

RMB

20 November 2026

Global markets

In the news

A Russian ballistic missile damaged three bridges across the Dnipro River in Kyiv overnight, hours after President Vladimir Putin vowed revenge for the destruction of a crossing that links Russia to Crimea. Donald Trump told European leaders that the Russian president wants to end the war, citing the financial and human costs of the conflict.

Foreign exchange

The US dollar remains the primary driver of global FX markets, supported by an increasingly hawkish Federal Reserve (Fed) and a deteriorating global risk environment. Fed officials have signalled that a 50bp rate hike remains a possibility, prompting markets to extend expectations of policy tightening well into 2027. Although the US 10-year Treasury yield eased modestly to around 5.01%, demand for the US dollar has remained firm as investors seek safety amid a prolonged global equity sell-off, particularly in technology and AI-related stocks. The DXY continues to trade near yearly highs around 103.8 -104.0, reinforcing pressure on emerging market currencies. The rand remains under strain, opening around 17.54 -17.55 despite the South African Reserve Bank's (SARB) hawkish hold, as a combination of US dollar strength, weaker commodity prices, and lingering political uncertainty related to local coalition negotiations weighs on sentiment. While lower oil prices could provide some support over time, the broader outlook remains dominated by the stronger US dollar and elevated global risk aversion.

Commodities and fixed income

Commodity markets continue to reflect concerns about slowing global growth and tighter financial conditions. Brent crude has fallen to around US$92/bbl, more than 20% below its October peak, as geopolitical risk premia fade, supply conditions improve and refining margins compress, signalling a more benign energy inflation outlook. While lower oil prices are supportive for oil-importing economies such as South Africa, the benefits are currently being overshadowed by broader US dollar strength. In precious metals, gold remains under pressure, weakening South Africa's terms of trade and removing an important support for the rand. In fixed income markets, South African bonds rallied following the SARB's decision to keep rates unchanged at 7.25%, with FRAs, swaps and government bonds all strengthening as investors welcomed the absence of an immediate rate hike and focused on improving inflation prospects. However, elevated US yields, persistent Fed hawkishness and a weaker rand continue to pose headwinds, particularly for longer-dated bonds where global term premia remain the dominant influence.

Botswana

Poverty declines, but quality employment challenges persist

The latest Botswana Multi-Topic Household Survey 2024/25 Poverty and Inequality report highlights that employment remains an important safeguard against poverty, although progress has been modest. The working poverty rate declined marginally to 15.7% in 2024/25 from 16.6% in 2015/16, meaning that roughly one in six employed persons still lives in a household below the poverty line. While significantly lower than the national poverty rate of 28.9%, the limited improvement suggests that employment gains have not translated into proportionate improvements in household living standards.

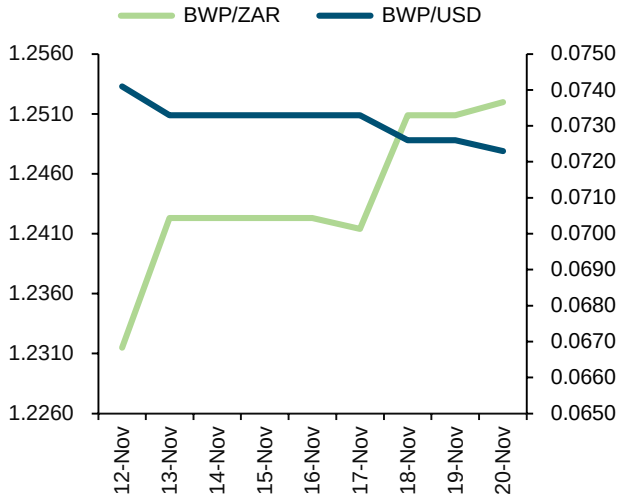
More broadly, national poverty declined from 33.0% to 28.9%, while inequality improved, with the Gini coefficient falling from 0.540 to 0.493. However, poverty remains heavily concentrated in rural areas, where 47.2% of the population lives below the poverty line, compared to just 9.7% in cities and towns. These findings point to persistent structural challenges in the labour market and underscore the need for stronger income growth, productivity gains and quality job creation, particularly in rural Botswana.

Foreign exchange

The Botswana pula is firmer against the weakening South African rand ater policymakers left interest rates unchanged at their final meeting of the year, and warned they could resume hikes if inflationary pressures intensify. The seven-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) maintained the benchmark policy rate at 7.25%, with the decision backed by four MPC members while three favoured a quarter-point increase. The US dollar is headed for a fourth straight weekly gain due to demand tied to the Anthropic PBC IPO and expectations of further Fed interest-rate hikes.

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Source: Bloomberg; data as of November 2026

Money markets

Market liquidity closed at BWP3.571bn, declining from BWP4.320bn in the previous trading session. Interbank trading activity amounted to BWP461m, while there were no repos traded. Meanwhile, the seven-day Bank of Botswana Certificate (BoBC) stop-out yield was 5.50%.

Credit Facility Rate				
Rate	**Actual**	**Previous**	**Variance**	**Trend**
Unsecured interbank yield	5.50%	5.50%	0.00%	–
Secured interbank yield	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	–
1-month BoBC	5.92%	5.92%	0.00%	–
MoPR	5.50%	5.50%	0.00%	–
Repo/Reverse repo rate	5.50%	5.50%	0.00%	–
Credit Facility Rate	8.50%	8.50%	0.00%	–
Standing Credit Facility	6.50%	6.50%	0.00%	–
Standing Deposit Facility	4.50%	4.50%	0.00%	–
FNBB Prime rate	7.01%	7.01%	0.00%	–

Government bonds					
Bond	**Maturity**	**November 20, 2026**	**November 19, 2026**	**Variance**	**Trend**
3-m T-bill	31-Mar-27	5.83%	5.83%	0.00%	–
6-m T-bill	31-May-27	6.01%	6.01%	0.00%	–
12-m T-bill	30-Nov-27	6.80%	6.80%	0.00%	–
BW016	05-May-27	6.00%	6.00%	0.00%	–
BW014	05-Sept-29	7.13%	7.13%	0.00%	–
BW011	10-Sept-31	7.38%	7.38%	0.00%	–
BW012	13-Jun-40	10.99%	10.99%	0.00%	–
BW015	02-Sept-43	11.90%	11.90%	0.00%	–
BOTSGB0635	06-Jun-35	9.15%	9.15%	0.00%	–
BOTSGB1150	02-Nov-50	11.95%	11.95%	0.00%	–

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