

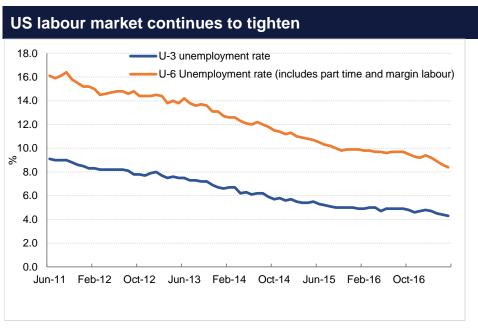
Daily 5 June 2017

Daily Outlook

US employment data released on Friday was weaker than expected, with 138k new jobs added last month against a forecast of 182k, casting doubt on the likelihood of a third rate hike this year taking place in September. The probability of a June Fed hike remains unchanged, however, but looking beyond June, the markets will need to see evidence that US economic growth is continuing from Q2 into Q3. To some extent the market reaction on Friday looks a little exaggerated to us as the US economy is close to full employment and cannot be assumed to generate strong payroll rises every month. Also the unemployment rate still fell to 4.3% and other measures of the labour market have also held up relatively well of late, including a 253k surge in the ADP survey. Should these trends continue, it seems likely that wage growth will eventually catch-up, giving the Fed enough grounds to maintain their policy of steady normalization. While the market may have moved to expect a December rate move over a September one, we would still not rule out that a September hike could still happen.

Services PMI data for Japan and China improved in May. The Caixin services PMI rose to 52.8 in May from 51.5 in April, easing some concerns about growth in China, following weaker than expected manufacturing PMI data released last Thursday. Japan's services PMI rose to 53.4 in May from 52.6. While there is a fair amount of economic data due to be released over the coming days, the market's main focus is likely to be on political events this week, with the UK's general election and former FBI director Comey's testimony to the Senate Intelligence Committee both scheduled for Thursday.

In the GCC, Bloomberg reports that Saudi Arabia, UAE, Bahrain and Egypt have cut diplomatic ties with Qatar and closed their borders with the country, as tension over Qatar's perceived support of terrorist groups in the region has escalated.



Source: Bloomberg.

Day's Economic Data and Events

	Time	Cons		Time	Cons
Eurozone services PMI	12:00	56.2	UK Markit Services PMI	12:30	55.0
US Durable Goods Orders	18:00	-0.5%	US Factory Orders	18:00	-0.2%

Source: Bloomberg



Fixed Income

With the jobs data in the US coming in weaker than expected, investors are becoming increasingly sceptical of possibility of rate hikes beyond June. The possible political pitfalls also seem to be weighing on investors' minds with former FBI director James Comey scheduled to testify later this week. US Treasuries ended the week at 2017 highs with yields on 2y USTs and 10y USTs dropping to 1.2879% and 2.1591% respectively.

Notwithstanding the drop in oil prices, GCC bonds continue to trade in a tight range. The BUAEUL index closed marginally higher at 116.47 (+0.16%). The spread on the GCC bonds did widen slightly by 6 bps as reflected in the Bloomberg Barclays GCC Credit and High Yield Average OAS index.

S&P affirmed Bahrain's rating at BB- but changed the outlook to negative from stable. The rating agency said that the negative outlook reflects the view that Bahrain's net external asset position could weaken to be insufficient to mitigate the continuing effects of oil price volatility. The decision had no impact on the bonds on Friday.

FX

Disappointing jobs numbers following on core inflation moving in the wrong direction sent USD to a new low at the end of the week with the DXY index closing at its lowest levels since November. The dollar was weaker against nearly all peers over the week aside from CAD and AUD, both under pressure from softer commodity prices and at best flat industrial growth in China.

GBP will struggle as opinion polls ahead of Thursday's general election have seen the ruling Conservative Party's lead over Labour narrow significantly. The terror attacks in London over the weekend may be a boost in favour of Prime Minister Theresa May as voters lean toward a stable government but may not be enough to preserve the Conservative's current majority.

Equities

It was a mixed day of trading for regional equities in what was another sluggish start to the week. The DFM index dropped -0.3% while the Tadawul rallied +0.9%. A potential reclassification of Saudi equities on June 20 by the MSCI seems to be helping investor sentiment.

In terms of stocks, Dar Al Arkan rallied +2.5% after the company appointed a new CEO. In other news, Gulf Finance House first said that it has withdrawn from talks to acquire Shuaa Capital. However, after the market closed, the company withdrew the first statement. There was no impact on stocks of either company.

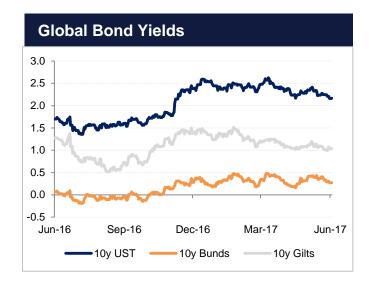
Commodities

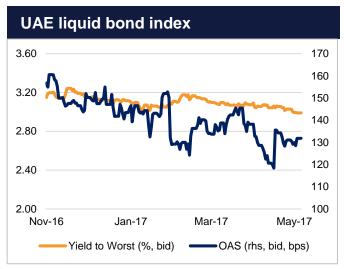
Oil markets started June on the back foot as both benchmark futures contracts gave up more than 4% last week. Brent futures closed back below USD 50/b at the end of the week and both WTI and Brent are now entrenched below their 100- and 200-day moving averages. As we had expressed concern about, the backwardation in Dec spreads has now dissipated and Brent Dec 17-18 is in a nearly USD 0.30/b contango while the Dec 17-19 is about twice as wide. Volatility in oil markets has been grinding higher in recent weeks and short-term vol is approaching year-to-date highs (excessively choppy movements at the start of the year notwithstanding).

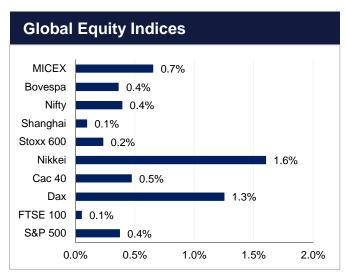
President Trump's decision to pull the US out of the Paris Agreement on global climate change helped push prices lower at the end of the week as the market anticipates more exploration and production work in the US. As if to reinforce the point, the drilling rig count in the US expanded again, taking the total to 733 rigs (compared with just 325 a year earlier).

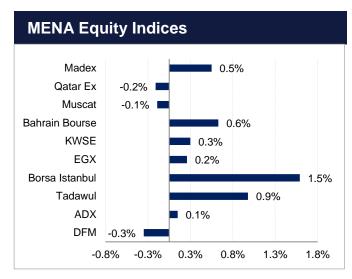


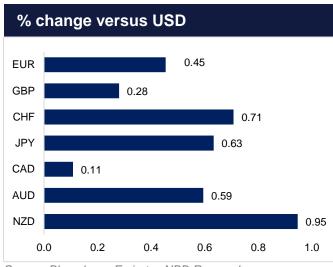
Markets in Charts

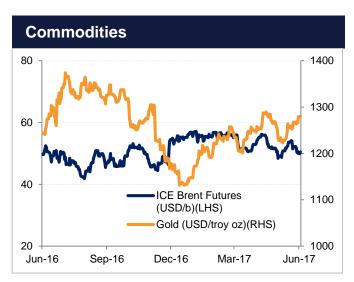












Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Currencies										
	Close	%1D chg	1 yr fwd		Close	%1D chg		Close	%1D chg	
EURUSD	1.1279	+0.45	1.1508	USDTRY	3.5088	-0.77	EURAED	4.1205	-0.08	
GBPUSD	1.2888	+0.28	1.3039	USDEGP	18.0020	+0.00	GBPAED	4.7224	+0.04	
USDJPY	110.40	-0.64	108.40	USDSAR	3.7501		JPYAED	0.0329	-0.35	
USDCAD	1.3487	-0.08	1.3395	USDQAR	3.6416		CADAED	2.7146	-0.24	
AUDUSD	0.7443	+0.59	0.7412	USDKWD	0.3036	-0.00	AUDAED	2.7145	-0.11	
USDCHF	0.9631	-0.63	0.9395	USDBHD	0.3772		CHFAED	3.7817	-0.21	
EURGBP	0.8756	+0.22	0.8830	USDOMR	0.3850	+0.00	TRYAED	1.0500	+1.09	
USDAED	3.6730	+0.00	3.6805	USDINR	64.3625	-0.18	INRAED	0.0570	+0.15	

Rates							
Interbank	1 mo	3mo	6 mo	1 yr	Swaps	Close	1D chg (bps)
EIBOR	1.0883	1.4808	1.6988	2.1077	USD 2 yr	1.528	+1
USD LIBOR	1.0862	1.2225	1.4282	1.7307	USD 5 yr	1.842	+0
GBP LIBOR	0.2504	0.2916	0.4295	0.6261	USD 10 yr	2.159	+0
JPY LIBOR	-0.0223	-0.0125	0.0246	0.1270	EUR 2 yr	-0.168	-1
CHF LIBOR	-0.7874	-0.7296	-0.6618	-0.4910	EUR 5 yr	0.164	-1
					EUR 10 yr	0.788	-1

Commodities & Fixed Income									
Commodities	Close	%1D chg	Bonds/Sukuk	YTM	1D chg (bps)	CDS	Close	1D chg (bps)	
Gold	1279.17	+1.04	ADGB 6.75 19	1.54	+0	Abu Dhabi	39		
Silver	17.20	+0.35	DUGB 7.75 20	2.58	+0	Dubai	105	-1	
Oil (WTI)	47.66	-1.45	QATAR 6.55 19	1.72	-2	Qatar	59		
Aluminium	1929.25	+0.27	US Tsy 2 yr	1.29	-0	Saudi Arabia	90		
Copper	5640.00	-0.62	US Tsy 10 yr	2.16	-5	Bahrain	220		

Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



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