

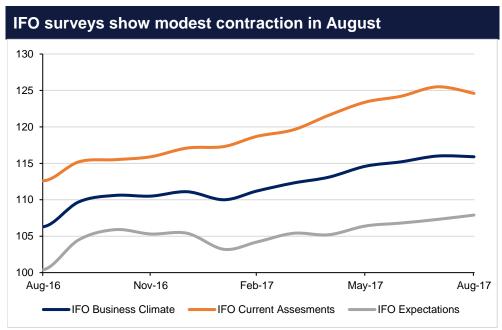
Daily 28 August 2017

Daily Outlook

Central bankers meet at Jackson Hole provided little new information on the usual topics of monetary policy and QE tapering. Instead the speeches focused on warning against dismantling post crisis financial rules that President Trump blamed for stifling U.S growth. In Jackson Hole, the Fed chair Janet Yellen said that regulation rollback should be modest while Mario Draghi, the ECB chief, said loosening them now would be particularly dangerous amidst ultra-easy monetary policy. Also at the Jackson Hole, BoJ Governor Kuroda said that the recent pace of GDP growth in Japan is unsustainable and that the continuation of accommodative measures is warranted.

In the US Hurricane Harvey, the strongest hurricane to hit the U.S since 2004 is causing significant rain and flooding in Texas – one of the key oil and gas producing regions in the US. If the storm does significant damage to the refineries in the region, the effects could ripple through to other parts of the country that rely heavily on the Gulf Coast for fuel supplies. Gasoline futures settled at a three-week high Friday as the storm approached. Looking at the damage done by this category 4 storm, the negative impact on the US economy could be as high as USD 40bn.

As a sign of further progress on the implementation of VAT in the region, the **UAE President issued the Federal decree-Law No 8 of 2017 for value-added tax** yesterday. The law exempts or zero-rates public transport (including air travel), school fees, residential property sales and rents, and medical services from VAT. More detailed lists of which goods & services will be exempt or zero rated are expected in Q4 2017. Elsewhere in the region, Qatar's Central Bank Governor Sheikh Abdullah bin Saud Al Thani says there's no liquidity crisis in the Qatari banking system, noting that local banks have QAR 39.3bn in deposits at the central bank. Foreign currency reserves held by the Qatar central bank are 8 times larger than the local currency in circulation, and are dwarfed by the reserves held by the state of Qatar



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research.

Day's Economic Data and Events Time Cons Time Cons US Wholesale Inventories m/m 16:30 0.3% Dallas Fed Manf. Activity 18:30 16.8 US Advance Goods Trade Balance 16:30 -\$64.5b

Source: Bloomberg.



Fixed Income

With geopolitical tensions reducing and only secondary economic data releases, there was an increased focus on the speeches on Janet Yellen and Mario Draghi at the central banks' annual symposium in Jackson Hole. Both of them disappointed in the sense that they offered no insight into the policy framework and spoke only of generalities. Resultantly, some short covering was seen at the long end of the curve as traders had positioned for a slightly hawkish undertone.

The curve flattened as yields across the curve with the exception of 2y USTs dropped over the week. The decline was sharper on the 10y USTs and 30y USTs where yields dropped 3 bps each. However, the 2y USTs yields rose 3 bps and remained flat on the 5y USTs.

Government bonds in the Eurozone saw continued investor interest as Mario Draghi remained non-committal. Yields on 10y Bunds dropped 2 bps to 0.37%. The ongoing conundrum over Brexit negotiations seems to have limited impact on 10y Gilts. Yields dropped a further -2.0 bps to take their year to date declines to -18 bps.

The relatively benign environment compared to the previous week saw renewed appetite for risk. The Global High Yield index and the EM USD aggregate index returned +0.3% 5d each. The option adjusted spreads for both the indices dropped 5 bps and 4 bps respectively.

GCC bonds continued to remain well bid with yields on the Bloomberg Barclays GCC Credit and High Yield index dropping 3 bps to 3.44% and credit spreads tightening by 1 bps to 166 bps.

In terms of rating action, Moody's upgraded Dubai Islamic Bank's long-term issuer rating to A3 from Baa1 and changed the outlook from positive to stable. The agency attributed the upgrade to improved asset quality, sound capitalisation and liquidity and improving profitability.

FX

In the aftermath of ECB President Draghi's speech at the Jackson Hole symposium, EURUSD appreciated 1.06% to break back above its 200 week moving average (1.1762) and close at 1.1924. After Draghi omitted comments backing up concerns of the currency overshooting, as mentioned in the most recent ECB minutes, EURUSD rose as high as 1.1942, levels not seen since January 2015.

Elsewhere, the dollar underperformed on Friday and softened against the other major currencies after Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen disappointed dollar bulls by avoiding commenting on whether there was a potential for another rate hike before the end of 2017. Over the course of the day, the Dollar Index declined 0.81% to close at 92.522, having earlier set a new 2017 low of 92.424. At these levels, the daily downtrend that has been in effect since 4 January 2017 remains firmly intact and although the 200 week moving average (92.526) held as a support, we look for a near term break of this level followed by further declines towards 91.211, the 50% five year Fibonacci retracement.

Equities

Asian stocks are fluctuating this morning and U.S. equity futures fell as investors weighed the damage from Tropical Storm Harvey on U.S. oil refining centers. Equity benchmarks in Tokyo swung between gains and losses, while they dropped in Seoul and Sydney with S&P 500 Index futures.

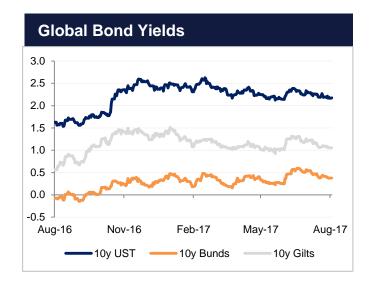
Equity bourses in the region dwindled lower amid summer lull ahead of upcoming Eid holidays later this week. DFMG closed down by 0.31% mainly due to 3.26% fall in GFH prices while Abu Dhabi was lower by 0.61% with main dragger being the Ras Al Khaimah Cement (-3.95%) Tadawul and Qatar exchanges were also weaker by circa 0.20% though Bahrain remained unchanged and Kuwait was up by 0.4%.

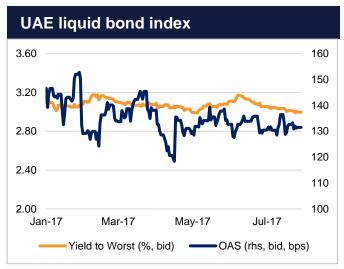
Commodities

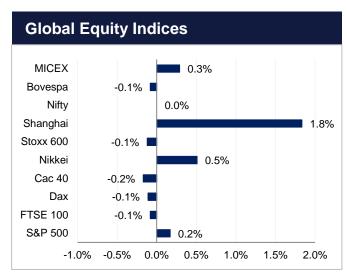
Oil futures rallied at the end of the week as the market anticipated interruptions to crude production and damage to infrastructure from Hurricane Harvey hitting the Texas coast. Brent futures closed at USD 52.41/b while WTI closed at USD 47.87/b. Despite Friday's gains, both benchmark contracts were lower over the week despite the positive fundamental data. The contango in Dec spreads narrowed slightly at the end of the week while the front of the Brent curve remains in a small backwardation.

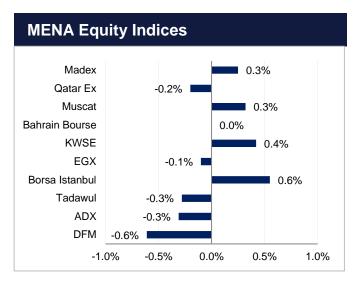


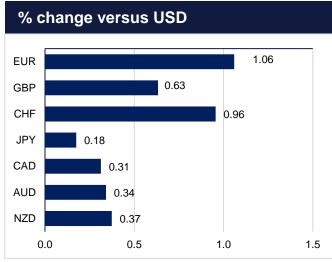
Markets in Charts

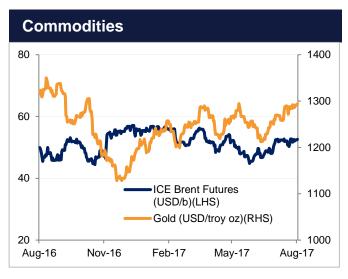












Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Currencies									
	Close	%1D chg	1 yr fwd		Close	%1D chg		Close	%1D chg
EURUSD	1.1924	+1.06	1.2175	USDTRY	3.4395	-1.27	EURAED	4.3795	+1.05
GBPUSD	1.2882	+0.63	1.3041	USDEGP	17.7005	+0.02	GBPAED	4.7317	+0.64
USDJPY	109.36	-0.18	107.19	USDSAR	3.7502		JPYAED	0.0336	+0.19
USDCAD	1.2481	-0.31	1.2450	USDQAR	3.6715		CADAED	2.9429	+0.32
AUDUSD	0.7932	+0.34	0.7896	USDKWD	0.3019	-0.01	AUDAED	2.9145	+0.42
USDCHF	0.9570	-0.88	0.9333	USDBHD	0.3771	-0.00	CHFAED	3.8403	+0.95
EURGBP	0.9255	+0.40	0.9335	USDOMR	0.3850	+0.00	TRYAED	1.0700	+1.49
USDAED	3.6729	-0.00	3.6801	USDINR	63.9025	-0.20	INRAED	0.0575	+0.26

Rates							
Interbank	1 mo	3mo	6 mo	1 yr	Swaps	Close	1D chg (bps)
EIBOR	1.3047	1.5350	1.7592	2.1273	USD 2 yr	1.562	-1
USD LIBOR	1.2356	1.3178	1.4550	1.7279	USD 5 yr	1.809	-2
GBP LIBOR	0.2516	0.2803	0.4039	0.5969	USD 10 yr	2.109	-3
JPY LIBOR	-0.0366	-0.0276	-0.0076	0.1127	EUR 2 yr	-0.179	-0
CHF LIBOR	-0.7850	-0.7264	-0.6534	-0.5036	EUR 5 yr	0.185	-0
					EUR 10 yr	0.818	-0

Commodities & Fixed Income									
Commodities	Close	%1D chg	Bonds/Sukuk	YTM	1D chg (bps)	CDS	Close	1D chg (bps)	
Gold	1291.35	+0.38	ADGB 6.75 19	1.72	+4	Abu Dhabi	57	+1	
Silver	17.07	+0.50	DUGB 7.75 20	2.52	-0	Dubai	116	+3	
Oil (WTI)	47.87	+0.93	QATAR 6.55 19	2.14	+13	Qatar	95		
Aluminium	2066.25	-1.91	US Tsy 2 yr	1.33	+0	Saudi Arabia	91		
Copper	6648.50	-0.22	US Tsy 10 yr	2.17	-3	Bahrain	235	+1	

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



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