

# Kenya Economic SWOT

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### Strengths

- Kenya's relatively diversified economy reduces its vulnerability to commodity price shocks.
- A rapidly growing technology sector supports an internationally competitive services sector.
- Robust economic growth encourages investment.
- Kenya has a strategically advantageous location in the East African Community (EAC).

#### Weaknesses

- Entrenched perceptions of corruption undermine the business environment.
- Large flows of portfolio and other volatile forms of investment leave the economy exposed to swings in investor sentiment - especially pertinent given global trade tensions.
- A large proportion of Kenya's exports are agricultural, many of which have been severely impacted by poor harvest conditions over recent years.

# **Opportunities**

- As a relatively advanced emerging market, Kenya could serve as a springboard for international firms looking to enter Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Kenya can benefit from the increasing integration of the EAC, primarily through growing intra-regional trade.
- The country could also substitute Mainland Chinese exports to the US, namely textiles.

## Threats

- If risk-off sentiment arising from US trade policy becomes more protracted, the wider Kenyan economy could be vulnerable given a reliance on portfolio investment.
- A failure to address large fiscal deficits and a growing debt burden could see investor sentiment begin to decline over the coming years.
- Drought associated with climate change poses risks to growth, inflation, the currency and the balance-of-payments position.

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