. The trade surplus with the rest of Africa increased over the period under review. The trade deficit with Asia was down compared to its level for the same period in 2024.

Graph 13 - Trends in the trade balance with major partners (in billions)

Sources: National statistics institutes, Customs, BCEAO

5.1.3 - Trends in intra-WAEMU trade

107. Intra-WAEMU trade increased by 12.1% in the fourth quarter of 2025 to stand at 1.2763 trillion, representing 16.0% of aggregate trade, the same percentage as in the fourth quarter of 2024. Côte d'Ivoire (35.8%) and Senegal (19.5%) remained the main suppliers, cumulatively representing 55.3% of the total intra-Community supply. On the intra-WAEMU demand side, Burkina Faso (26.0%) and Mali (18.8%) were the main destinations of trade flows, with 44.8% of the total. The main products traded were oil (37.9%), construction materials (8.8%), local products (cereals and live animals) (6.9%), fertilizers and chemicals (6.4%), edible oils (4.4%), and food preparations (milk, broth, etc.) (4.1%).

5.1.4 - Trends in other current and capital account items

108. The deficit in the balance of services grew by 2.9% compared with the performance for the same quarter of the previous year, to stand at 2.1583 trillion, notably due to an increase in the freight bill (+2.0%) partially offset by higher tourism revenue over the period (+11.6%).

109. The primary income account deficit deepened by 11.9% billion, reaching 1.0745 trillion, mainly owing to higher interest payments on external public debt (+107.2 billion), combined with increased payments of dividends (+71.0%).

110. The surplus in the secondary income account increased by 15.8% year on year, reaching 1.209 trillion due to higher transfers of migrant remittances (+15.3%) and, to a lesser extent, increased budgetary aid received by the WAEMU Member States (+1.6%).

111. The capital account surplus increased by 139.1 billion compared to its actual level at the same time last year, reaching 422.9 billion in connection with an increase of 130.5 billion in project grants received by the WAEMU Member States

5.2 - Trends in the financial account

112. In line with the above developments, the Union recorded a financing capacity of 1.7011 trillion, compared with financing needs of 1.685 trillion one year prior.

Table 22 - Trends in the financial account and the aggregate balance (in billions)

	2024		2025		
	Q4	2024	Q3	Q4	2025
Balance of the current account	-1,968.8	-7,773.7	-2,103.7	1,278.1	-2,970.8
Balance of the capital account	283.8	1,293.1	780.6	422.9	1,669.6
- Public administration	173.3	708.9	632.7	303.8	1,127.6
Financing needs	-1,685.0	-6,480.6	-1,323.1	1,701.1	-1,301.1
Balance of the financial account	-4,856.3	-9,062.8	-841.2	-2,719.7	-6,802.5
- FDI	-1,390.1	-4,599.1	-697.3	-597.3	-2,651.8
- Portfolio investments	-309.5	-2,011.6	-45.7	-46.4	-2,231.2
- Other investments	-3,153.6	-2,446.7	-98.2	-2,075.9	-1,919.6
incl. net public drawdowns	-2,380.7	-2,616.6	-176.2	-1,365.0	-1,592.5
Aggregate balance after statistical adjustment	3,636.6	3,012.7	-848.6	4,912.6	7,027.6
Revaluations	63.5	651.0	279.6	526.0	1,385.8
Change in Net External Assets	-3,700.1	-3,663.8	569.0	-5,438.6	-8,413.4

Sources: National statistics institutes, Customs, BCEAO

113. Net capital inflows on the financial account fell 44.0% to stand at 2.7197 trillion. This trend is in line with the contraction in net inflows of foreign direct investment (-57.0%), due to the completion of major oil and gas projects in the Union, as well as in other investments (-34.2%), and in portfolio investments.

114. Overall, the aggregate balance of payments improved by 1.276 trillion, year on year, showing a surplus of 4.9126 trillion in the fourth quarter of 2025, after reaching 3.6366 trillion one year earlier.

115. In 2025, the current account deficit as a percentage of GDP stood at 2.0%, down 3.7 pps compared to 2024. This reduction stems primarily from improved terms of trade and increased hydrocarbon volumes driven by the start of full-scale production at new oil facilities in Niger and Senegal, the launch of liquefied natural gas shipments from Senegal, and increased capacity at existing facilities in Côte d'Ivoire. The balance of goods and services, particularly the goods balance, recorded a surplus of 6.3182 trillion, compared with a deficit of 171.0 billion the previous year, as the increase in exports (+38.6%) outpaced that of imports (+11.4%). Growth in imports was driven in particular by increased purchases of

intermediate goods and capital goods, amid the continuation of ongoing socio-economic infrastructure projects in several countries of the Union.

116. The capital account surplus is projected to reach 1.6696 trillion in 2025, compared with 1.2931 trillion a year earlier. Net capital inflows under the financial account are projected to fall 24.9%, due in particular to lower foreign direct investment (-42.3%) as a result of the completion of work on oil and gas projects in the Union. The unfavorable trend in financial flows is also expected to be accentuated by a drop in net government drawdowns (-39.1%). However, the trend in the financial account balance should be mitigated by higher net portfolio investment flows (+10.9%) linked to Eurobond issues on international capital markets by certain Union Member States and Institutions. Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, and the West African Development Bank (BOAD) issued Eurobonds worth a net total of 2.1764 trillion, compared to a net total of 1.9830 trillion issued by Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, and Senegal in 2024. Under these conditions, the overall balance of payments showed a surplus of 7.0276 trillion in 2025, compared to a surplus of 3.0124 trillion in 2024.

6 - MONETARY CONDITIONS, CURRENCY, AND THE STOCK MARKET

Bank liquidity increased by 1.6496 trillion, or 37.9%, in the fourth quarter of 2025. However, the weighted average interest rate on the interbank market, across all maturities, reached 5.11%, compared with 4.92% a quarter earlier. For new loans granted during the quarter, the average interest rate, excluding taxes and fees, charged by banks to their customers stood at 6.73%, up 6 basis points from the previous quarter.

The monetary situation at the end of December 2025 was marked by an annual increase of 17.4% in the money supply. This momentum was driven by an increase in net external assets amounting to 8.4134 trillion or +174.7% and an increase in domestic claims of 4.0282 trillion or +6.5%. The increase in internal claims resulted from growth in net claims of deposit-taking institutions on central governments (+2.0145 trillion or +7.8%) and claims on the private sector (+2.0137 trillion or +5.6%).

On the regional stock market, activity grew in the fourth quarter of 2025, with the aggregate index, the BRVM Composite, up 8.1% following a rise of 6.0% in the previous quarter. Stock market capitalization of all securities listed on the market increased by 5.7% on a quarterly basis, following an increase of 4.5% three months prior. This trend reflected increases of 6.8% in equity market capitalization and 4.4% in bond market capitalization. On an annual basis, overall market capitalization had increased by 20.2% as at end-December 2025.

6.1 - Monetary conditions

117. During the fourth quarter of 2025, the Central Bank's minimum bid rate and marginal lending facility rate remained at 3.25% and 5.25% respectively, the levels in force since June 16, 2025.

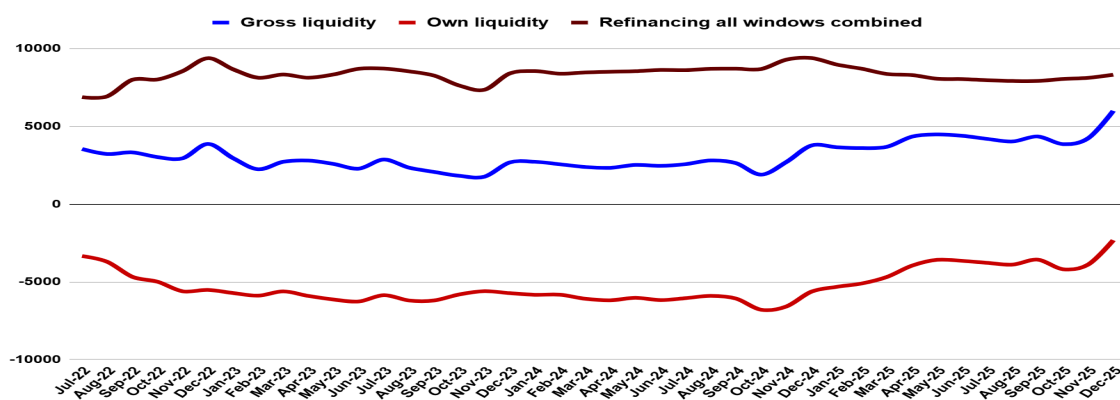
6.1.1 - Bank liquidity

118. In the fourth quarter of 2025, WAEMU banks' own liquidity, defined as bank cash excluding BCEAO refinancing, increased by 1.2487 trillion. This was primarily due to net transfers received by banks (+3.7185 trillion). The positive trend was

mitigated by net withdrawals through bank windows (-2.2967 trillion) and transactions with national treasury departments (-173.1 billion).

119. Over the same period, the Central Bank's loans to banks increased by 400.9 billion to reach 8.3208 trillion by the end of December 2025, reflecting an increase of 401.5 billion in weekly loans and virtually no change in monthly or refinancing loans. As a result, bank liquidity increased by 1.6496 trillion between the end of September and the end of December 2025, reaching 6.0019 trillion.

Graph 14 - Trends in bank liquidity (in billions)



Source: BCEAO

120. The banks' reserve requirements over the maintenance period running from November 16 to December 15, 2025, stood at 1.3279 trillion. Over the same period, banks' reserves rang in at 4.1081 trillion, exceeding the regulatory minimum requirement by 2.7802 trillion. Over the maintenance period running from August 16 to September 15, 2025, the surplus in reserves stood at 2.6761 trillion.

121. The number of regulated institutions with shortfalls in their required reserves for the period running from November 16 to December 15, 2025, is 2 banks, compared with 5 during the reserve maintenance period running from August 16 to September 15, 2025.

6.1.2 - Trends in money market interest rates

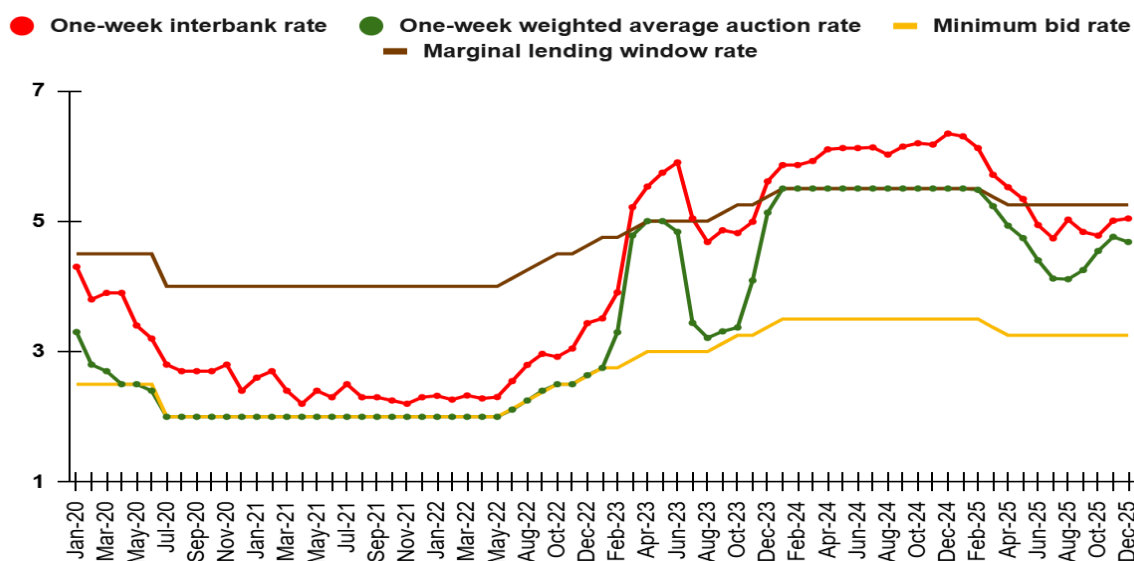
122. During the fourth quarter of 2025, the weighted average interest rate on the

one-week tender window at the BCEAO was 4.66%, as against 4.16% in the previous quarter.

123. On the interbank market, the weighted average interest rate stood at 5.11% in the fourth quarter of 2025, versus 4.92% one quarter earlier. Over the same period one year prior, the rate was 6.12%. On the one-week maturity, which accounted for 60% of the overall volume of transactions, the weighted average interest rate stood at 4.94%, after 4.85% the previous quarter, and 6.16% one year earlier.

124. The average volume of weekly transactions, across all maturities, amounted to 954.4 billion in the fourth quarter of 2025, compared with 809.0 billion in the previous quarter. Weekly transactions averaged 891.8 billion the year before.

Graph 15 - Trends in money market rates (%)



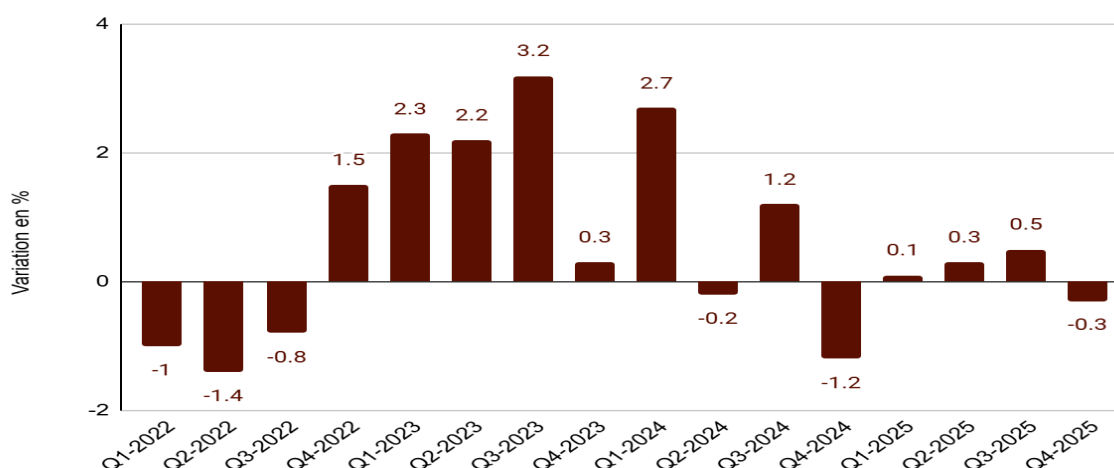
Source: BCEAO

6.1.3 - Trends in monetary conditions

125. Monetary conditions eased overall during the fourth quarter of 2025, with the index⁸

⁸ The monetary conditions index is a composite indicator measuring the combined effects of interest rate and exchange rate policies on aggregate demand. It is calculated as a weighted average of the real effective exchange rate and the real interest rate, and changes in the index are measured relative to the level of the index during the baseline period.

down 0.3% from the previous quarter. This development was linked to a 1.0 percentage point drop in the real interest rate on the interbank market, offset by a 0.4% increase in the real effective exchange rate.

Graph 16 - Quarterly trends in the monetary conditions index (%)

Source: BCEAO

6.1.3 - Trends in bank rates on term deposits

126. The average deposit rate was 5.48% in the fourth quarter of 2025, after an actual

figure of 5.40% in the third quarter of 2025, representing an increase of 8 basis points (bps).

Table 23 - Country trends in interest rates on term deposits (%)

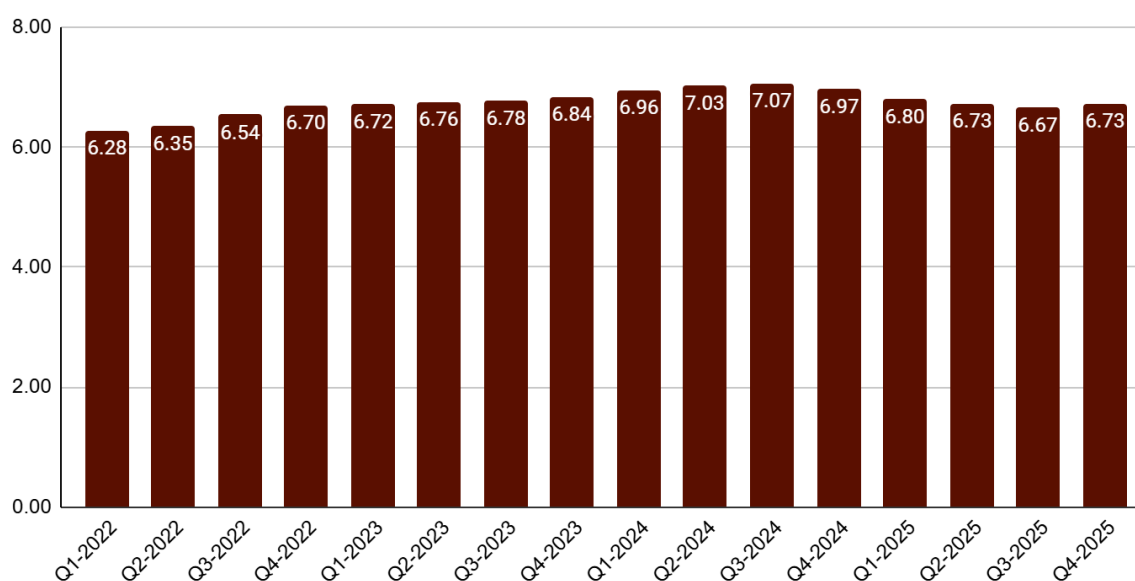
	2024				2025			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Benin	5.57	5.40	5.42	5.43	5.47	5.56	5.53	5.61
Burkina Faso	5.94	5.60	5.57	5.59	5.53	5.48	5.77	5.79
Côte d'Ivoire	4.11	4.24	4.27	4.36	4.49	4.61	4.79	5.01
Guinea-Bissau	4.60	3.88	3.95	4.12	4.04	4.00	3.58	4.57
Mali	5.39	5.47	5.49	5.46	5.35	5.29	5.16	5.55
Niger	5.93	5.79	5.72	5.68	5.53	5.45	6.21	6.64
Senegal	5.65	5.71	5.73	5.74	5.79	5.82	5.65	5.56
Togo	5.69	5.98	5.98	5.95	5.98	5.99	5.62	5.76
WAEMU	5.28	5.26	5.29	5.34	5.36	5.38	5.40	5.48

Source: BCEAO

6.1.4 - Trends in bank lending rates

127. The conditions applied by the Union's banks to their customers tightened during the period under review. The average lending rate, excluding taxes and fees,

stood at 6.73% in the fourth quarter of 2025, up 6 bps from the previous quarter, when it stood at 6.67%.

Graph 17 - Average bank lending rates (%)

Source: BCEAO

128. Broken down by loan purpose, higher lending rates were noted primarily for real estate loans (+60 bps), capital expenditure loans (+28 bps), cash flow loans (+27

bps), export loans (+14 bps), and other uses (+55 bps). This trend was offset by lower bank loan costs for consumer loans (-56 bps).

Table 24 - Trends in lending rates in WAEMU according to loan purpose (%)

	2024				2025			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Consumer	6.86	7.83	8.72	8.32	8.21	8.17	8.08	7.52
Exports	6.33	6.40	6.75	7.34	7.39	7.45	7.35	7.49
Cash-flow	6.73	6.96	6.99	6.67	6.51	6.44	6.42	6.69
CapEx	7.98	7.53	7.35	6.77	6.85	6.77	6.88	7.16
Real estate	7.16	6.79	6.33	6.41	6.32	6.23	6.40	7.00
Other	7.08	7.60	6.95	5.87	5.94	5.96	6.22	6.77
WAMU	6.96	7.03	7.07	6.97	6.80	6.73	6.67	6.73

Source: BCEAO

129. Broken down according to the type of borrower, tighter interest rates were seen mainly on loans to financial companies (+20 bps), non-financial companies (+17 bps), and the public sector (+5 bps). The

tightening trend was mitigated by easing in loans to non-profit institutions serving households (NPISHs) (-32 bps) and households (-5 bps)

Table 25 - Trends in lending rates in WAEMU by type of borrower (%)

	2024				2025			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Other deposit institutions (not including CBs or banks)	6.54	7.73	7.99	7.74	7.78	7.81	7.81	7.41
Other financial companies	7.29	7.20	7.13	6.95	6.88	6.82	6.85	7.05
Non-financial companies	6.78	6.80	6.78	6.69	6.53	6.44	6.40	6.57
Households	8.17	8.20	8.31	8.00	7.87	7.82	7.72	7.67
NPISHs	7.90	8.01	8.07	8.26	8.38	8.46	8.50	8.18
Public sector	5.80	6.42	6.66	6.61	6.59	6.58	6.60	6.65
Total	6.96	7.03	7.07	6.97	6.80	6.73	6.67	6.73

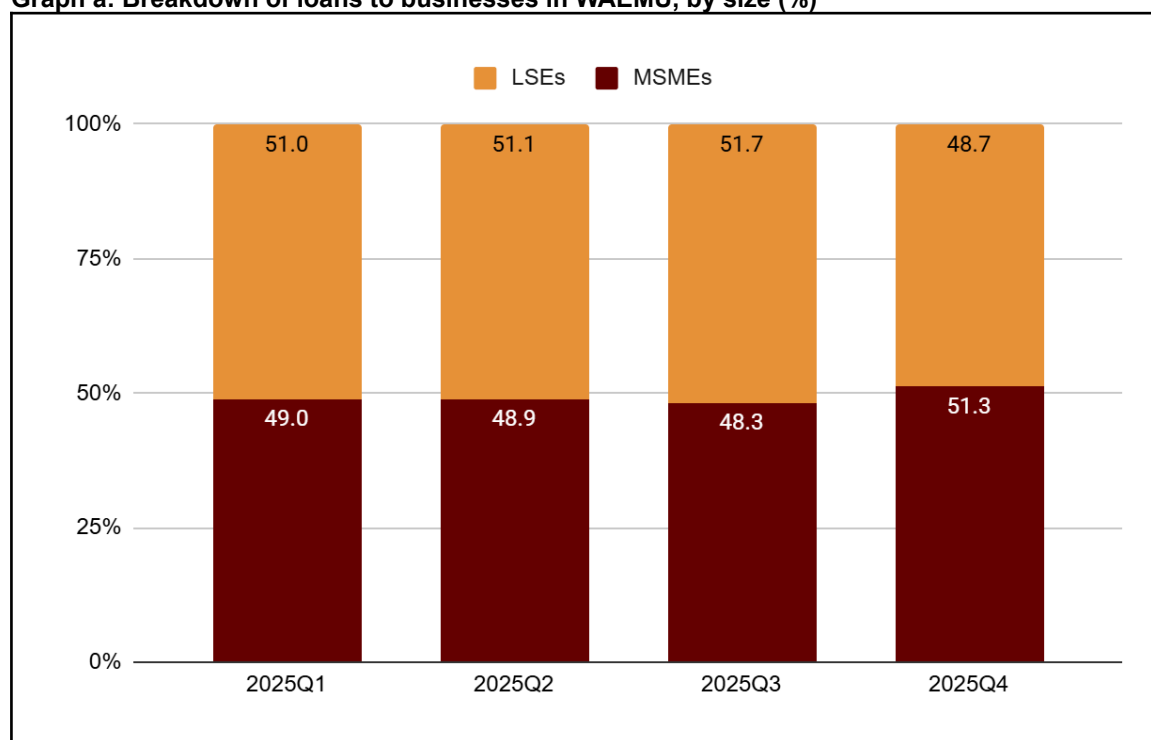
Source: BCEAO

130. Broken down by loan maturity, increases in lending rates mainly applied to loans with maturities of less than 1 year (+43 bps), and long-term loans (more than 10 years) (+19 bps).

Box 1 - Structure and terms of loans to the private sector

The structure of volumes of loans granted to the private sector, broken down by legal status, shows a preponderance of loans to legal entities, which accounted for close to 90% of all new loans granted during the fourth quarter of 2025. In contrast, loans to individual only represented 10% of the volume of loans.

Graph a: Breakdown of loans to businesses in WAEMU, by size (%)



Source : BCEAO

As regards loan terms applied to legal entities, rates tightened (+22 bps) compared with the previous quarter.

In the micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) segment, interest rates applied to micro-enterprises rose from 7.01% in the previous quarter to 7.18% in the current quarter, representing an increase of 17 bps. Similarly, rates for small enterprises rose from 7.02% in the previous quarter to 7.55% in the quarter under review, representing an increase of 53 bps. On the other hand, in the case of medium-sized enterprises, rates fell from 8.30% in the third quarter of 2025 to 7.90% in the fourth quarter of 2025, representing a decrease of 40 bps.

Rates applied to large-sized enterprises (LSEs) tightened by 12 bps from 6.34% to 6.46% during the quarter under review. Meanwhile, lending rates applied to individuals stood at 7.96% compared with 8.02%, down 6 bps from the previous quarter. Broken down by gender, interest rate decreases were seen on loans to both men (-21 bps) and women (-9 bps).

Table 26 - Trends in lending rates in WAEMU according to loan term (%)

	2023	2024				2024	2025			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Less than 1 yr	6.45	6.67	6.69	6.71	6.53	6.45	6.37	6.32	6.55	6.98
Between 1 and 2 yrs	7.93	8.18	8.68	8.85	8.20	7.93	8.09	8.00	7.82	7.47
Between 2 and 5 yrs	7.85	7.98	8.19	8.32	8.09	7.85	8.01	7.94	8.15	7.96
More than 10 yrs	7.61	7.41	7.46	7.50	9.92	7.61	9.99	9.91	5.36	5.55
UMOA	6.78	6.96	7.03	7.07	6.97	6.78	6.80	6.73	6.67	6.73

Source: BCEAO

131. The breakdown by country showed higher lending rates in Senegal (+87 bps), Burkina Faso (+30 bps), Guinea-Bissau (+18 bps), and Togo (+6 bps). Conversely,

lower rates were recorded in Niger (-50 bps), Benin (-43 bps), Côte d'Ivoire (-15 bps), and Mali (-3 bps) compared with their levels in the previous quarter.

Table 27 - Trends in lending rates by country in WAEMU (%)

	2024				2025			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Benin	7.53	7.66	7.37	7.35	7.45	7.55	7.60	7.17
Burkina Faso	7.62	7.69	7.76	7.58	7.54	7.59	7.55	7.85
Côte d'Ivoire	6.75	6.80	6.81	6.46	6.34	6.26	6.22	6.07
Guinea-Bissau	8.75	8.20	8.32	9.44	9.47	9.58	9.54	9.72
Mali	7.42	6.97	7.39	7.92	7.53	7.60	7.47	7.44
Niger	8.78	9.25	9.42	9.00	8.97	9.02	8.90	8.40
Senegal	6.27	6.50	6.53	6.25	5.93	5.86	5.80	6.67
Togo	7.53	7.90	7.80	7.54	7.60	7.55	7.50	7.55
WAEMU	6.96	7.03	7.07	6.97	6.80	6.73	6.67	6.73

Source: BCEAO

6.2 - Monetary situation

132. The annual growth rate in the money supply rose to 17.4% as at the end of December 2025, after an increase of 15.1% recorded in September 2025. This development was due to higher levels for net external assets (+8.4134 trillion or +174.8%) and domestic claims (+4.0282 trillion or +6.5%). The increase in NEAs

resulted from an improvement in the profile of external accounts, while the strong performance in domestic claims reflected the consolidation of financing granted to other sectors of the economy (+2.0137 trillion or +5.6%) and central governments (+2.0145 trillion or +7.8%).

Table 28 - Monetary situation as at the end of December 2025 (in billions, except where otherwise stated)

	Dec. 2024	Sept. 2025	Dec. 2025	Quarter on quarter		Year on year	
				Level	%	Level	%
Money supply (M2)	52,022.1	55,394.4	61,051.5	5,657.1	10.2	9,029.4	17.4
Currency outside banks	12,454.9	12,773.5	14,926.7	2,153.2	16.9	2,471.9	19.8
Deposits	39,567.3	42,620.9	46,124.8	3,503.9	8.2	6,557.5	16.6
Transferable deposits	24,237.5	26,093.7	28,788.0	2,694.3	10.3	4,550.5	18.8
Other deposits	15,329.8	16,527.2	17,336.8	809.6	4.9	2,007.0	13.1
Net external assets	4,814.1	7,788.9	13,227.5	5,438.6	69.8	8,413.4	174.8
Internal claims	61,758.3	64,076.2	65,786.5	1,710.3	2.7	4,028.2	6.5
Net claims on CGs*	25,879.9	27,244.8	27,894.5	649.7	2.4	2,014.5	7.8
Claims on the private sector	35,878.4	36,831.4	37,892.1	1,060.7	2.9	2,013.7	5.6

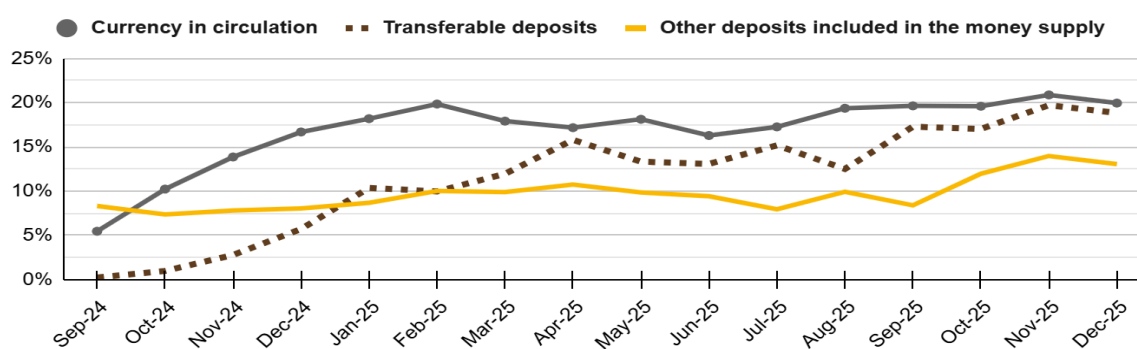
Source: BCEAO

(*) CGs: Central governments

6.2.1 - The money supply and its components

133. The increase in the money supply was reflected in its main components, namely currency outside banks and deposits. The annual rate of increase in currency outside banks was 19.8% at the end of December 2025, compared with 19.7% at the end of

September 2025. Deposits rose by 16.6% as at end-December 2025, following growth of 13.7% three months prior. Transferable deposits and other deposits respectively rose by 18.8% and 13.1% as at end-December 2025, versus 17.3% and 8.4% as at end-September 2025.

Graph 18 - Trends in bills and coins in circulation and deposits (year-on-year change, as a %)

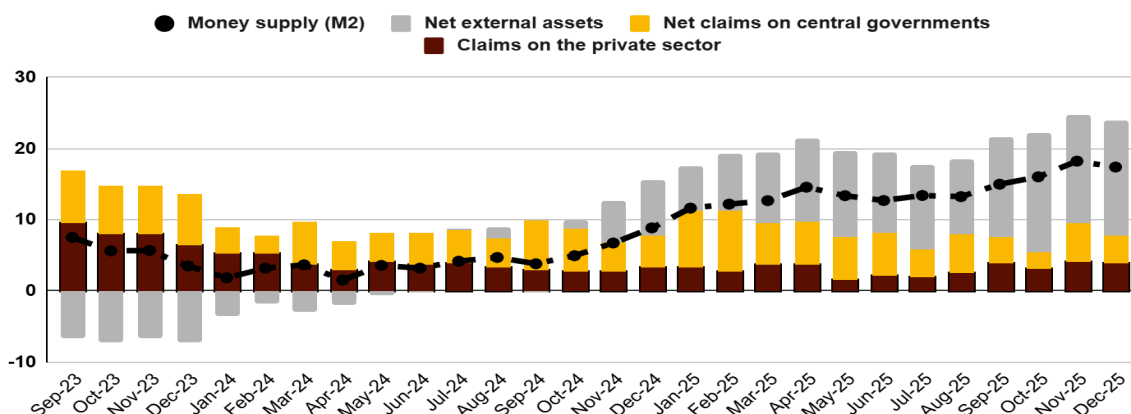
Source: BCEAO

6.2.2 - Money supply and counterparties

134. At the end of December 2025, the year-on-year growth rate of the money supply (+17.4%) was driven by growth in its main counterparties. Net external assets (NEAs) grew by 8.4134 trillion, or

+174.8%, while internal claims rose by 4.0282 trillion, or +6.5%, driven by increased loans from banks to governments and other resident sectors.

Graph 19 - Counterpart contributions to annual growth in the money supply (in pps)



Source: BCEAO

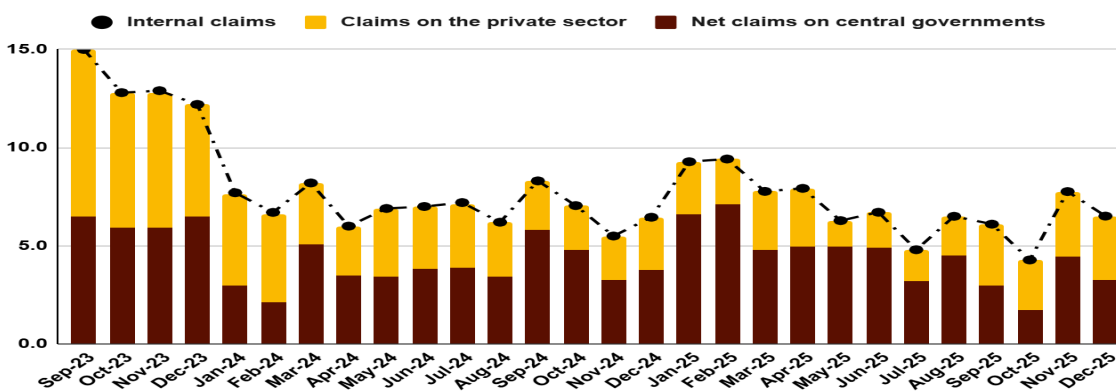
Net external assets

135. Year on year, the Union's net external assets (NEAs) showed an increase of 8.4134 trillion as at the end of December 2025, in line with the strong performance of its external accounts. This trend was driven by a rise of 9.1597 trillion in the BCEAO's NEAs, mitigated by a decline of 746.3 billion in the NEAs of other deposit institutions.

Internal claims

136. On an annual basis, outstanding internal claims were up 4.0282 trillion or +6.5% at the end of December 2025. This was due to a rise in net claims by deposit-taking institutions on central governments (+2.0145 trillion or +7.8%), and an increase in claims on the private sector (+2.0137 trillion or +5.6%).

Graph 20 - Contributions of components to annual growth in internal claims (in pps)



Source: BCEAO

Net claims on central governments (CGs) of Member States

137. On a quarterly basis, net claims on CGs rose by 649.7 billion to stand at 27.8945 trillion at the end of December 2025, primarily due to an increase in net claims

on Other deposit-taking institutions (+755.1 billion). In particular, the portfolio of government securities held by commercial banks grew by 664.7 billion over the quarter.

Table 29 - Net claims on central governments (in billions, except where otherwise stated)

	Dec.-24	Sept.-25	Dec.-25	Change (%)	
				Quarterly	Annual
Net claims on central governments (CGs)	25,879.9	27,244.8	27,894.5	2.4	7.8
Receivables of deposit-taking institutions	33,123.3	35,290.9	36,171.2	2.5	9.2
Loans	11,063.1	11,255.3	11,573.2	2.8	4.6
Public securities portfolios	22,043.5	24,020.0	24,580.4	2.3	11.5
Other receivables	16.8	15.5	17.5	13.1	4.7
Deposit institution liabilities	7,243.4	8,046.1	8,276.7	2.9	14.3
Treasury cash	33.5	33.5	33.5	0.0	0.0
Deposits	6,999.0	7,813.6	8,020.5	2.6	14.6
Other commitments	210.9	199.0	222.8	12.0	5.6

Source: BCEAO

Claims on the private sector

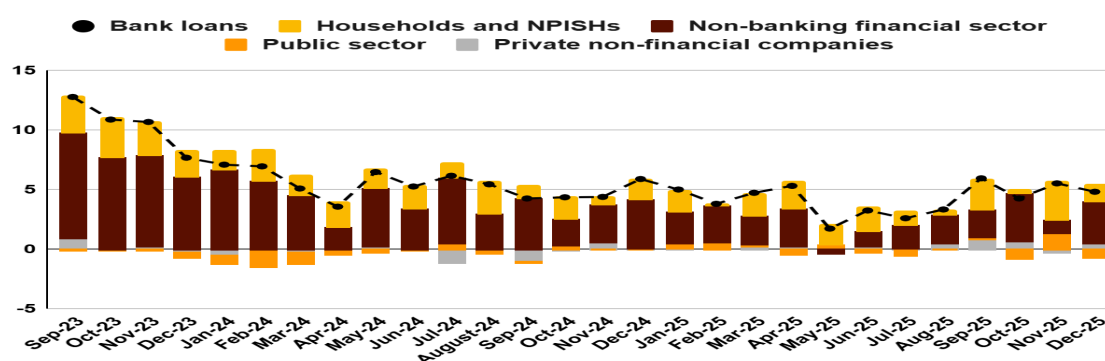
138. On an annual basis, the rate of increase in claims on the private sector was 5.6% as at the end of December 2025, after 5.4% at the end of September 2025. Loans granted to the private sector increased by 1.7202 trillion, or 5.4%. Growth was driven by loans to non-financial private-sector

139. companies, which grew by 5.6%, after 3.6% three months earlier. Loans to households and non-profit institutions serving households rose by 5.1%, following an 8.8% increase as at the end of September 2025.

Table 30 - Banks' claims on the private sector (in billions, except where otherwise stated)

	Dec.-24	Sept.-25	Dec.-25	Change (%)	
				quarterly	annual
Claims of deposit-taking institutions on the private sector	35,878.4	36,831.4	37,892.1	2.9	5.6
Claims of the BCEAO	719.7	737.6	721.6	-2.2	0.3
Bank claims	35,158.7	36,093.8	37,170.5	3.0	5.7
Bank loans	34,118.9	35,051.2	35,774.5	2.1	4.9
Non-banking financial sector	449.8	717.4	618.9	-13.7	37.6
Public sector	2,103.7	2,110.0	1,870.1	-11.4	-11.1
Local government	107.8	59.5	63.2	6.2	-41.3
Public non-financial companies	1,996.0	2,050.4	1,806.9	-11.9	-9.5
Private sector	31,565.3	32,223.8	33,285.5	3.3	5.4
Private non-financial companies	20,936.0	20,944.5	22,113.7	5.6	5.6
Households and NPISHs	10,629.3	11,279.2	11,171.7	-1.0	5.1
Other claims (*)	1,039.9	1,042.6	1,396.0	33.9	34.2

Source: BCEAO (*) Consisting mainly of shares and other equity investments and securities other than shares

Graph 21 - Contributions to annual growth in bank loans (in pps)

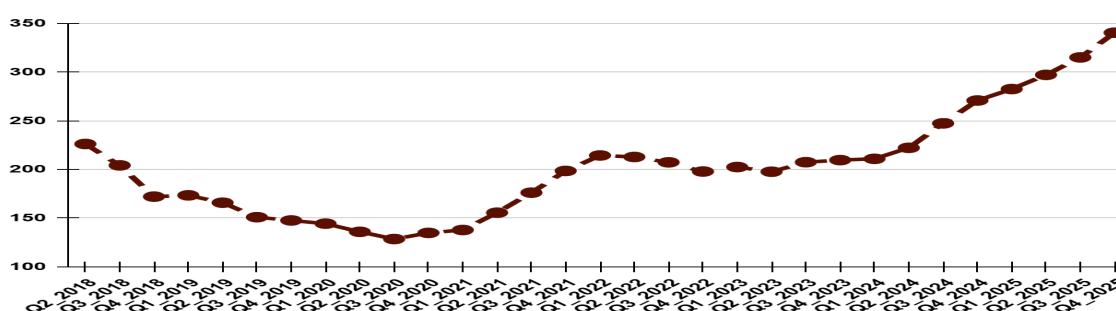
Source: BCEAO

140. Outstanding loans reported to WAMU's central credit information bureau were estimated at 20.8445 trillion as at the end of December 2025, compared with actual figures of 20.2892 trillion at the end of September 2025 and 19.8783 trillion one year earlier, i.e. respective increases of 2.7% and 4.9%.
141. Based in the information reported to the bureau, total outstanding loans granted to the 400 largest businesses using bank credit (LBUBCs) stood at 10.4412 trillion at the end of December 2025, after levels of 10.0390 trillion at the end of September 2025 and 9.8886 trillion at the end of December 2024, i.e. respective increases of 3.7% and 5.3%. These outstanding loans represented an estimated 49.9% of all loans reported to the central credit register and 29.2% of all bank loans to the private sector as at the end of December 2025.
142. Bank loans granted to the 50 LBUBCs in each country represented 51.5% of total bank loans to the private sector in Guinea-Bissau, 43.4% in Niger, 35.0% in Benin, 34.3% in Togo, 33.5% in Burkina Faso, and 32.3% in Mali. The estimated proportion is below the regional average in Côte d'Ivoire (27.4%) and Senegal (26.6%).
143. The breakdown according to the maturities of loans to the 50 LBUBCs in each country revealed that short-term loans (65.7%) were more prevalent than medium- and long-term loans (34.3%). By sector, large exposures were mainly concentrated in six (6) branches, namely "Wholesale trade" (28.1%), "Services to the community" (23.1%), "Manufacturing industries" (12.6%), "Transportation and communication" (9.7%), "Civil engineering and public works" (8.5%), and "Insurance, real estate, business services" (8.3%).
144. Outstanding cross-border financing for the 400 largest businesses using bank credit (LBUBCs) in the Union was estimated at 461.5 billion at the end of December 2025, representing 4.4% of total large exposures, compared with an actual figure of 414.2 billion or 4.1% of total large exposures at the end of September 2025 and 376.9 billion or 3.8% one year earlier. These loans were mainly granted by lending institutions in Burkina Faso (30.9%), Togo (26.1%), Benin (16.70%), and Niger (14.0%).
145. The gross portfolio impairment rate of the Union's credit institutions stood at 9.1% as at end-December 2025, compared with 9.4% at the end of September 2025, down 0.3 pp. The net rate was 3.9%, compared with 4.1% in the previous quarter, representing a decrease of 0.2 pp.

6.3 WAMU stock market

146. Stock market activity in the Union picked up in the fourth quarter of 2025, with the aggregate index, the BRVM Composite, up 8.1% after an increase of 6.0% in the previous quarter. A similar trend could also be seen on an annual basis, with a 25.7% increase in the BRVM Composite indicator following a 27.4% increase the previous quarter.

Graph 22 - Trends in the BRVM Composite index (points)

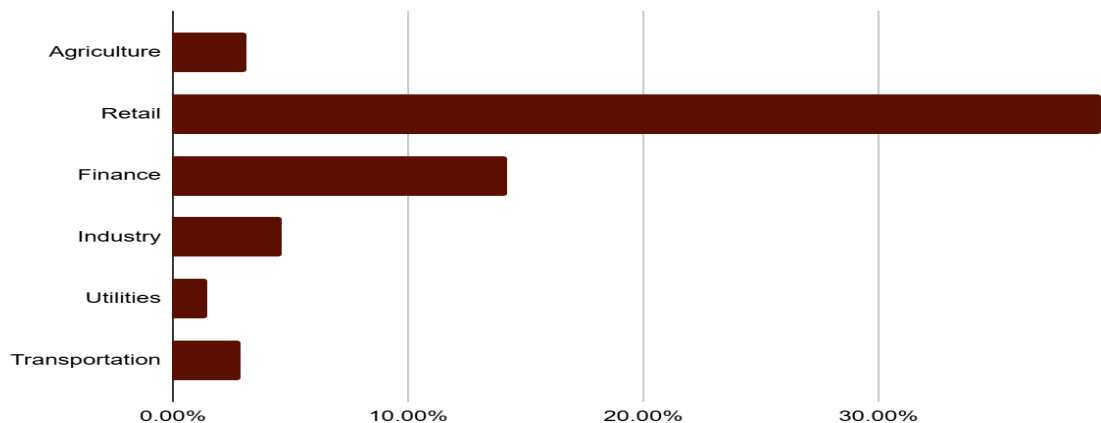


Source: BRVM

147. The strong year-on-year performance of the stock market during the quarter under review was driven by gains in the "Retail" (+39.5%), "Finance" (+14.2%), "Industry" (+4.6%),

"Agriculture" (+3.1%), "Transportation" (+2.9%), and "Utilities" (+1.5%) sectors.

Graph 23 - Trends in BRVM sector indexes⁹ in the first quarter of 2025



Source : BRVM

148. Stock market capitalization of all securities listed on the market climbed by 5.7% on a quarterly basis, following an increase of 4.5% three months earlier, to reach 24.78133 trillion at the end of December 2025. This trend primarily reflected a 6.8% increase in equity market capitalization and a 4.4% increase in bond market capitalization.

149. On an annual basis, aggregate market capitalization recorded a 20.2% increase .

⁹ Weighting by sector: Agriculture (0.2%), Retail (0.9%), Finance (27.4%), Industry (0.04%), Utilities (71.5%), Transportation (0.003%)

7 - MEDIUM-TERM MACROECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The global economic outlook for 2025 has been revised upward due to increased investment in new technologies, particularly artificial intelligence, and accommodative fiscal and monetary policies in both emerging and advanced economies. According to IMF projections published in January 2026, global output growth is expected to reach 3.3% in 2026 and 3.2% in 2027, compared with forecasts of 3.1% and 3.2%, respectively, published in October 2025. Global inflation is expected to continue its downward trend, reaching 3.8% in 2026 and 3.4% in 2027, after 4.2% in 2025.

The economic outlook in the Union is broadly favorable but remains contingent on developments in the global economic environment, the socio-political and security situation in the countries of the Union, and the effects of climate change. GDP is projected to grow by 6.4% in 2026 and 6.3% in 2027, following 6.7% growth in 2025, driven by robust internal demand and steady performance in the extractive and agricultural sectors.

Public finance management in the Union's Member States is expected to be marked by further reductions in budget deficits, which are projected to fall from 3.7% of GDP in 2025 to 3.2% in 2026, then 2.9% in 2027. The debt-to-GDP ratio is forecast at 62.3% of GDP in 2026 and 60.7% of GDP in 2027, after 63.0% in 2025.

The external trade account profile is expected to be positive in 2026 and 2027. The overall balance of payments is expected to show surpluses of 1.0169 trillion in 2026 and 793 billion in 2027, after a surplus of 7.0267 trillion in 2025.

The monetary situation should show an acceleration in private sector financing. The rate of increase of loans to the private sector is expected to reach 9.1% in 2026 and 9.4% in 2027, after 5.6% in 2025.

*According to projections, average annual inflation in the Union is expected to remain in the target range in 2026 and 2027. This forecast is based on expectations of more moderate decreases in prices for imported foods in 2026, as well as smaller increases in local cereal supplies, non-renewal of government measures to combat the high cost of living, and base effects associated with the low inflation rate in 2025. The **inflation rate** in the Union is expected to rise from 0.0% in 2025 to 1.4% in 2026 and 2.1% in 2027.*

7.1 - Assumptions underlying the forecasts

150. The main projection hypotheses are based on the outlook for the international environment as well as for internal economic conditions. External factors include economic growth forecasts at the global level and in the Union's main partner countries, as well as trends in international commodity prices and international financial conditions. At the sub-regional level, assumptions focus on the budget deficit profiles of the Union's Member States and their financing methods, developments in the security and socio-political situation, and agro-climatic conditions. Projections for 2025 are based on actual results over the first three quarters of the year.

In terms of the international environment

151. Global economic growth is expected to exceed the IMF's October 2025 projections, with an overall downward trend in the balance of risks.
152. According to the latest IMF projections, published in January 2025, global economic growth is expected to reach 3.3% in 2026, up 0.2 point compared to the October 2025 forecast, driven mainly by strong investment in new technologies—particularly artificial intelligence (AI), fiscal and monetary support, and a robust private sector, despite ongoing geopolitical and trade tensions. It is expected to decline slightly in 2027, to stand at 3.2%.

153. Global inflation is expected to continue its downward trend, falling from 4.1% in 2025 to 3.8% in 2026, then to 3.4% in 2027. In the Eurozone, the overall inflation rate is expected to stay close to 2%, at 1.9% in 2026 and 2.0% in 2027.

154. According to the IMF, the balance of risks to the global growth outlook is mainly skewed to the downside. A number of factors could affect the economy over the medium term. A downward revision of expected productivity gains driven by artificial intelligence is likely to trigger a pullback in investment. Furthermore, escalating trade tensions could heighten uncertainty and further weigh on global growth momentum. Added to this are the growing negative effects of climate change and the risks associated with the potential emergence of internal political tensions or geopolitical shocks, which could disrupt the global economy through their impact on financial markets, supply chains, and commodity prices. Finally, widening budget deficits and high levels of public debt pose major structural challenges that could weigh on investment and financial stability, particularly in developing countries.

International financial and monetary conditions are expected to remain stable or ease in 2026.

155. This trend in financial and monetary conditions is in line with the decline in inflation, which is now close to the targets set by monetary authorities in most advanced economies.

International prices of commodities exported by WAEMU countries are expected to decrease overall in 2026.

156. International prices for the main commodities (excluding oil) exported by the countries of the Union are expected to be down in 2026, in connection with year-on-year drops in prices for cocoa (-17.3%), cashew nuts (-10.5%), coffee (-16.2%), and rubber (-8.4%). In contrast, the price of gold is expected to rise in

2026 (+8.7%), due to continuing monetary policy easing by major central banks and ongoing uncertainty surrounding geopolitical and trade tensions.

157. In 2027, prices for the main commodities exported by the Union's countries, excluding oil, are expected to drop overall, correlated with anticipated drops in the prices of coffee (-10.2%), gold (-0.4%), cocoa (-0.2%), rubber (-5.0%), and cashew nuts (-1.2%), among others.

158. With regard to petroleum products, projections assume a 4.5% drop in world prices in 2026 and a slight rise of 0.1% in 2027.

International prices for imported foodstuffs should continue to ease in 2026 and 2027.

159. World prices for the main commodities imported by WAEMU countries are expected to ease in 2026. According to data from the IMF, the FAO¹⁰, the World Bank and Bloomberg, prices for foodstuffs imported by the Union should fall, year on year, by 9.8% in 2026 and 0.4% in 2027. This downward trend is expected to result from stagnant global demand and positive trends in supplies on the markets.

At the regional level,

In terms of public finance, the Union's countries are expected to continue fiscal consolidation efforts

160. Based on the countries' Government Financial Operations Tables (TOFEs), the Union's budget deficit should stand at 3.2% of GDP in 2026, before dropping to 2.9% in 2027, after reaching 3.7% in 2025.

161. The year 2026 should also see increased fundraising on international capital markets, in particular through Eurobond issues planned by Côte d'Ivoire (867.1 billion CFA F) and Benin (474.3 billion CFA F).

¹⁰ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

162. Significant Eurobond maturities are lined up for 2026-2027, particularly for Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal. More specifically, Côte d'Ivoire's Eurobond redemptions are expected to rise from 146.2 billion CFA F in 2026 to 148.7 billion CFA F in 2027. In the case of Senegal, redemptions are projected to amount to 218.7 billion CFA F in both 2026 and 2027.

Oil production is expected to decrease in 2026

163. According to data from government agencies, oil field production in the Union is expected to drop from 256,847.6 barrels/day in 2025 to 243,555.0 barrels/day in 2026, mainly due to an expected decrease in volumes in Senegal, as announced by the operating companies.

Mining production is expected to consolidate over the coming years.

164. In Burkina Faso, gold production is expected to increase over the next few years, in line with reforms implemented to centralize artisanal production for sale by the government, along with an increase in the purchase price paid to artisans.

165. In Senegal, gold production is expected to be boosted by the start of operations at the new Boto mine.

166. A higher supply of gold is expected in Côte d'Ivoire, supported by the start of operations at five major projects in the north, in Koné, Assafou, Doropo, Afema, and Boundiali.

167. In Mali, investment in the gold sector is expected to continue with exploration activities and operation of existing mines helping to maintain high production levels. Lithium production is expected to increase, reflecting a growing interest in strategic minerals in a context of global energy transition.

168. In Niger, uranium production is expected to gradually return to normal beginning in 2026, driven by the anticipated resumption of operations and continuing investments by a number of mining companies.

The current security and socio-political situation is not expected to deteriorate further in the coming years

169. In the light of the efforts made by the Member States to enhance security in the region, the current security and socio-political situation is unlikely to deteriorate further in the coming years. The central scenario assumes that the security and socio-political environment should be stable overall over the projection period.

Agro-climatic conditions are expected to be generally favorable for food production in the countries of the region.

170. According to preliminary estimates by the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), cereal production in the Union for the 2025/2026 growing season was up significantly (7.7%), due to abundant rainfall in most of the Union's countries. Cereal production forecasts for the 2025/2026 agricultural season are estimated at between 78 and 88 million metric tons in the Sahel and West Africa. Based on the above, the central scenario assumes a 5.0% increase in cereal production for the coming years.

171. Two other scenarios, a higher scenario and a lower scenario, were also produced to frame the medium-term outlook for inflation. These scenarios are based on the central projections but allow for variations of plus or minus 5 percentage points in cereal production, imported food prices, and the exchange rate. Potential fluctuations of plus or minus 10 US dollars were projected for crude oil prices.

Table 31 - Inflation scenario projection assumptions

	2025	2026			2027			2028		
	Actual	Lower	Central	Higher	Lower	Central	Higher	Lower	Central	Higher
Barrel of oil (WTI, in dollars)	65.0	48.5	58.5	68.5	50.8	60.8	70.8	49.7	59.7	69.7
Euro/dollar exchange rate	1.13	1.2	1.18	1.13	1.3	1.22	1.17	1.3	1.24	1.19
Eurozone inflation (%)	2.1	1.4	1.9	2.4	1.3	1.8	2.3	1.5	2.0	2.5
BCEAO index of imported food prices (%)	-16.2	-16.3	-11.3	-6.3	-5.1	-0.1	4.9	-4.7	0.3	5.3
Cereal production in the Union (%)	7.7	10.0	5.0	0.0	10.0	5.0	0.0	10.0	5.0	0.0

Sources: Bloomberg, ECB, BCEAO, IMF

(*) The level of cereal production in 2024 impacts prices over the Q4 2024-Q3 2025 period (this time lag also applies to subsequent years).

7.2 - Medium-term macroeconomic projections

172. According to BCEAO projections for 2026, the Union's GDP is anticipated to grow by 6.4% in real terms. The tertiary sector is expected to remain the main driver of growth, contributing an estimated 3.7 pps, thanks to robust retail and market services activities. The primary sector is expected to contribute 1.1 pp, owing to the favorable

outlook for the 2026–2027 crop season and the continued implementation of programs to improve the main crop yields in most Member States. The secondary sector, for its part, is expected to contribute 1.6 pp, benefiting from the anticipated performance of the manufacturing and extractive industries.

Table 32 - Trends in gross domestic product growth rates, in real terms (As a percentage)

	2024	2025*		2026*		2027**	
		Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)	Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)	Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)
Benin	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Burkina Faso	4.8	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.5	5.0	5.0
Côte d'Ivoire	6.0	6.5	6.5	6.6	6.6	6.7	6.7
Guinea-Bissau	4.1	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6
Mali	5.0	5.5	6.1	6.1	6.1	5.6	5.6
Niger	10.3	6.9	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.5	6.5
Senegal	6.1	7.8	7.8	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Togo	6.5	6.2	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.3	6.3
Union	6.2	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3

Sources: National statistics institutes, BCEAO (*) Estimates from national departments (**) BCEAO projections

173. On the demand side, economic growth is expected to be driven primarily by final consumption (3.6 pps) and investment (1.8 pp). This momentum reflects the gradual improvement in household incomes and the ongoing implementation of socio-economic infrastructure projects

in several of the Union's Member States. Investments are expected to be driven primarily by the development of the Baleine oil field off the coast of Abidjan, the implementation of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, and the completion of road and rail projects (Line 1 of the

Abidjan metro) in Côte d'Ivoire, as well as by the acceleration of work on the Kandadji Dam and regional power plants, and the development of the Gorou Banda site in Niger. In addition, initiatives in Burkina Faso focusing on public works, lowland agricultural development, and equipping the armed forces should help

boost investment. The contribution of the external sector to growth should remain positive at 1.0 pp, supported by rising exports, particularly of petroleum products, despite being partially offset by increased imports of intermediate goods and equipment needed to carry out investments.

Table 33 - Trends in contributions to GDP growth in the Union (*in pp, except where otherwise stated*)

	2024	2025*		2026**		2027**	
		Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)	Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)	Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)
Primary sector	1.4	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Secondary sector	1.4	2.3	2.3	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6
<i>incl.: - Manufacturing industries</i>	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5
<i>- Extractive industries</i>	0.8	1.4	1.4	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6
<i>- Public works and civil eng.</i>	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Tertiary sector	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6
Real GDP	6.2	6.7	6.7	6.4	6.4	6.3	6.3
Final consumption	1.9	3.7	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.7
Private	1.7	2.7	2.7	3.1	3.1	3.2	3.2
Public	0.2	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2
CapEx	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8
Private	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.6
Public	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.2
External sector	2.3	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.8

Source: BCEAO, National statistics institutes, (*) Estimates from national departments (**) BCEAO projections

174. However, the growth outlook remains subject to downside risks, primarily connected with continuing geopolitical and trade tensions, a fragile security situation in the Union, and disruptions in rainfall due to climate change.

Member States are expected to record lower budget deficits

175. Budgetary projections reflect Member States' plans to continue fiscal consolidation efforts, driven both by increased revenue collection and better

control of public spending. As a result of these measures, the budget deficit as a percentage of GDP is projected to decline from 3.7% in 2025 to 3.2% in 2026 and 2.9% in 2027, falling below the threshold of 3.0% of GDP.

Table 34 - Budgetary projections (in billions, except where otherwise stated)

	2024	2025*	2026**	2027**
Total revenue and grants	23,378.2	26,629.9	30,025.8	32,555.5
<i>(en % du PIB)</i>	<i>17.2</i>	<i>17.9</i>	<i>18.6</i>	<i>18.5</i>
Fiscal revenue	19,489.9	22,160.5	25,454.1	27,996.1
<i>(as a % of GDP)</i>	<i>14.4</i>	<i>14.9</i>	<i>15.8</i>	<i>15.9</i>
Other revenue (including non-tax revenue)	2,933.4	3,235.9	3,382.3	3,390.2
<i>(as a % of GDP)</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>2.2</i>	<i>2.1</i>	<i>1.9</i>
Grants	954.9	1,233.5	1,189.4	1,169.2
<i>(as a % of GDP)</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.8</i>	<i>0.7</i>	<i>0.7</i>
Total expenditure and net loans	30,666.3	32,189.9	35,191.2	37,647.6
<i>(as a % of GDP)</i>	<i>22.6</i>	<i>21.7</i>	<i>21.8</i>	<i>21.4</i>
incl. current expenditure	19,556.0	20,716.0	21,707.6	23,650.0
<i>(as a % of GDP)</i>	<i>14.4</i>	<i>13.9</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>13.5</i>
capital expenditure	9,806.5	9,777.3	12,007.7	12,479.9
<i>(as a % of GDP)</i>	<i>7.2</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>7.4</i>	<i>7.1</i>
Balance (commitment basis incl. grants)	-7,288.1	-5,559.9	-5,165.4	-5,092.1
<i>(as a % of GDP)</i>	<i>-5.4</i>	<i>-3.7</i>	<i>-3.2</i>	<i>-2.9</i>

Sources: National departments, BCEAO

(*) Estimates

(**) Projections

176. The key trends forecast in the public debt are outlined in the table below.

Table 35 - Trends in aggregate outstanding debt across WAEMU (in billions of CFA F, except where otherwise stated)

	2024	2025*	2026*	2027**
Outstanding debt	87,772.0	93,622.9	100,611.5	106,739.0
% of GDP	64.7	63.0	62.3	60.7
Interest (% fiscal revenue)	17.6	17.5	16.4	15.2

Sources: National departments, BCEAO

(*) Estimates

(**) Projections

177. The trend in the Union's budget deficit as presented above is subject to potential upside risks. It remains vulnerable to external shocks as well as to persistent social and security pressures within individual Member States.

External accounts are expected to continue improving, in line with increases in the current account

balance and foreign capital inflows into the Union

178. Consolidation in the Union's external trade, which began in 2024, is expected to continue in 2026 and 2027, notably due to growth in exports of gold, oil and natural gas, as well as fundraising on international capital markets by some of the Union's countries.

Table 36 - Balance of payments forecasts for 2026-2027 (in billions of CFA francs, except where otherwise stated)

	2024	2025	2026		2027	
			Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)	Est. (Dec. 2025)	Est. (March 2026)
Trade balance	-171.0	6,318.2	5,232.5	5,431.3	4,621.3	4,975.6
<i>Exports (FOB) (*)</i>	23,944.9	33,177.7	32,542.2	34,478.5	34,027.5	36,358.5
<i>Imports (FOB) (*)</i>	24,115.9	26,859.5	27,309.7	29,047.2	29,406.2	31,383.0
Balance of services	-6,769.1	-7,512.8	-7,376.7	-7,491.5	-8,334.9	-8,508.8
<i>Credit</i>	1,499.3	1,433.4	1,390.2	1,649.3	1,333.7	1,576.3
<i>Debit</i>	-8,268.3	-8,946.2	-8,767.0	-9,140.9	-9,668.5	-10,085.1
<i>Incl. freight</i>	-4,601.4	-5,156.6	-5,246.5	-5,594.9	-5,636.8	-6,031.1
Balance of the primary income account	-4,978.7	-5,965.9	-6,166.6	-6,336.7	-6,766.9	-6,828.0
Balance of the secondary income account	4,145.0	4,189.8	4,351.7	4,380.3	4,611.5	4,659.2
Balance of the current transactions account	-7,773.7	-2,970.8	-3,959.1	-4,016.6	-5,869.0	-5,702.1
Balance of the current transactions account (as a % of GDP)	-5.7	-2.0	-2.5	-2.5	-3.4	-3.3
Balance of the current transactions account exclusive of grants (as a % of GDP)	-5.9	-2.1	-2.6	-2.6	-3.5	-3.4
Balance of the capital account	1,293.1	1,669.6	1,539.6	1,596.3	1,543.1	1,602.7
Balance of the financial account	-9,062.8	-6,802.5	-4,322.6	-3,437.2	-5,165.4	-4,892.3
<i>- Foreign direct investment</i>	-4,599.1	-2,651.8	-2,615.7	-2,472.4	-3,505.5	-3,286.3
<i>- Portfolio investments</i>	-2,011.6	-2,231.2	-554.5	-928.9	223.1	222.9
<i>- Other investments</i>	-2,446.7	-1,919.6	-1,152.4	-36.0	-1,883.0	-1,828.9
Aggregate balance	3,012.7	7,027.6	1,903.1	1,016.9	839.6	793.0
Revaluations	651.0	1,385.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Change in NEAs	-3,663.8	-8,413.4	-1,903.1	-1,016.9	-839.6	-793.0

Source: BCEAO

(*) These headings do not include intra-WAEMU trade.

179. In 2026, the overall external trade balance of the WAEMU Member States is expected to show a surplus of 1.0169 trillion. The current account deficit as a percentage of GDP is forecast at 2.5%, widening by 0.5 pp compared to 2025. The expected deterioration of the current account deficit will mainly reflect a negative trend in the terms of trade, partially offset by an increase in the volume of gold exports. The balance of goods should show a surplus of 5.4313 trillion as compared to a surplus of 6.3182 trillion in 2025, due to a greater increase in imports (+8.1%) than in exports (+3.9%).

180. The surplus on the capital account is expected to reach 1.5963 trillion in 2026 versus 1.6696 trillion the year before.

Under these conditions, financial flows are expected to cover 142.0% of the estimated financing requirement of 2.4203 trillion in 2026, versus 1.3011 trillion in 2025.

181. In 2027, the Union's external accounts are expected to show a surplus of 793.0 billion in the aggregate balance of the balance of payments. The deficit in the current account is forecast to stand at 3.3% of GDP, and the capital account surplus is expected to reach 1.6027 trillion. Financial flows should cover 119.3% of the estimated financing requirement of 4.0994 trillion in 2027.

182. The projected external balance could be less favorable in the event of a deterioration in the terms of trade or

lower-than-expected mobilization of external resources by Member States. Continuing geopolitical and trade tensions around the world raise fears of a resurgence of inflation, which could lead to higher import bills. In addition, intensifying trade tensions could lead to tighter international financial conditions, reducing states' access to international capital markets. In that case, lower-than-expected levels of external funding, against a backdrop of high public debt, difficulties on the regional financial market, and uncertainty surrounding the finalization of a program agreement between the IMF and

Senegal could affect international partners' and investors' perceptions of sovereign risk in the Union. This would further undermine the outlook for resource mobilization in terms of drawdowns and Eurobond issues, increasing reliance on the regional financial market and exacerbating existing tensions.

The monetary situation is expected to reflect adequate financing of the economies

183. The rate of growth in loans to the private sector is anticipated to reach 9.1% in 2026 and 9.4% in 2027, after 5.6% in 2025.

Table 37 - Projected monetary aggregates for 2025-2026 (in billions, unless otherwise stated)

Headings	2024	2025	2026		2027	
			Estimates (Dec. 2025)	Estimates (March 2026)	Estimates (Dec. 2025)	Estimates (March 2026)
Money supply growth rate (%)	8.9	17.4	14.9	16.5	12.1	14.2
Growth rate of claims on the private sector (%)	4.5	5.6	9.0	9.1	9.3	9.4
Change in net claims on central governments	2,184.2	2,014.5	2,525.8	4,133.6	2,659.9	2,685.4
Change in NEAs	3,663.8	8,413.4	1,903.1	1,016.9	839.6	793.0
Claims on the private sector/GDP (%)	26.8	25.9	25.8	26.0	26.0	26.2
Broad money (M2)	52022.2	61,051.5	66,681.9	71,125.0	74,773.1	81,224.8
Currency outside banks	12,454.9	14,926.7	16,426.3	15,799.0	18,281.5	17,555.7
Deposits	39,567.3	46,124.8	50,255.6	55,326.1	56,491.6	63,669.1

Source: BCEAO

184. In 2026, the money supply is expected to rise by 16.5%, following a 17.4% increase in 2025, driven by consolidation in internal claims and net external assets (NEAs). Net claims by deposit-taking institutions on central governments are expected to increase by 4.1336 trillion, after 2.0145 trillion in 2025. Loans to the private sector are expected to grow by 9.1% after 5.6% in 2025. NEAs of deposit-taking institutions should increase by 1.0169 trillion, reflecting improvements in external accounts.

185. In 2027, the forecast 14.2% increase in the money supply is expected to be driven by growth in internal claims and a consolidation of 793.0 billion in NEAs of

deposit-taking institutions. Financing of private and public sector activities is expected to be buoyant, with claims on the private sector growing at a rate of 9.4% and net claims on central governments rising by 2.6854 trillion.

7.3 - Inflation forecasts and risks

186. In the first quarter of 2026, the inflation rate is projected to rise to 0.2%, after a real figure of -0.8% in the fourth quarter of 2025. Over the eight-quarter forecast horizon, under the central scenario, inflation is expected to reach 2.0%, in line with the target range of 1% to 3%. These forecasts notably factor in a smaller

decline in prices for imported foodstuffs (-1.0% in 2026 compared with -7.3% in 2025), a smaller increase in local grain supplies compared to 2025, a decision not to renew in 2026 special measures¹¹ taken by governments to ensure food security

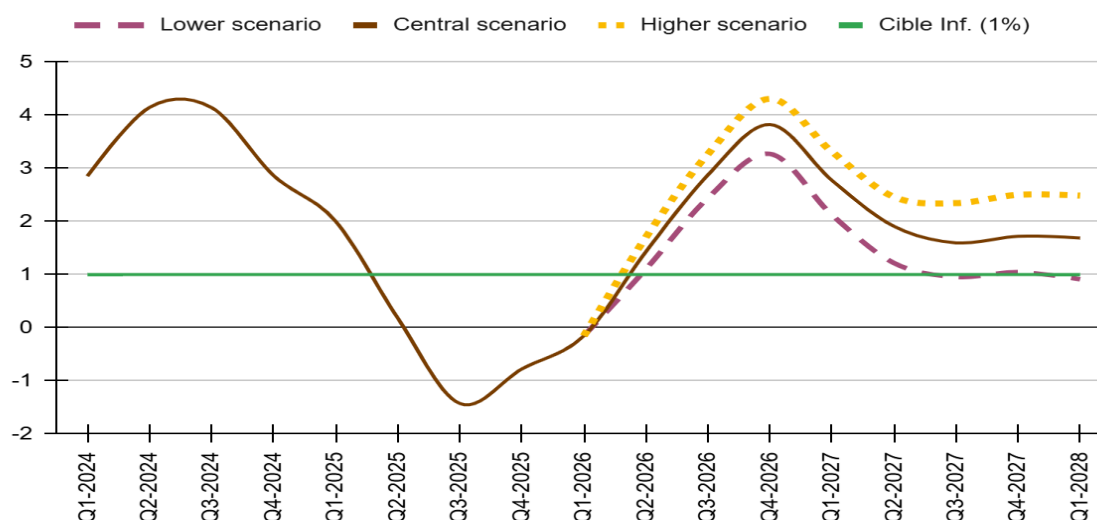
and combat the high cost of living, and base effects linked to low inflation in 2025. They also assume that food distribution networks will continue to face disruptions due to insecurity and the negative impact of unpredictable weather events.

Table 38 - Inflation outlook in WAEMU (%)

		2025	2026				2027				Average			
		Q4 Actual	Q1 Fcst	Q2 Fcst	Q3 Fcst	Q4 Fcst	Q1 Fcst	Q2 Fcst	Q3 Fcst	Q4 Fcst	2025	2026	2024	Eight quarters
Inflation rate	Lower scenario	-0.8	0.0	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.2	0.0	0.9	1.4	1.2
	Central scenario	-0.8	0.2	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	1.4	2.1	1.8
	Higher scenario	-0.8	0.6	1.9	2.2	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.7	2.9	0.0	1.8	2.7	2.3

Source: BCEAO

Graph 24 - Inflation forecasts (year over year, as a %)



Source : BCEAO

187. The balance of risks surrounding inflation forecasts is skewed to the upside. Inflation forecasts could potentially be influenced by upside risks stemming from disruptions in the food supply chain between production areas and distribution areas, due to ongoing insecurity in certain parts of the Union. A deterioration in the security situation would also lead to large-scale population displacement, thereby reducing supplies of agricultural products. Persistent upside risks also arise from the negative impact of climate change, which is causing unstable weather conditions that could

affect agricultural production. Furthermore, ongoing geopolitical tensions could lead to further increases in the prices of petroleum and food products, with direct repercussions on transportation costs and local prices, as well as higher shipping costs, making essential imports more expensive for the region.¹¹

¹¹ See Box 1 of the December 2025 Monetary Policy Report.

APPENDICES

1. **Box E.1** - Methodology for assessing the alignment of the Union's external position with its economic fundamentals
2. **Table A.1** - WAMU: Central Bank summary statement
3. **Table A.2** - WAMU: Summary statement of the banks
4. **Table A.3** - WAMU: Monetary aggregates
5. **Table A.4** - WAMU: Net claims on central governments
6. **Table A.5** - Breakdown of inflation in the WAEMU Union

Box E1: Methodology for assessing the alignment of the Union's external position with its economic fundamentals

The Central Bank uses the EBA-Lite method to calculate the real effective exchange rate (REER) and its equilibrium level. This method, developed by the IMF, has improved the way the external viability of the Member States is assessed in the context of the Fund's Article IV consultations. Beginning in 2019, the BCEAO has strengthened its competitiveness measurement system by rolling out the EBA-Lite model provided by the IMF to improve analysis of the real effective exchange rate. The model's parameters have been adapted to take the specific characteristics of the WAEMU Member States into account.

The approach is founded on the estimation of a standard value (CA-standard) for the current account deficit, as well as for the REER, based a set of factors that influence their movements. The values correspond to the current account deficit and REER levels compatible with the fundamentals of the economy under review. Optimum levels are also identified for other types of macroeconomic aggregates known as policy variables, and these are also taken into account.

Misalignments of the current account deficit or REER relative to the fundamentals are identified based on the difference between the observed level of the deficit and the standard, as well as on the gap between policy variables and their desirable levels (CA gap and REER gap). The findings are compared with the ranges within which the current account deficit and the REER are deemed to be compatible with the fundamentals.

Thus, CA gap values higher than 1 indicate an undervaluation relative to the fundamentals of the economy, while CA gap values below -1 reveal an overvaluation relative to the fundamentals of the economy. In the case of the REER gap, values below -5 point to an undervaluation relative to the fundamentals of the economy, while values above 5 suggest an overvaluation relative to the fundamentals of the economy.

Table A.1 - WAMU: Central Bank summary statement (in billions of CFA francs)

Items	Sept.-24	Dec.-24	March-25	June-25	Sept.-25	Dec.-25
Net external assets	2,938.0	6,440.1	8,163.4	10,506.2	10,176.3	15,599.8
Claims on other deposit-taking institutions	8,757.3	9,407.1	8,370.1	8,044.8	7,922.0	8,326.0
Net claims on central governments	6,803.5	6,445.9	6,298.2	6,043.5	5,985.8	5,880.3
Claims on the private sector	736.9	719.7	729.1	728.2	737.6	721.6
TOTAL ASSETS	19,235.8	23,012.7	23,560.7	25,322.6	24,821.6	30,527.6
Monetary base	15,236.9	18,249.1	18,524.5	19,676.7	19,384.8	23,917.7
Currency outside banks	11,791.8	13,678.4	13,969.1	14,406.7	14,172.7	16,469.4
Commitments to other deposit-taking institutions	2,637.3	3,771.5	3,686.9	4,396.4	4,352.3	6,001.9
Commitments to other sectors	807.7	799.2	868.5	873.7	859.8	1,446.4
Deposits and securities other than shares not included in the money supply	39.5	44.2	42.1	43.1	51.5	51.9
Shares and other equity securities	4,049.4	4,341.5	4,668.4	5,181.5	5,425.5	5,968.7
Other items (net)	-90.0	378.0	325.8	421.3	-40.3	589.3
TOTAL LIABILITIES	19,235.8	23,012.7	23,560.7	25,322.6	24,821.6	30,527.6

Source: BCEAO

Table A.2 - WAMU: Summary statement of the banks (in billions of CFA francs)

Items	Sept.-24	Dec.-24	March-25	June-25	Sept.-25	Dec.-25
Net external assets	-1,824.0	-1,626.0	-1,874.6	-2,179.9	-2,387.3	-2,372.3
Claims on non-residents	1,050.4	1,269.5	1,198.4	1,218.6	1,114.1	1,389.3
Commitments to non-residents	-2,874.5	-2,895.5	-3,073.0	-3,398.5	-3,501.5	-3,761.6
Claims on the Central Bank	3,777.8	4,861.6	4,723.6	5,851.2	5,731.2	7,517.2
Net claims on central governments	18,685.1	19,467.5	20,143.6	20,681.0	21,292.6	22,047.7
Claims on the private sector	34,200.9	35,158.7	35,201.5	35,151.3	36,093.8	37,170.5
Claims on other financial companies	868.4	910.0	1,012.5	1,109.2	1,320.3	1,393.5
Claims on central and local governments	353.6	169.0	311.9	234.5	204.0	233.2
Claims on public non-financial corporations	1,968.1	2,138.2	2,125.0	2,010.2	2,081.4	1,874.0
Claims on the private sector	31,010.8	31,941.5	31,752.1	31,797.3	32,488.2	33,669.8
ASSETS	54,839.7	57,861.9	58,194.0	59,503.5	60,730.2	64,363.1
Commitments to the Central Bank	8,721.9	9,316.0	8,395.2	7,923.0	7,875.2	8,183.2
Transferable deposits included in the broad money supply	21,290.3	23,261.2	23,830.0	24,473.5	25,070.1	27,583.4
Other deposits included in the broad money supply	15,003.6	15,112.2	15,523.6	15,892.6	16,296.3	16,700.3
Deposits not included in the broad money supply	2,198.1	2,530.4	2,380.0	2,533.4	2,526.3	2,781.1
Securities other than shares not included in the broad money supply	15.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Borrowings	1,250.4	1,634.0	1,613.1	1,990.3	1,993.0	2,125.7
Shares and other equity securities	6,505.4	6,401.0	6,925.9	7,092.0	7,255.4	7,572.7
Other items (net)	-145.5	-392.8	-473.8	-401.2	-286.0	-583.4
LIABILITIES	54,839.7	57,861.9	58,194.0	59,503.5	60,730.2	64,363.1

Source: BCEAO

Table A.3 - WAMU: Monetary aggregates (in billions of CFA francs)

Items	Sept.-24	Dec.-24	March-25	June-25	Sept.-25	Dec.-25
Currency outside banks	10,650.8	12,454.9	12,729.0	13,006.6	12,773.5	14,926.7
Transferable deposits	22,249.5	24,237.5	24,804.0	25,472.4	26,093.7	28,788.0
M1	32,900.3	36,692.4	37,533.1	38,479.0	38,867.2	43,714.7
Other deposits included in the money supply (1)	15,246.8	15,329.8	15,812.9	16,162.2	16,527.2	17,336.8
Money supply (M2)	48,147.1	52,022.1	53,345.9	54,641.2	55,394.4	61,051.5
Net external assets	1,114.0	4,814.1	6,288.8	8,326.3	7,788.9	13,227.5
BCEAO	2,938.0	6,440.1	8,163.4	10,506.2	10,176.3	15,599.8
Banks	-1,824.0	-1,626.0	-1,874.6	-2,179.9	-2,387.3	-2,372.3
Internal claims	60,392.9	61,758.3	62,338.8	62,570.4	64,076.2	65,786.5
Net claims on central governments	25,455.1	25,879.9	26,408.2	26,690.9	27,244.8	27,894.5
Claims on the private sector	34,937.8	35,878.4	35,930.6	35,879.5	36,831.4	37,892.1
Non-monetary liabilities (2)	14,058.3	14,951.0	15,629.5	16,840.2	17,251.8	18,500.2
Other items (net) (3)	-698.5	-400.7	-347.8	-584.6	-781.1	-537.7
Total counterparties of M2 (4)	48,147.1	52,022.1	53,345.9	54,641.2	55,394.4	61,051.5

Source: BCEAO

Table A.4 - WAMU: Net claims on central governments (in billions of CFA francs)

Items	Sept.-24	Dec.-24	March-25	June-25	Sept.-25	Dec.-25
BCEAO net claims	6,770.0	6,412.4	6,264.6	6,009.9	5,952.2	5,846.8
Claims	7,975.9	8,393.7	8,167.1	8,327.4	7,957.8	8,111.4
Loans	6,175.5	6,611.5	6,542.6	6,906.3	6,908.7	7,164.5
Loans backed by SDRs	1,312.5	1,312.5	1,312.5	1,312.4	1,312.4	1,312.3
Consolidated loans	218.0	218.0	218.0	215.7	215.7	213.4
IMF loans	4,402.7	4,838.7	4,769.8	5,140.9	5,143.8	5,406.5
Other loans (financial receivables) (1)	242.3	242.3	242.3	237.3	236.8	232.3
Treasury securities portfolio	15.0	16.8	18.0	13.9	15.5	17.5
Other claims (2)	1,205.9	1,981.3	1,902.4	2,317.5	2,005.6	2,264.6
Commitments	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.5	33.5
Treasury	1,100.0	1,844.2	1,742.5	2,234.8	1,895.5	2,123.7
Deposits	72.4	103.6	126.4	49.1	76.6	107.4
Other commitments (3)	18,685.1	19,467.5	20,143.6	20,681.0	21,292.6	22,047.7
Net claims by banks	23,955.3	24,729.6	25,688.3	26,687.4	27,333.1	28,059.8
Claims	4,303.6	4,451.6	4,635.1	4,560.8	4,346.7	4,408.7
Loans	19,612.1	20,278.0	21,053.2	22,126.6	22,986.4	23,651.1
Treasury securities portfolio	5,270.2	5,262.1	5,544.7	6,006.4	6,040.5	6,012.1
Commitments	5,139.5	5,154.7	5,448.0	5,883.9	5,918.1	5,896.8
TOTAL NET CLAIMS ON CGs	25,455.1	25,879.9	26,408.2	26,690.9	27,244.8	27,894.5

Source: BCEAO

(1) Claims on negative external positions and other financial receivables due from governments.

(2) Recoverable government expenses, recoverable taxes, and miscellaneous claims on governments.

(3) Taxes collected, commissions on transfers, and other sums collected on behalf of national governments.

Table A.5 - Breakdown of inflation in WAEMU

Table A.5.1: Trends in price by geographical origin

	Components	Weight (%)	Q4-2024	Q1-2025	Q2-2025	Q3-2025	Q4-2025
Annual change (%)	Local	70	3.0	2.7	0.9	-0.8	0.0
	Imported	30	2.6	-0.1	-1.6	-3.0	-2.8
Contributions (in % points)	Local	70	2.2	2.0	0.6	-0.6	0.0
	Imported	30	0.7	0.0	-0.4	-0.8	-0.8
Total		100	2.9	2.0	0.2	-1.4	-0.8

Sources: BCEAO, NSIs.

Table A.5.2: Trends in prices of goods and services

	Components	Weight (%)	Q4-2024	Q1-2025	Q2-2025	Q3-2025	Q4-2025
Change (%)	Goods	70.7	3.2	2.7	1.4	-1.2	-1.0
	Services	29.3	2.4	0.8	-2.1	-1.7	-0.3
Contributions (in % points)	Goods	70.7	2.1	1.7	0.9	-0.8	-0.7
	Services	29.3	0.8	0.3	-0.7	-0.6	-0.1
Total		100	2.9	2.0	0.2	-1.4	-0.8

Sources: BCEAO, NSIs.

Table A 6: Differences between forecast and actual inflation rates in WAEMU

	Q4-2024	Q1-2025	Q2-2025	Q3-2025	Q4-2025
Forecast date	October 2024	January 2025	April 2025	July 2025	January 2026
Actual, as a % (A)	2.9	2.0	0.2	-1.4	-0.8
Forecast, as a % (B)	3.5	2.6	2.6	0.7	-0.4
Difference in % points (A-B)	-0.6	-0.6	-2.4	-2.1	-0.4

Source: BCEAO