Daily Market Outlook

7 October 2019



Market Themes/Strategy – The week ahead

- Broad USD was still soft overall on Friday, closing in the red against all G10 counterparts, with the exception the JPY and the GBP.
 Nonetheless, the downside momentum appears to have eased somewhat. Headline NFP number was softer than expected, but the revision higher of the previous month's data provided some positive.
- Risk sentiments stabilised slightly on Friday. The pause in the decline
 in US Treasury yields, and firmer US/EM equities, contributed to the
 easing of overall risk aversion at the start of this week. The FXSI (FX
 Sentiment Index) dipped lower within Risk-Off territory.
- On the CFTC front, both leveraged accounts and asset managers moved in favour of the USD in the latest reading, although this may not fully account for the shift in USD sentiments last week. Notably, implied short USD bias in the asset manager accounts, first reached in 4Q 2016, now stands almost at neutral levels. Note also, a jump in AUD shorts in asset manager accounts, perhaps underlying a structural discomfort with global growth.
- This week, attention should shift to Sino-US trade talks, although expectations for any form of deal seem low. Until then, investors may still look to a string of Fed appearances, headlined by Powell (Tue. Wed), September FOMC minutes (Thu), and US CPI for broad USD directionality.
- On balance, we remain cautious not to overcompensate for soft US data in the near term, and overlook ongoing global and European growth concerns. Notwithstanding the soft data last week, the US economy and the Fed still hold the upper hand. In this context, we remain conscious is chasing excessive USD downside beyond in the immediate sessions, and prefer to stay heavy on the likes of the EUR-JPY and AUD-JPY.

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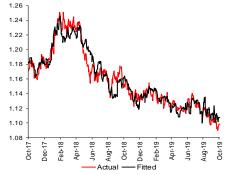
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EUR-USD

Pause from downtrend. The failure to retake 1.1000 may serve to discourage some EUR-USD bulls in the short term. With market attention shifting to Sino-US trade talks, this pair may range in the coming sessions, pending developments. In the interim, expect the 1.1100 to cap topside, while 1.0940 cushions dips.

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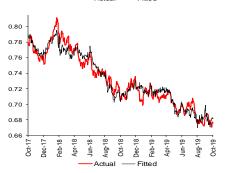
USD-JPY

Heavy stance. Expect the USD-JPY to retain a heavy stance this week, although headlines from the Sino-US trade front may create volatility. Overall, expect any topside move towards 107.00/20 to be rejected in the early week, in favour of 106.50.



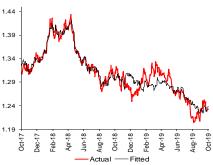
AUD-USD

Heavy tone. The AUD-USD may be beset by opposing factors for now, with risk aversion and growth concerns flexing against spillover USD negativity from last week. Meanwhile, the outcome of the Sino-US trade talks will loom large this week. Till then, we expect the recent upswing to taper off near 0.6800/20, while a floor may come in at 0.6720.



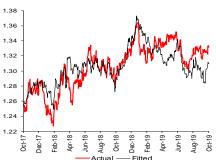
GBP-USD

Building base. Brexit pessimism appeared to seep in once again, with PM Johnson's negotiations with the EU appearing to stall, and him threatening to walk through the door on 31 October. Expect the GBP-USD to fluctuate alongside Brexit headlines for now, with 1.2200 being the first key support if sentiment sours.



USD-CAD

Choppy. The USD-CAD stayed within the 1.3350 cap for now, with the market likely to focus on Canadian data this week to gauge any spillovers from the US side. In the interim, expect the air to be scarce for the pair beyond 1.3350, then 1.3385 for now.



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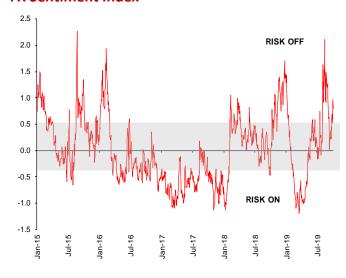
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Asian Markets

- USD-Asia: The USD-CNH dipped on Friday towards 7.1100, but opened this morning in a buoyant mode. With the broad USD on a somewhat less slippery footing, USD-Asia may see some take-back of the declines late last week.
- On the EPFR front, the heavy implied equity outflow in the previous week was reversed this week, while implied bond flows flipped back into net outflow territory. Abstracting from the volatile weekly reading, note that on a rolling 4-week and 12-week basis, implied equity outflows are still persistent, while implied bond flow are effectively stagnant at a small net positive. We think this highlights a lack of improvement in investor appetite for Asian assets. Overlay this with the dovish macro outlook at the RBI following its 25 bps rate cut on Friday, we think it might still be difficult to construct a strong Asian FX theme on a structural basis.
- USD-SGD: This morning, the SGD NEER stood at +0.91% above its perceived parity (1.3925), with NEER-implied USD-SGD thresholds marginally higher. With the date for the October MAS MPS still not set, we expect the top-side of the SGD NEER will be capped around the +1.0% above parity mark ahead of the meeting. The USD-SGD meanwhile, could see some buoyancy early week, with 1.3780 possibly a firm support level for now.

FX Sentiment Index



Technical support and resistance levels

	S2	S 1	Current	R1	R2
EUR-USD	1.0894	1.0900	1.0979	1.1000	1.1061
GBP-USD	1.2252	1.2300	1.2352	1.2400	1.2545
AUD-USD	0.6683	0.6700	0.6755	0.6787	0.6800
NZD-USD	0.6214	0.6300	0.6321	0.6392	0.6400
USD-CAD	1.3294	1.3300	1.3328	1.3348	1.3383
USD-JPY	104.46	106.00	106.78	106.80	106.99
USD-SGD	1.3720	1.3723	1.3792	1.3800	1.3818
EUR-SGD	1.5061	1.5100	1.5141	1.5200	1.5263
JPY-SGD	1.2677	1.2900	1.2916	1.2918	1.2941
GBP-SGD	1.6931	1.7000	1.7035	1.7100	1.7245
AUD-SGD	0.9249	0.9300	0.9316	0.9379	0.9400
Gold	1498.51	1500.00	1505.60	1528.98	1559.80
Silver	17.51	17.60	17.69	17.70	18.54
Crude	51.29	52.60	52.69	52.70	55.74

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