



Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023

### Few non-banks have access to RTGS systems

The majority of central banks do not grant non-bank firms access to their real-time gross settlement (RTGS) systems, survey data from the Payments Benchmarks 2023 shows. Of the 27 respondents, 17 (63%) report zero non-bank participants. Of those that do grant access to non-banks, the maximum number of such participants was 26.

[www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 09/06/23)

### Eurozone economy in recession

Euro zone economy entered a technical recession in the first quarter following the downward revisions to Germany and Ireland data. GDP shrank 0.1% sequentially after posting a similar fall in the fourth quarter, the latest estimate from Eurostat showed on Thursday. The first quarter GDP figure was revised down from the 0.1% expansion estimated initially. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 08/06/23)

### Eurozone needs harmonised resolution tools, officials say

Eurozone countries should harmonise their tools for managing banking crises, several senior officials stressed at a June 7 conference. Doing this would both increase financial stability and make it easier to create a cross-border deposit guarantee scheme, they argued.

[www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 08/06/23)

### US jobless claims hit highest since 2021

Applications for US unemployment benefits jumped last week to the highest level since October 2021, suggesting mounting layoff announcements may be starting to translate into job cuts. Initial jobless claims rose by 28,000 to 261,000 in the week ended June 3, which included the Memorial Day holiday, a Labour Department report showed Thursday. The increase was the biggest since July 2021.

[www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 08/06/23)

### China deflation risk prompts PBOC Governor to downplay fears

China's inflation remained close to zero in May, sparking concerns on a falling spiral in prices and prompting the central bank to come out to downplay worries on the economic outlook. The consumer price index rose 0.2% from a year earlier, the National Bureau of Statistics said on Friday, in line with forecasts and up from 0.1% in April.

[www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 09/06/23)

### UK government sets price floor for oil & gas windfall tax

The UK government has introduced a price floor for the windfall tax on oil and gas producers, arguing that it is necessary to support investment and boost the country's energy security. The tax rate, which was raised to 75% last year at the peak of the energy crisis, will revert to the pre-crisis level of 40% if oil and gas prices fall below their long-term average under the so-called Energy Security Investment Mechanism. ([www.ft.com](http://www.ft.com) 09/06/23)

### T. Rowe sees BOJ policy 'San Andreas fault' of global finance is at hand

Policy tightening by the Bank of Japan, the last bastion of ultra-low interest rates, may send shock waves through the financial world. Lift-off could be at hand, according to T. Rowe Price. "Japanese monetary policy could be the San Andreas fault of global finance," Arif Husain, head of international fixed income and chief investment officer at the \$1.3tr fund wrote. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 09/06/23)

### RBA warns of bumpy path to low inflation

The risk of Australia's economy slipping into recession has risen sharply, after the central bank surprised markets this week by raising rates and warned it could tighten again to tamp down on high inflation even at the cost of preserving jobs. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 09/06/23)

### EXCHANGE RATES OF SELECTED CURRENCIES

CURRENCIES	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.2550	(1.2459)	1.2551	(1.2460)
+USD/EUR	1.0776	(1.0705)	1.0777	(1.0706)
*GHS/USD	10.9712	(10.9714)	10.9822	(10.9824)
*GHS/GBP	13.7689	(13.6693)	13.7837	(13.6841)
*GHS/EUR	11.8238	(11.7454)	11.8346	(11.7571)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 09/06/23 (Rates for 08/06/23 in brackets)

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### **Russia's rate pause to reach longest in over 7 years**

Russia extended its interest-rate pause to the longest in more than seven years as the central bank becomes increasingly alert to inflation risks at a time of heavy government spending on the war in Ukraine. Policymakers on Friday kept their benchmark at 7.5%, where it's been since September, in a decision that matched the forecasts of most economists surveyed by Bloomberg. ([www.bloomberg.com](http://www.bloomberg.com) 09/06/23)

### **RBI holds rate despite stubborn inflation**

The Reserve Bank of India held its policy rate on June 8, but policy-makers indicated further tightening could be needed, as inflation remains high. The monetary policy committee's unanimous decision kept the key rate at 6.5%. ([www.centralbanking.com](http://www.centralbanking.com) 08/06/23)

### **SK has \$0.79bn current account shortfall**

South Korea posted a current account deficit of \$0.79bn in April, the Bank of Korea said on Friday. That exceeded expectations for a shortfall of \$1.38bn following the downwardly revised \$0.16bn surplus in March (originally \$0.27bn). The goods account saw a \$0.58bn surplus, while the services account posted a \$1.21bn deficit owing to a shortfall in the travel account. ([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 08/06/23)

### **IMF praises Norway's economic resilience**

The International Monetary Fund released its yearly assessment of Norway's economy and economic policies, praising the Nordic country's robust economic performance. Norway's production experienced significant growth in 2022. It is expected to expand further this year, albeit at a slightly slower pace. ([www.xinhuanet.com](http://www.xinhuanet.com) 09/06/23)

### **Czech jobless rate falls slightly to 3.5%**

The Czech Republic's unemployment rate dropped slightly in May, in line with expectations, figures from the labour office showed on Thursday. The unemployment rate edged down to 3.5% in May from 3.6% in the previous month. In the corresponding month last year, the jobless rate was 3.2%.

([www.rttnews.com](http://www.rttnews.com) 08/06/23)

### **Oil price gains capped by demand fears**

Oil prices rose on Friday and were broadly flat on the week as concern over oil demand growth was balanced by Saudi output cuts. Brent crude futures rose 36 cents, or 0.5%, to \$76.32 a barrel by 0932 GMT while US West Texas Intermediate crude was up 34 cents, or 0.5%, at \$71.63. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 09/06/23)

### **Global shares edge up as Fed pause bets bolster sentiment**

Global equities were set for a small weekly gain on Friday following a Wall Street rally overnight, as rising bets the Fed will skip a rate increase next week overshadowed worries about US markets being drained of cash. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 09/06/23)

### **EU, UN launch initiatives to spur rural development in Kenya**

The UN International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the EU has launched two new initiatives in Kenya to boost rural development by making the use of digital remittance flow faster and cheaper. IFAD said that the grant projects aim to empower rural communities and stimulate economic growth. ([www.xinhuanet.com](http://www.xinhuanet.com) 08/06/23)

### **Ethiopia expects higher spending, growth in next fiscal year**

Ethiopia's overall spending is expected to rise slightly and economic growth to accelerate in the next fiscal year starting in July, finance minister has said. Ahmed Shide said overall spending would rise to Br801.65bn (\$14.7bn) in the 2023/24 year, from Br786.61bn in 2022/23. ([www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com) 09/06/23)

### **BoG receives international plaudits for regulatory sandbox**

Bank of Ghana has received international plaudits for its forward-thinking approach, as evidenced by its swift introduction of a regulatory sandbox for start-ups. Miishe Addy co-founder and Chief Executive Officer at e-logistics start-up Jetstream cited the sandbox as a critical tool for driving innovation.

([www.thebftonline.com](http://www.thebftonline.com) 09/06/23)

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