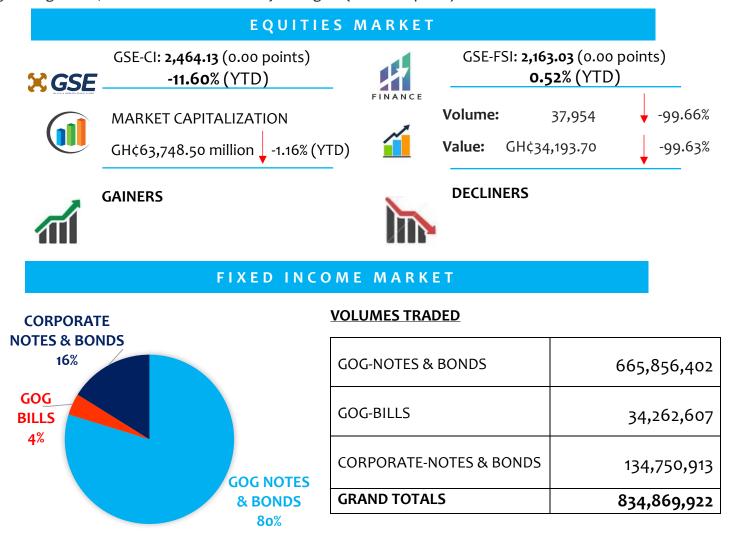
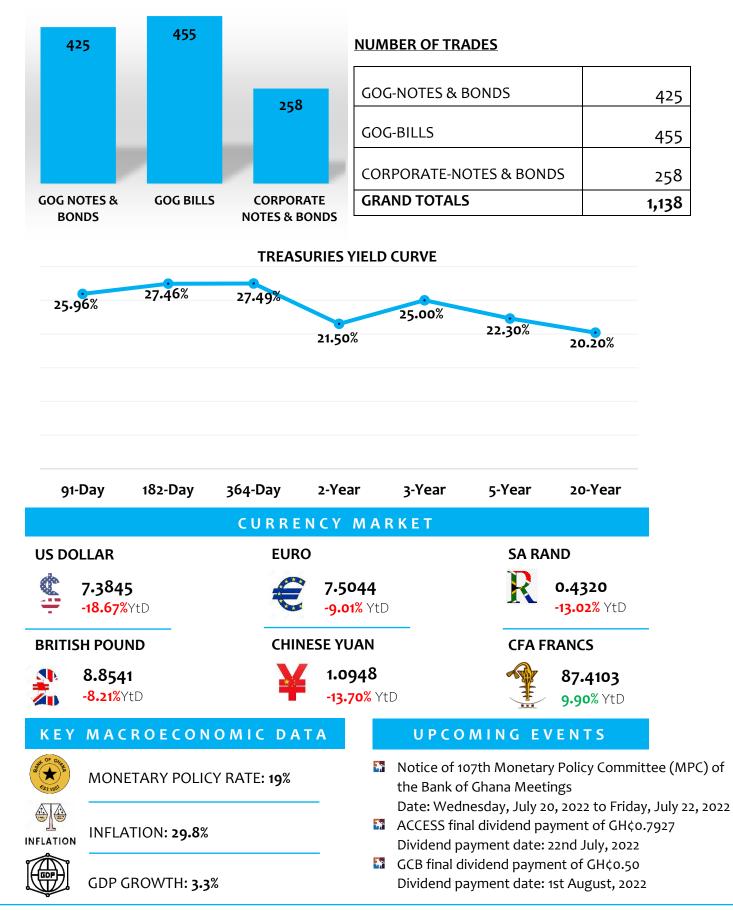


## **NEWS HEADLINES**

- ASG announce USD140 million forward gold purchase at 7.5% interest rate: Asante Gold Corporation (ASG) has announced a forward gold purchase programme worth USD140 million at an interest rate of 7.53%. Asante Gold earned USD100 million from the total USD140 million after completing the first tranche of the programme. According to Asante Gold, repayment terms are to be 25% of the principal and interest in four equal installments of USD26.88 million, with the final payment due July 12, 2023. Settlement will be in US funds by delivery of gold at the financial institutions' designated gold refinery in Switzerland and sold at the then Bloomberg BGN XAUUSD spot market price less 7%. The annual interest rate of this gold forward facility is 7.53%. (Norvanreports)
- More than 30% of countries at near-debt distress IMF: More than 30% of emerging and developing countries are at or near debt distress, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Kristalina Georgieva, has revealed. For low-income countries that number is 60%. According to her, the tightening financial conditions and exchange rate depreciations has escalated the debt service burden which she described a harsh and for some countries unbearable burden. The Director of the Fund is strongly advocating for global leadership to tackle the scourge of high debt, which has reached multiyear highs. (Norvanreports)





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