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MORNING BRIEF

NEWS HEADLINES

- Ghana's bilateral creditors set to clear way for \$3bn IMF bailout: Ghana hopes to take a big step towards restructuring its \$58 billion-worth of debt this week, with its bilateral creditors meeting on Tuesday to discuss whether to provide enough relief to unlock a \$3 billion IMF bailout. The Minister of Finance Ken Ofori Atta expressed hope that the Paris Club will meet with China on April 11 to provide financing assurances to the IMF, adding that this will be the defining input that [the IMF] will require to then go to their board. The French Treasury, which hosts the Paris Club of bilateral creditors, said the group was "doing everything" to reach an agreement on the commitments required. (Citibusinessnews)
- Private sector gains momentum as business conditions improve: In March 2023, the private sector in Ghana continued to recover from the economic downturn caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, according to the latest S&P Global Ghana Purchasing Managers' Index[™]. This marks the second consecutive month of growth in business conditions, with the index rising to 50.9 from 50.2 in February. The expansion was driven by a solid increase in new orders, as customer demand was helped by further signs of inflationary pressures slowing. This improvement prompted firms to expand staffing levels again and raise purchasing activity for the first time in almost a year. In turn, suppliers' delivery times shortened to the greatest extent on record, indicating a strong improvement in vendor performance. One of the key factors supporting business conditions in March was a more stable currency, which helped to alleviate overall input price inflation despite a slight pick-up in the pace at which firms increased their staff costs. (Norvanreports)





Q3 2022: **2.9%**

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