

Weekly
16 September 2018

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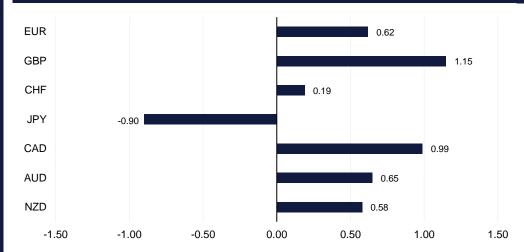
FX Week

EM central banks moved to get ahead of the game at the end of last week, with the Turkish and Russian central banks both raising interest rates, in Turkey's case quite aggressively by 625bps to 24%. Both moves served to put a floor under their respective currencies, which is just as well as US data released on Thursday and Friday maintained the likelihood of a rate hike from the Fed at the end of this month which will likely keep the USD bid adding to pressure on EM FX.

Trade tensions also continue to increase, with the Trump White House sending mixed signals to China, on the one hand inviting Chinese officials back to talks while on the other President Trump indicated that tariffs on USD200bn of Chinese goods would still go ahead. China's CNY remains vulnerable on the back of these developments with USDCNY pushing back up to wards 6.88 last week. With the latest round of monthly economic activity indicators from China scheduled for the end of the week, these will become increasingly important to monitor as its economy is highly correlated to global trade flows, especially with the China market being an important export destination for many of other EM economies. Some are hopeful that the trade dispute between the US and China will be resolved by the US mid-term Congressional elections on November 6th, but this remains too optimistic in our view with a greater danger that trade war risks extend beyond this date and spread to take in the EU and Japan.

In the coming week the Bank of Japan is widely expected to leave its short term interest rate target unchanged at -0.1% this week and to maintain its policy of yield curve control. **The Swiss National Bank is also widely expected to maintain its deposit rate at -0.75% and the range for 3-month Libor held at -1.25% to -0.25%.** Meanwhile the economic data flow in the US will be quiet with only US housing starts of any note ahead of the FOMC meeting on the 26th September. Finally EU leaders are scheduled to discuss progress over Brexit at a summit in Salzburg on Thursday, and following encouraging comments from EU Brexit negotiator Barnier and from UK officials, the EU is expected to agree to hold an extraordinary meeting in November to sign off on a deal on future relations.

Weekly currency movement vs USD (%)



Forecasts	Spot	1 Week	1 month
EURUSD	1.1625	1.1700	1.1750
GBPUSD	1.3068	1.3100	1.3200
USDJPY	112.06	112.50	112.00
EURJPY	130.29	131.63	131.60
EURGBP	0.8895	0.8931	0.8902
GBPJPY	146.44	147.38	147.84



EURUSD

EURUSD pares last fortnight's decline

EURUSD rose last week to cancel the losses of the previous fortnight. The main drivers behind this action were softer than expected U.S. economic data. Compared with expectations of 2.8%, U.S. consumer prices rose 2.7% in August, down from 2.9% the previous month. In addition, retail sales growth slowed to 0.1% m/m in August from 0.7% in July. This data resulted in selling of USD which resulted in gains for EURUSD despite the ECB's downside revisions to 2018 and 2019 growth at the central bank's September meeting.

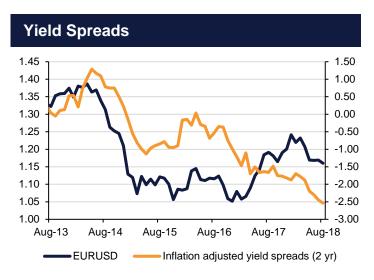
ECB to set the tone in the week ahead.

With no first tier U.S data expected in the next week, EURUSD price movements will be guided by Eurozone data. Final Eurozone aggregate inflation reports for August area expected to show that inflation rose 2.0% y/y. Any upside revisions to the final print are likely to renew expectations of normalization of monetary policy from the ECB.

Technical outlook

EURUSD rose for the first time in three weeks, gaining 0.64% to close at 1.1623. Over the course of the week, the price was able to break back above the formerly resistive 50-day moving average (1.1609) but had further gains halted at the 100-day moving average (1.1677). While the price remains above the 23.6% one-year Fibonacci retracement (1.1597), it is likely to retest the 100-day moving average. A daily close above this level may catalyze further gains towards 1.1780, the 38.2% one-year Fibonacci retracement.

Forecasts	Spot	1 Week	1 month
EURUSD	1.1625	1.1700	1.1750
EURGBP	130.29	129.87	131.60
EURJPY	0.8895	0.8931	0.8902



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research





USDJPY

JPY underperforms

JPY was last week's worst performing major currency, softening against rival currencies with USDJPY climbing back above the 112 handle as U.S. 10-year yields climbed above 3%. The yen softened to a six-week low amid improving market sentiment as the U.S. approached China for trade talks. Indeed the only catalyst that helped the yen recover from the six-week low were comments from Prime Minster Shinzo Abe that the Bank of Japan's radical easing policy should not continue indefinitely.

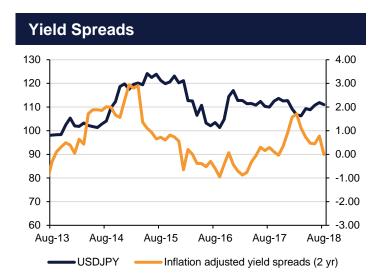
BOJ to set policy on Wednesday

Over the week ahead, markets will be looking towards the central bank who are expected to make no adjustments to monetary policy. In addition, investors will look towards inflation reports and Japanese trade data. While the consensus expectation is that Inflation accelerated to 1.1% y/y in August from 0.9% the previous month, any downside surprises are likely to cause further JPY weakness.

Technical

USDJPY rose almost 1% last week to close at 112.06 on Friday. In the process there was a sustained break of the 50-day moving average (111.34) which had formerly acted as a daily resistance level and now is a support level. Over the week ahead, the price may see further advances initially towards the 76.4% one-year Fibonacci retracement (112.33).

Forecasts	Spot	1 Week	1 month
USDJPY	112.06	112.50	112.00
EURJPY	130.29	131.625	131.60
GBPJPY	146.44	147.38	147.84



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research





GBPUSD

Data and optimism on deal help GBP rebound

GBP was given a much needed boost following comments from EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier that a deal would be possible by November if the UK would be more flexible on some of its positions. In addition, economic data was constructive towards the pound's strength. A report released from UK Office for National Statistics showed that the economy expanded 0.6% in the 3 months leading to July compared with 0.4% in June. In addition, the labour market showed continued tightening with weekly earnings climbing 2.9% y/y in July, up from 2.7% y/y the previous month. Such data helped the pound climb to a six week high despite of the Bank of England policy makers warning on the effects that trade tensions can have on global growth.

Inflation and retail sales are key this week

Over the next week, markets will be looking for further optimism over a deal being worked out between the UK and the EU. Any further progress or positive headlines will be likely to prolong the rally in GBP. In addition to keeping an eye on the political drivers, investors will be looking towards economic reports which are expected to show that consumer prices rose by 2.4% y/y in August, compared with 2.5% in July while during the same period retail sales growth slowed from 3.5% y/y to 2.3% y/y. Any upside surprises in the data are likely to be constructive towards GDP strength.

Technical

GBPUSD rose 1.14% last week, closing at 1.3068. In the process, the price rose above the 50-day moving average (1.2992) which is now acting as a support level. Over the course of the week, the price even broke above the 100-week moving average (1.3081) before finding resistance. A weekly close above this key level is the likely catalyst for a bigger move towards the 1.32 handle.

Forecasts	Spot	1 Week	1 month	
GBPUSD	1.3068	1.3100	1.3200	
EURGBP	0.8895	0.8931	0.8902	
GBPJPY	146.44	145.41	147.84	



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research



Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research





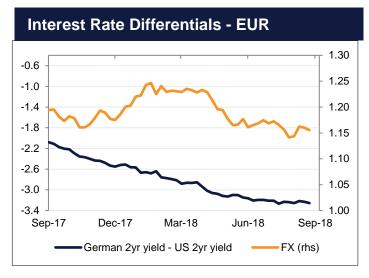
FX Forecasts

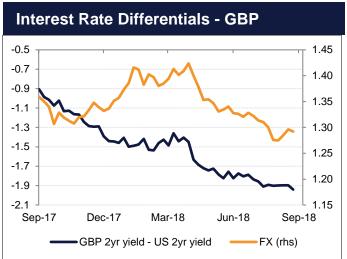
FX Forecasts - Major				Forwards				
	14-Sep	Q3 2018	Q4 2018	Q1 2019	Q2 2019	3m	6m	12m
EUR	1.1625	1.1700	1.2000	1.2300	1.2500	1.1707	1.1804	1.2005
JPY	112.06	110.00	112.00	110.00	110.00	111.33	110.46	108.67
CHF	0.9684	0.9800	0.9800	0.9800	0.9800	0.9607	0.9518	0.9340
GBP	1.3068	1.2700	1.3100	1.3500	1.4000	1.3120	1.3184	1.3312
AUD	0.7153	0.7300	0.7500	0.7550	0.7550	0.7155	0.7163	0.7188
NZD	0.6572	0.6700	0.6900	0.7100	0.7100	0.6574	0.6580	0.6604
CAD	1.3036	1.2950	1.2700	1.2700	1.2700	1.3014	1.2992	1.2954
EURGBP	0.8895	0.9213	0.9160	0.9111	0.8929	0.8922	0.8952	0.9017
EURJPY	130.29	128.70	134.40	135.30	137.50	130.29	130.29	130.29
EURCHF	1.1254	1.1466	1.1760	1.2054	1.2250	1.1244	1.1231	1.1209
	FX Fore	casts - Emer	rging			7-Sep		
	14-Sep	Q2 2018	Q3 2018	Q4 2018	Q1 2019	3m	6m	12m
SAR	3.7508	3.7500	3.7500	3.7500	3.7500	3.7503	3.7510	3.7553
AED	3.6730	3.6730	3.6730	3.6730	3.6730	3.6736	3.6742	
KWD	0.3026	0.3020	0.3020	0.3020	0.3020	0.2961	0.2911	
OMR	0.3850	0.3850	0.3850	0.3850	0.3850	0.3856	0.3864	0.3885
BHD	0.3771	0.3770	0.3770	0.3770	0.3770	0.3762	0.3762	0.3788
QAR	3.6581	3.6400	3.6400	3.6400	3.6400	3.6549	3.6541	3.6548
EGP	17.9071	17.2500	17.0000	17.0000	17.0000	18.3600	18.8850	19.9450
INR	71.855	71.000	70.000	70.000	68.000	73.1100	73.9500	75.4400
CNY	6.8675	6.7000	6.9000	7.1000	7.1000	6.9045	6.9260	6.9620
SGD	1.3742	1.3500	1.3300	1.2900	1.2900	1.3719	1.3687	1.3613

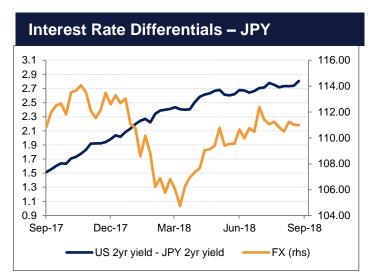
Source: Bloomberg, Emirates NBD Research *Denotes USD peg

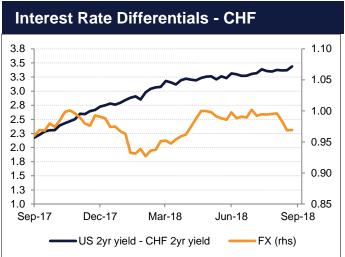


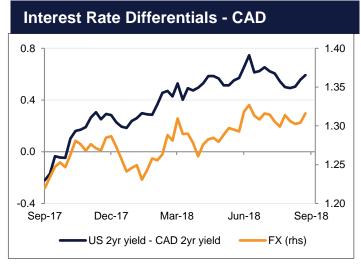
Major FX and Nominal Interest Rates

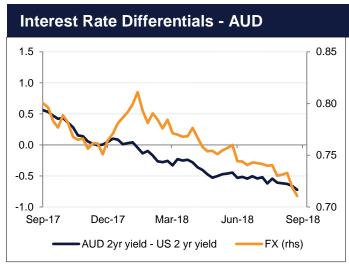








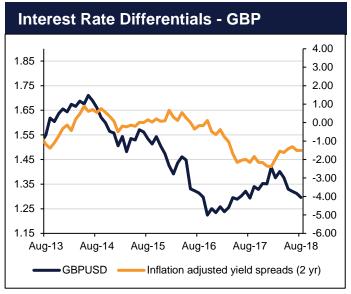


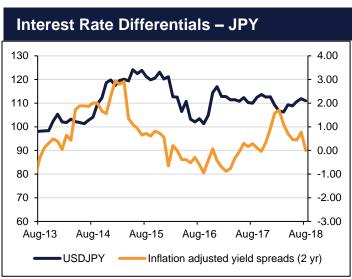


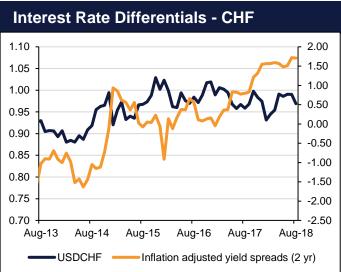


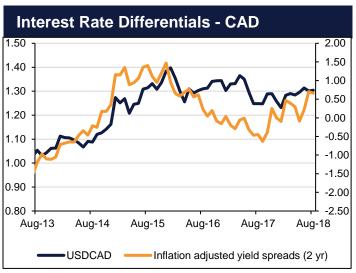
Major FX and Real Interest Rates

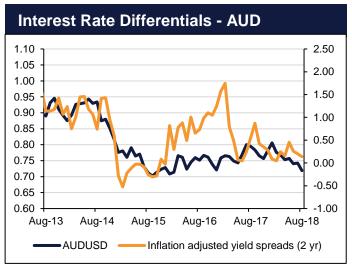








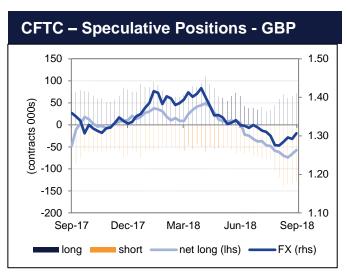


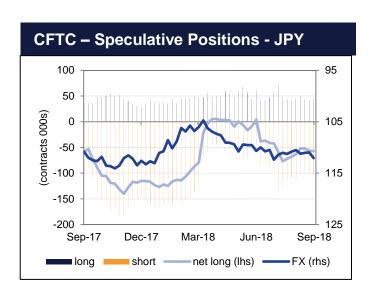




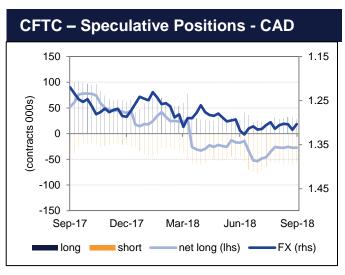
Major Currency Positions

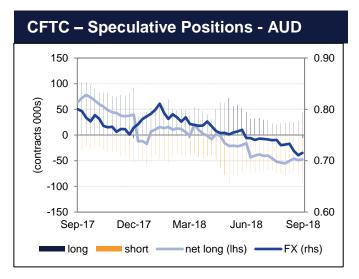














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