Mizuho Daily

Feb 27, 2025

Three Take-Aways

1) USTs continued to rally despite cautious FedSpeak amid continued soft data; tariffs headlines could also lend support on haven flows.

2) Upwards revision to Taiwan's Q4 GDP should still keep a CBC hike at bay given a downgrade to 2025 GDP forecast while inflation forecast remains unchanged.

3) Deep budget cuts in key Indonesia ministries risks engendering further social unrest should the cuts result in a trimming of ground programmes instead of trimming inefficiencies.

MACRO THEME: Little Cheer

- UST yields fell despite FedSpeak still leaning towards the cautious camp amid softer US data. Fed Bostic said the Fed should hold interest rates at where they are and see how the world evolves; while Fed Barkin expressed that he favoured a "modestly restrictive" rate policy.

- Meanwhile, US data suggested weak economic sentiments. New home sales were lower-than-expected, and in a reflection of uncertainties on the US economic outlook, a survey by Philadelphia Fed showed about one-third of the workers surveyed expressing concerns on job stability. A similar percentage indicated concerns on their employer's ability to stay in business.

Yields (2Y: -2.3bp; 10Y: -3.8bp; 30Y: -4.6bp)

- UST yields fell across the curve.

Equities (Nasdag: +0.3%; S&P500: +0.0%; Dow: -0.4%)

- US equities sought for direction.

FX (DXY: +0.1%)

- The USD was mostly stronger against the G10 currencies.

- JPY outperformed amid comments by Vice Finance Minister Mimura said there was no gap with growing market expectations over BoJ's interest rate hikes, noting that recent economic indicators registered robust growth and illustrated elevated inflation.

- CAD fared better than most G10 peers despite the White House clarifying that the deadline for Canada (and Mexico tariffs) remains March 4, following some confusion from Trump's remarks that the tariffs would be implemented on April 2.

- EUR performed in the middle of the pack, moving below 1.05 levels.

- AUD led losses, touching 63 cents, amid a downside surprise to headline CPI print, even as trimmed mean CPI was stable. Regardless. the slight downside surprise to headline CPI is unlikely to affirm another cut by RBA in April amid wariness on labour market strength.

- In EM Asia, THB led losses on BoT's cut, which was in line with our call. The rate cut was based on a 6-1 decision with one member of the committee opting to keep rates on hold on to preserve dry powder to respond for future growth headwinds. While the growth concerns were ubiquitous, they should not be extrapolated to extend bets for an

DATA/EVENTS

DATALVENTO			
Yesterday	Actual	Exp.	Prior
(AU) CPI/Trimmed Mean YoY (Jan)	2.5%/2.8%	2.6%/	2.5%/2.7%
(AU) Construction Work Done (4Q)	0.5%	1.0%	2.0%
Bank Of Thailand Policy Rate	2.25%	2.25%	2.25%
(SG) Industrial Production YoY (Jan)	9.1%	9.1%	5.2%
(TW) Unemployment Rate (Jan)	3.4%	3.4%	3.4%
(TW) GDP YoY (4Q P)	2.9%	1.8%	1.8%
(JP) Leading Index CI (Dec F)	108.3		108.9
(US) New Home Slaes (Jan)	657k	680k	734k
Today	Actual	Exp.	Prior
(US) Initial Jobless Claims	Actual	221k	219k
(US) GDP Annualised QoQ (4Q S)		2.3%	2.3%
(US) Personal Consumption (4Q S)		4.1%	4.2%
(US) PCE/Core Deflator QoQ (4Q S)		2.2%/2.5%	2.2%/2.5%
(US) Durable Goods Orders/Nondef Ex A	Air (Jan P)	2.0%/0.3%	-2.2%/0.4%
(EZ) ECB Account of Jan Meeting			

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outright easing cycle. In short, we refrain from calling for back to back cuts especially as the BoT's statement alludes to structural woes weighing on growth.

- Elsewhere, USD/SGD was buoyant above mid-1.33 levels.

China: Capital Boost

- Reports surfaced that Chinese authorities are looking to re-capitalise several of its biggest banks in coming months, with an injection of at least CNY400bn of fresh capital into the first batch of banks, in a move to spur lending. The move was not a surprise one, given that China's banking regulator first flagged its plan to replenish core tier-1 capital at the six top state lenders in September last year albeit without elaboration. Nasdag Dragon Golden index closed 3.6% higher.

Taiwan: Strong End, Not Policy Divergence

- Taiwan's Q4 GDP upward revision from 1.8% YoY in its advance estimate to 2.9% YoY was on the back of upward revision to private consumption from 1.9% to 2.5% while exports growth was stronger than expected at 8.9% YoY from 8.2% YoY. Admittedly, domestic demand has been resilient in Taiwan.

- While there was been talk of possible rate hike by the CBC, we remain cautious of calling for one amid trade and growth headwinds as reflect by a downgrade of the 2025 GDP forecast by the authorities from 3.3% to 3.1%. Notably, the growth downgrade was also said to be in part due to larger budget cuts.

- Furthermore, with CPI forecast remaining at 1.9% in 2025, the CBC will likely lean on the cautious side of the policy calculus for now.

Indonesia: No Free Lunch?

- "Dark Indonesia" protests last week stemmed from dissatisfaction around Prabowo's call for ministries to lower the budget spending by Rp306.7tn (8.5% of approved budget) had seen the health, education and public works ministries announcing budget cuts of 19%, 24% and a whopping 73%, respectively. Initially, these savings were thought to be reallocated towards his flagship free lunch programmes and other policy priorities. Estimates had suggested an additional IDR100tn needed to fund Prabowo's intention to expand the free lunch program to included all 83m recipient by end-2025 on top of the current IDR71tn budget.

- This week's announcement of Danantara, Indonesia's new sovereign wealth fund, saw President Prabowo state that these budget savings will also be channeled to the fund alongside ownership transfer of SOEs to the fund.

On aggregate, given seemingly enlarged spending needs and clouded sight of the savings re-allocation, the fiscal deficit target will likely need to be lifted. Afterall, something got to give.

- On tail risks, extreme austerity could engender social unrest should the desired outcome of a managed fiscal deficit be realised through removal of on the ground programmes rather than trimming inefficiencies.

FX OUTLOOK

FX	Close (NY)	Open*	Daily %∆	Fore	cast	t
USDJPY	149.10	148.85	+0.05%	147.00	-	151.00
EURUSD	1.0485	1.0489	▼0.28%	1.0380	-	1.0580
GBPUSD	1.2676	1.2682	+0.08%	1.2550		1.2780
AUDUSD	0.6305	0.6311	▼0.61%	0.6240	-	0.6380
DXY	106.4		+0.10%	106.0	-	107.0
USDCNY	7.2578		+0.09%	7.2300	-	7.2900
USDCNH	7.2653	7.2637	+0.14%	7.2200	-	7.2900
USDHKD	7.7741	7.7732	+0.00%	7.7500	-	7.7900
USDSGD	1.3388	1.3377	+0.19%	1.3260	-	1.3460
USDKRW	1435	1434	+0.00%	1425	-	1445
USDTWD	32.80		▼0.02%	32.60		33.00
USDINR	87.20		+0.00%	86.50	-	87.90
USDIDR	16370		+0.15%	16250	-	16500
USDMYR	4.429	4.429	+0.10%	4.390	-	4.460
USDPHP	57.89		▼0.08%	57.50	-	58.30
USDTHB	33.71	33.75	+0.00%	33.5	-	34.1
USDVND	25551	25550	+0.13%	25450	-	25650

*Open is as at 8am HKT/SGT



MARKET MOVES

Bond Yields	2Y Close	10Y Close	2Y Δ (bps)	10Y ∆ (bps)
UST (US)	4.073	4.257	-2.3	-3.8
JGB (JP)	0.794	1.362	0.2	-0.5
Bunds (GE)	2.063	2.432	0.3	-2.5
Gilts (UK)	4.171	4.502	0.1	-0.6
AGB (AU)	3.783	4.362	-1.7	-3.6
SGS (SG)	2.697	2.804	0.9	0.0
CGB (CN)	1.430	1.760	-2.9	-1.0
KGB (KR)	2.758	2.662	-4.6	-2.3
SDL (IN)	6.706	6.569	0.0	0.2

G3 Equities	Close	Net Chg	Daily %∆
S&P500 (US)	5956.06	0.81	+0.01%
Nasdaq (US)	19075.26	48.87	+0.26%
DJIA (US)	43433.12	-188.04	▼0.43%
N225 (JP)	38142.37	-95.42	▼0.25%
STOXX50 (EU)	5527.99	80.09	+1.47%

Close	Net Chg	Daily %∆
9,448.27	84.42	+0.90%
107.09	0.19	▼0.01%
2,916.39	1.41	+0.05%
31.86	-0.17	▼4.14%
72.53	-0.49	▼0.67%
68.62	-0.31	▼0.45%
3.96	0.12	+0.37%
	9,448.27 107.09 2,916.39 31.86 72.53 68.62	9,448.27 84.42 107.09 0.19 2,916.39 1.41 31.86 -0.17 72.53 -0.49 68.62 -0.31

Cross FX	Close (NY)	Open*	Daily %∆
EUR/JPY	156.33	156.12	▼0.23%
GBP/JPY	188.993	188.758	+0.12%
JPY/SGD (100yen)	0.898	0.8987	+0.17%
JPY/HKD (100yen)	5.2144	5.2223	▼0.03%
CNH/JPY	20.516	20.509	▼0.28%
CNH/HKD	1.071	1.0711	▼0.10%
EUR/GBP	0.82718	0.82711	▼0.35%
AUD/NZD	1.1071	1.1074	▼0.08%
EUR/CNH	7.6182	7.6189	▼0.12%
GBP/CNH	9.208	9.2115	+0.21%
*Open is as at 8am HKT/SGT.			

Asia Equities	Close	Net Chg	Daily %∆
ASX (AU)	4726.18	33.67	+0.72%
STI (SG)	3908.05	-7.82	▼0.20%
SHCOMP (CN)	3380.214	34.17	+1.02%
SZCOMP (CN)	2097.142	22.83	+1.10%
HSI (HK)	23787.93	753.91	+3.27%
SENSEX (IN)	74602.12	0.00	+0.00%
JSE (ID)	6606.178	19.09	+0.29%
KLSE (MY)	1588.71	20.68	+1.32%
PSE (PH)	6144.96	80.80	+1.33%
SET (TH)	1231.14	24.75	+2.05%
VNINDEX (VN)	1302.96	0.00	▼0.02%

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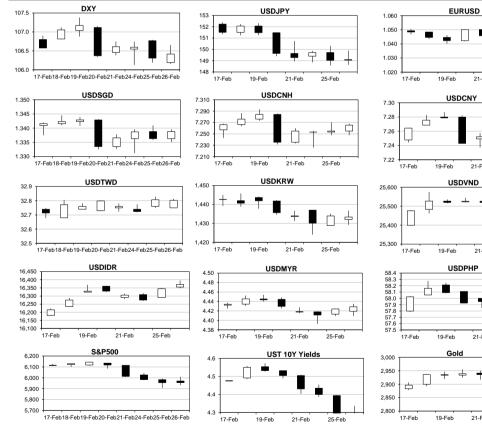
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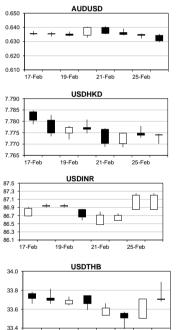
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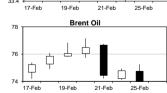
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CHARTS







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