Daily Market Outlook

16 October 2019



Market Themes/Strategy

- Divergent themes buffeted the FX space, taking major pairs in different directions. The GBP ran on its own story, breaking through the key 1.2700 resistance and setting the stage for further upside extension. The **potential Brexit deal** imparted some positives in terms of risk sentiments, with the JPY and CHF also selling off.
- Global core yields stepped higher, led by the bunds and gilts, while US
 equities were supported by strong earnings. The FXSI (FX Sentiment
 Index) dipped lower, now comfortably within the Risk-Neutral zone.
- However, it was not a one-way risk-on. The IMF downgrade of global growth in 2019 to 3.0% from 3.2% in July reminded investors of ongoing growth concerns. Digging deeper, note that the growth downgrade for the US in 2019 was offset by an upgrade in 2020, as opposed to downgrades for both 2019 and 2020 in Europe and China. This underlies our structural thesis that US/Fed remains on a better footing relative to other economies and central banks, and is a positive for the USD on a structural horizon.
- Meanwhile, suspicions over the Phase 1 "deal" still swirls, with headlines suggesting that China wants a rollback of tariffs before purchasing the full US\$40-50b worth of agricultural goods, and may retaliate if the US Congress passes a bill in support of Hong Kong. The AUD reacted more on these negatives, and stayed heavy on the day.
- On the data front, watch for CPI prints in the EU (0900 GMT). Central bank calendar is also heavy, focus on Fed's Evans (1300 GMT), ECB's Lane (1400 and 1800 GMT) and BOE's Carney (2200 GMT).
- In sum, there may still room to selectively pursue risk-on trades in the immediate horizon. There are better battles to fight than the AUD-USD downtrend. Prefer upside/supported posture for the USD-JPY and JPY-crosses instead.

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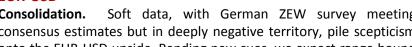
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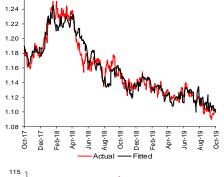
EUR-USD

Consolidation. Soft data, with German ZEW survey meeting consensus estimates but in deeply negative territory, pile scepticism onto the EUR-USD upside. Pending new cues, we expect range bound

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movement between 1.1000 and 1.060.



1.26

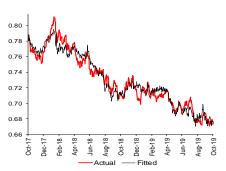
USD-JPY

Supported in near term. With 108.50 pierced, expect the USD-JPY to make an attempt at 109.00 and the 200-day MA (109.07), if risk sentiments hold up. We continue to favour the pair on the back of buoyant UST yields.



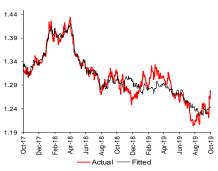
AUD-USD

Heavy. We continue to stay negative on the pair, expecting it to be most reactive if underlying suspicions of the Sino-US "deal" and growth concerns flare up again. At this juncture, we do not rule another test of the 0.6700 mark. Expect the 55-day MA (0.6778) to cap for now.



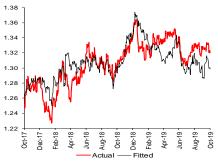
GBP-USD

Headline-driven. The GBP-USD closed north of 1.2700, breaking the downtrend line and 200-day MA (1.2714) resistances. This suggests a positive technical setup, possibly targeting 1.2830/40 next. However, we stay wary ahead of the EU Summit and parliamentary sitting later in the week.



USD-CAD

Range. The USD-CAD diverged from fellow commodity currencies, with data holding relatively well and BOC rate cut expectations fading off. Expect resistance near 1.3240/50 as the pair hovers near the 1.3200 mark.



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Asian Markets

- USD-Asia: The USD-CNH eased higher above 7.0900 this morning. Asian currencies as a whole may be buffeted by different factors today. Spillover risk-on sentiments should support, but the background concerns on global growth and Sino-US relations may also weigh on investors' minds. Overall, expect USD-Asia to be mixed to slightly firmer on the day.
- The Bank of Korea delivered the heavily expected 25 bps rate cut, while signposting for growth to slip below prior expectations. However, we may not see consecutive rate cuts going forward, with the limited policy room setting the bar higher (cue worsening in global growth and trade tensions) for future cuts.
- USD-SGD: The USD-SGD re-emerged above 1.3700 yesterday, tracking the USD-CNH higher. At this juncture, we do not expect outsized upside pressure on the pair. Instead, expect it to stay tethered to global (and RMB) cues. On the SGD NEER front, the basket eased lower to +1.44% above its perceived parity (1.3913), with NEER-implied USD-SGD thresholds higher on the day.

FX Sentiment Index

2.5 2.0 - RISK OFF 1.5 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1 - 1.0 - 2.1

Technical support and resistance levels

	S2	S 1	Current	R1	R2
EUR-USD	1.0898	1.1000	1.1026	1.1039	1.1066
GBP-USD	1.2700	1.2714	1.2750	1.2754	1.2840
AUD-USD	0.6700	0.6701	0.6735	0.6778	0.6800
NZD-USD	0.6204	0.6247	0.6275	0.6300	0.6338
USD-CAD	1.3181	1.3200	1.3210	1.3264	1.3287
USD-JPY	107.10	108.00	108.68	108.83	108.90
USD-SGD	1.3698	1.3700	1.3718	1.3800	1.3816
EUR-SGD	1.5067	1.5100	1.5125	1.5200	1.5206
JPY-SGD	1.2550	1.2600	1.2622	1.2700	1.2902
GBP-SGD	1.7400	1.7482	1.7490	1.7500	1.7542
AUD-SGD	0.9200	0.9231	0.9238	0.9246	0.9300
Gold	1458.30	1470.05	1477.60	1500.00	1506.95
Silver	17.00	17.40	17.45	17.50	17.71
Crude	50.99	52.90	52.94	53.00	55.30

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