

# Daily 18 April 2019

# **Daily Outlook**

The US trade deficit narrowed to USD 49.4bn in February, its smallest level since June of last year. Exports expanded by 1.1% m/m while imports declined by 0.5% m/m. The trade deficit specifically with China narrowed sharply to USD 24.8bn, down 29%, as there was a major drop in imports from China thanks to tariffs that the US has put in place. The overall trade deficit was smaller than expected and means that trade won't be as big a draw on GDP growth for Q1.

UK consumer prices rose by 1.9% in March, flat month on month and below market expectations for an acceleration. Lower food prices and recreation costs helped keep the index below 2%. Higher utility bills will help push inflation back up toward and over 2%, setting the market up for a Bank of England rate hike at some point either at the end of 2019 or next year provided Brexit proceeds in an orderly manner.

Japan's manufacturing PMI remained in contraction for April although the pace of decline slowed. The Markit Japan PMI index hit 49.5 in April, from 49.2 a month earlier, its third month in a row below 50. New export orders declined, however, as there had still been uncertainty over trade negotiations between the US and China and how any deal would affect other Asian economies.

Abu Dhabi has amended real estate laws to allow foreigners to buy freehold property in the emirate in certain designated zones. The change should help to encourage more foreign direct investment into Abu Dhabi as previously only UAE and GCC nationals could own freehold land.

# The Trump effect: US trade deficit with China narrows O -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 Jan-17 Apr-17 Jul-17 Oct-17 Jan-18 Apr-18 Jul-18 Oct-18 Jan-19 US trade balance w China

Source: EIKON, Emirates NBD Research

Today's Economic Data and Events									
	Time	Cons		Time	Cons				
FR flash manuf. PMI	11:15	50	EZ flash comp PMI	12:00	51.8				
UK retail sales	12:30	-0.3%	US initial jobless claims	16:30	205k				
US retail sales m/m	16:30	0.9%	US flash comp PMI	17:45	52.8				

Source: EIKON, Emirates NBD Research.



### **Fixed Income**

The risk-on move in assets took a pause overnight and helped push USTs higher. Yields acrosee the curve slipped with 2yr down 1bp and the 10yr down less than 1bp overnight. Both tenors continue to see yields decline this morning by around 1bp apiece.

GCC bonds were stable yesterday with average yield on Bloomberg Barclays index closing unchanged at 4.06% amid no change in credit spreads at 157 bps.

The primary market awaits offerings from IDB and Majid Al Futtaim.

### FX

The DXY index held steady overnight as gains in the Euro were offset by modest declines in Sterling. A more active market calendar today with Eurozone and US PMIs may help to shake currencies out of their current ranges.

Both TRY and IND managed to appreciate overnight as political events affect both Turkey and India. There is still no clear outcome from local elections in Turkey, meanwhile national elections are underway in India.

### **Equities**

Global equity markets saw a mixed performance overnight with gains in Europe offset by declines in the US. The S&P 500 fell 0.2% thanks to weaker health care stocks while in Europe the Dax and CAC were both up by 0.6%.

Regionally markets were all positive. The Tadawul added 1.1% overnight while the DFM was up nearly 0.8% and the Abu Dhabi exchange added 0.5%.

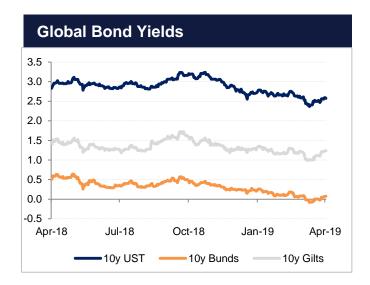
### **Commodities**

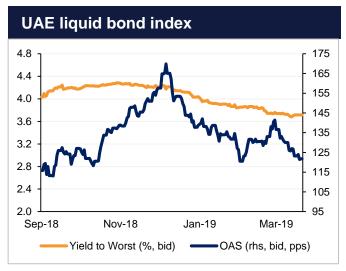
Oil prices slipped marginally overnight despite a drop in US crude stocks. WTI futures fell 0.45% to USD 63.76/b while Brent decline to USD 71.62/b, down just USD 0.1/b. crude inventories in the US fell by 1.4m bbl last week, smaller than the decline estimated by the EIA, while production fell by 100k b/d to still enormous level of 12.1m b/d. Exports stabilized and a drop in imports looks likely to have helped contribute to the decline in stockpiles.

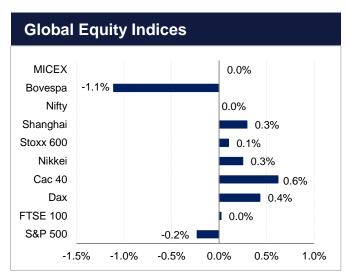
Gold prices are holding around their lowest levels in 2019 as the healthy economic data out of China has helped to buoy risk sentiment. The yellow metal has declined nearly 11% ytd and is trading around USD 1,270/troy oz.

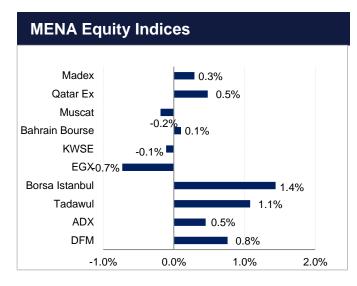


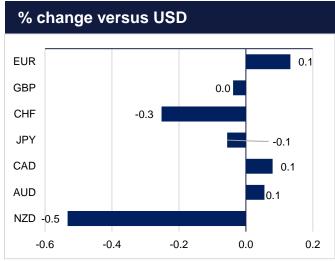
### **Markets in Charts**

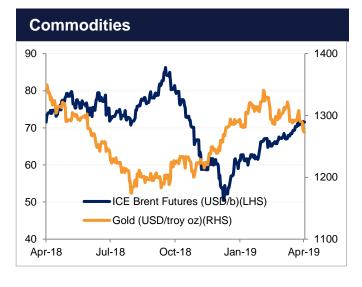












Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Currencies										
	Close	%1D chg	1 yr fwd		Close	%1D chg		Close	%1D chg	
EURUSD	1.1296	+0.13	1.1646	USDTRY	5.7424	-0.48	EURAED	4.1484	+0.12	
GBPUSD	1.3043	-0.04	1.3266	USDEGP	17.2725	-0.16	GBPAED	4.7895	-0.08	
USDJPY	112.06	+0.05	108.81	USDSAR	3.7502		JPYAED	0.0328	-0.06	
USDCAD	1.3341	-0.07	1.3235	USDQAR	3.6800	+1.08	CADAED	2.7530	+0.06	
AUDUSD	0.7179	+0.06	0.7237	USDKWD	0.3039		AUDAED	2.6367	+0.05	
USDCHF	1.0105	+0.25	0.9764	USDBHD	0.3771		CHFAED	3.6347	-0.26	
EURGBP	0.8663	+0.20	0.8781	USDOMR	0.3850	+0.00	TRYAED	0.6400	+0.54	
USDAED	3.6730		3.6765	USDINR	70.7225	-0.64	INRAED	0.0552	+4.57	

Rates							
Interbank	1 mo	3mo	6 mo	1 yr	Swaps	Close	1D chg (bps)
EIBOR	2.5988	2.8763	3.0085	3.1265	USD 2 yr	2.501	-1
USD LIBOR	2.4798	2.6009	2.6314	2.7553	USD 5 yr	2.441	-0
GBP LIBOR	0.7339	0.8218	0.9471	1.1046	USD 10 yr	2.587	+1
JPY LIBOR	-0.0907	-0.0610	0.0062	0.0937	EUR 2 yr	-0.196	+0
CHF LIBOR	-0.7904	-0.7178	-0.6534	-0.5112	EUR 5 yr	0.074	+1
					EUR 10 yr	0.577	+1

Commodities & Fixed Income									
Commodities	Close	%1D chg	Bonds/Sukuk	YTM	1D chg (bps)	CDS	Close	1D chg (bps)	
Gold	1273.98	-0.22	ADGB 6.75 19	2.42		Abu Dhabi	58	-1	
Silver	14.99	-0.09	DUGB 7.75 20	3.16	+19	Bahrain	249	-1	
Oil (WTI)	63.76	-0.45	QATAR 5.25 20	2.70		Dubai	136	-3	
Aluminium	1834.25	-0.19	US Tsy 2 yr	2.40	-1	Oman	310		
Copper	6537.00	+1.05	US Tsy 10 yr	2.59	+0	Qatar	63		
						Saudi Arabia	77	-2	

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



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