

Weekly Market View

All eyes on Hormuz talks

→ Equity and bond markets continue to show a high correlation with oil prices and the direction of US-Iran talks. Media reports suggest an imminent breakthrough in negotiations.

→ Meanwhile, US inflation is re-accelerating at its fastest pace since the post-COVID spike in 2021, after having remained above the Fed's 2% target since that rise. However, spillovers beyond energy-related costs remain limited, which should keep the Fed on hold in the coming months.

→ Although strong corporate earnings support risk assets over the medium term, uncertainty around the resumption of Hormuz strait shipping, pockets of investor exuberance and stretched investor positioning call for a more diversified allocation.

→ Meanwhile, bond yields have pulled back sharply over the past week, especially in the Euro area, where economic data continue to miss expectations. We expect Bunds to outperform US and Japanese government bonds.

Overweight China equities:
relatively insulated from
geopolitical, inflation pressures

Positive on Bunds, high-quality
European credit: ECB rate
hikes already discounted

Bullish NZD/USD: hawkish
RBNZ favours further rate
hikes

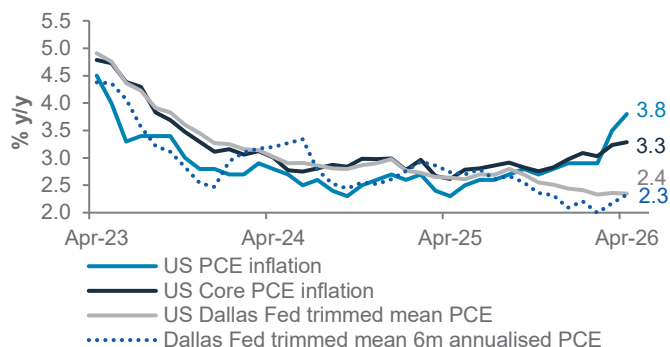
Charts of the week: Watching inflation and bond yields

US bond yields have historically pulled back after a spike over a 3-month period; US PCE inflation lost momentum in April

3m forward return in US 10y yield and S&P500 and USD indices*

Period	Yield change	3-month forward change		
		Yield	S&P 500	DXY
Aug-16 to Nov-16	80.1	0.9	7.5%	-0.4%
Sep-16 to Dec-16	85.0	-5.7	5.5%	-1.8%
Dec-20 to Mar-21	82.7	-27.2	8.2%	-0.9%
Dec-21 to Mar-22	82.8	67.5	-16.4%	6.5%
Jan-22 to Apr-22	115.7	-28.5	0.0%	2.9%
Feb-22 to May-22	101.9	34.9	-4.3%	6.8%
Jun-22 to Sep-22	81.6	4.6	7.1%	-7.7%
Jul-22 to Oct-22	139.9	-54.1	5.3%	-8.5%
Jun-23 to Sep-23	73.4	-69.2	11.2%	-4.6%
Jul-23 to Oct-23	97.2	-101.8	15.5%	-3.2%
Jan-24 to Apr-24	76.7	-65.0	9.7%	-2.0%
Sep-24 to Dec-24	78.8	-36.4	-4.6%	-3.9%
28-Feb to 19-May	72.9			
Median		-27.9	6.3%	-1.9%
Average		-23.3	3.7%	-1.4%

US PCE inflation; Dallas Fed trimmed mean PCE inflation



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered; *the table shows 3m forward change after a +70bps spike in US 10yr bond yield over a 3m period

Editorial

All eyes on Hormuz talks

Strategy summary: Equity and bond markets continue to show a high correlation with oil prices and the direction of US-Iran talks. Media reports suggest an imminent breakthrough in negotiations. Meanwhile, US inflation is re-accelerating at its fastest pace since the post-COVID spike in 2021, after having remained above the Fed's 2% target since that rise. However, spillovers beyond energy-related costs remain limited, which should keep the Fed on hold in the coming months.

Although strong corporate earnings support risk assets over the medium term, uncertainty around the resumption of shipping through the Hormuz strait, pockets of investor exuberance, especially in semiconductor-related sectors, and stretched investor positioning call for a more diversified allocation. We remain broadly diversified across regions, with a slight preference for US equities. Meanwhile, bond yields have pulled back sharply over the past week, especially in the Euro area, where economic data continue to miss expectations. We expect Bunds to outperform US and Japanese government bonds.

Hormuz talks driving markets. Oil prices and US and European bond yields pulled back sharply this week after US official comments suggested a resolution to the Middle East conflict is close. However, the resumption of US strikes on military targets in Iran reflects significant pressure on President Trump from Republicans to continue with the conflict. With peak summer travel season approaching and global oil inventories tightening, a resumption in bond and equity market volatility may be a necessary condition for the two sides to reach an agreement to restart Hormuz strait shipping.

Stretched equity market positioning argue for less portfolio concentration. US equity market investor positioning is stretched and pockets of equity markets, especially those related to semiconductors, are showing signs of exuberance. Our AI bubble meter reading for the month of June 2026 moved down from "better" to "good" risk-reward outlook for equities. This implies only 0-5% upside for the AI theme on a 3-6-month basis. Against this backdrop, we believe it would be prudent to

right-size AI-related exposure and broaden equity portfolios across sectors and regions that will benefit from AI adoption.

Fed to stay on hold as inflation not broadening yet. US personal consumption expenditure (PCE)-based inflation lost monthly momentum, despite reaching a three-year high year-on-year. Inflation was driven mainly by energy and IT-related goods, with minimal spillover thus far. Energy inflation caused the third consecutive decline in real disposable income. Robust stock markets and tax refunds have supported spending this year, but the savings rate hit a historic low, leaving little buffer for further spending. The Fed is likely to hold rates unless long-term inflation expectations shift. A restart of Hormuz shipping this summer (our base case) should ease inflation, enabling the Fed to cut rates later this year. A prolonged blockade is a risk, which could broaden inflation, leading to potential Fed rate hikes.

Bond yields fail to break higher. US and European bond yields have pulled back over the past week as oil prices fell amid hopes of a Middle East truce. As the table above shows, over the past decade, a 70bps or more spike in the US 10-year government bond yield over a three-month period was usually followed by a pullback in the yield over the next three months. While stocks gained from the yield pullback, the USD weakened on average.

Opportunities in European bonds. Euro area data has significantly missed expectations since the start of the conflict, diverging from the US, as higher energy costs erode household disposable incomes and impact consumer and business confidence. However, markets have priced in a hawkish ECB rate path, with 2-3 rate hikes expected this year, with the ECB prioritising fighting inflation risks. While the ECB has signalled a June rate hike is highly likely, we doubt it will be able to deliver another hike beyond June as growth slumps and labour market slack increases. Against this backdrop, we see attractive value in high quality European bonds, including longer-tenor bunds and high-quality defensive sector credit.

— Rajat Bhattacharya

The weekly macro balance sheet

Our weekly net assessment: On balance, we see the past week's data and policy as neutral for risk assets in the near-term

(+) factors: Strong economic sentiment indicators in the US and Euro area; US-Iran truce optimism

(-) factors: US-Iran, Lebanon ceasefires strained; hawkish central banks

	Positive for risk assets	Negative for risk assets
Macro data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> US leading index rose above estimates by 0.1% US Conf. board consumer confidence & expectations indices beat estimates US durable goods orders grew by 7.9% y/y German IFO business expectations and climate index beat estimates China industrial profits rose by 24.7% y/y in April 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> US personal income growth came in below estimates in April
	Our assessment: Positive – Strong economic sentiment indicators in the US and Euro area	
Policy developments		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fed's Goolsbee, Kashkari and Cook more hawkish on energy-driven inflation ECB's Schnabel hinted June rate hike needed BoJ's Ueda hinted a more prolonged hawkish stance RBNZ held rate unchanged as expected and signalled rate hikes could begin in July 2026
	Our assessment: Negative – Hawkish central banks	
Other developments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The US and Iran are engaged in active, but fragile peace talks; commercial shipping via the Strait of Hormuz showed signs of recovery The US and China agreed to establish the Board of Trade to negotiate reciprocal tariff reductions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> US carried out renewed strikes on Iran's military targets Israel has aggressively escalated its military campaign in Lebanon
	Our assessment: Neutral – Ongoing US-Iran peace talks vs. renewed military strikes in Iran, Lebanon	

US leading index and consumer confidence expectations beat estimates, reflecting a short-term sentiment boost

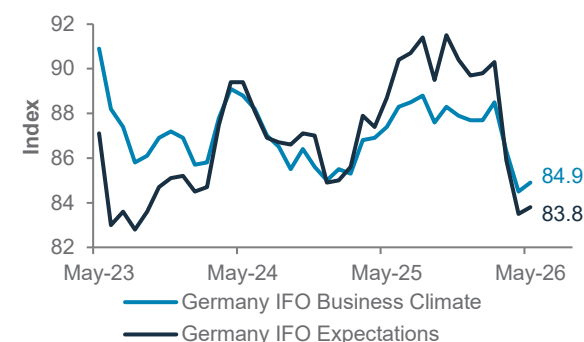
US leading index and Conference Board consumer confidence expectations index



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

German IFO business climate and expectations indices both stabilised in May, after a sharp decline in the previous two months

Germany IFO business climate and expectation indices



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

China's industrial profits marked the fastest monthly growth since November 2023, buoyed by stronger exports

China's industrial profits



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Top client questions

Q Might the latest US personal consumption expenditures (PCE) report increase hawkish pressure on the Fed?

Our view: *The in-line PCE inflation print validates the impact of higher energy prices, but does not spur a hawkish Fed pivot.*

Rationale: The 3.8% y/y headline PCE reading has risen a full percentage point since February, the sharpest two-month rise since late 2021, driven primarily by the Middle East conflict and higher energy prices. The Fed held policy rates in April and hinted it will wait for more data before its next move. With energy driving the bulk of the overshoot and medium-term inflation expectations still relatively contained, policymakers can frame the print as consistent with their adverse scenario rather than a crisis requiring immediate action.

The market-implied policy rate has yet to move to reflect a definite hike by December 2026, reinforcing the Fed's 'wait-and see' approach. We believe the Fed will retain optionality in the near term, ie, it can maintain its pause posture while signalling readiness to act, without being forced into an emergency response. Our base case remains that oil prices will gradually go lower as the conflict is resolved within a few weeks. Together with an anticipated weaker US job market, our base case remains for the Fed to cut once before year-end 2026. This, of course, assumes a Hormuz strait re-opening in the coming weeks, but should our second scenario of a prolonged stalemate persist into H2 2026, the Fed may find it difficult to cut.

— Ray Heung, Senior Investment Strategist

Q What is your view on China equities after the recent underperformance and regulatory changes?

Our view: *We remain Overweight China equities within Asia ex-Japan (AxJ), with the Hang Seng Technology Index (HSTECH) likely supported by long-term structural tailwinds.*

Rationale: The MSCI China Index has lagged AxJ since May, reflecting limited participation in the Emerging Market (EM) rebound following the US-China tariff truce and softer April data. China's regulatory crackdown on cross-border trading has raised capital flow restriction concerns, but market impact has been modest.

The scrutiny reflects policy normalisation continuation rather than a directional shift. Meanwhile, steady southbound net inflows indicate solid mainland investor conviction in Hong Kong-listed equities. We remain Overweight China equities, supported by ongoing policy support and relative insulation from geopolitical and inflationary pressures. While recent weakness in HSTECH reflects margin pressure from offshore-dominated internet and hardware platforms, we remain constructive longer-term, underpinned by policy tailwinds and ongoing technological innovations. New AI and semiconductor names in HSTECH also help it benefit from AI infra investment.

— Michelle Kam, CFA, Investment Strategist

The market has not fully priced in even one rate hike despite the elevated inflation print

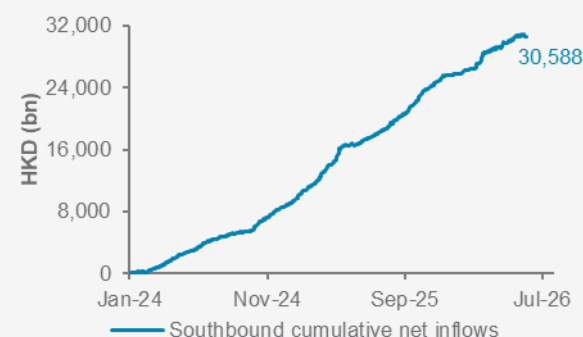
Market-implied number of Fed funds rate cuts/hikes by December 2026



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Southbound net inflows are steady despite regulatory changes on cross-border brokers

Cumulative southbound net inflows (HKD bn)



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Top client questions (cont'd)

Q Is the Euro area moving towards stagflation? Is a European Central Bank (ECB) June rate hike already priced into Bund yields, and what are the investment implications?

Our view: We believe a hawkish ECB rate path is already discounted through Q3 2026. We turn more positive on Bunds and prefer high-quality defensive credit exposure.

Rationale: Recent Euro area consumer inflation data points to a stagflationary impulse, though not yet a full stagflation regime. The sharp April energy price rise, driven by Hormuz strait closure, reflects an external supply shock rather than broad-based domestic inflation, as core inflation eased to 2.2%. Meanwhile, **growth momentum has weakened materially**. Q1 2026 GDP rose just 0.1% q/q, and the European Commission has cut its 2026 forecast. This mix of softer growth and energy-driven inflation leaves the ECB in a difficult position, but does not yet signal entrenched wage-price dynamics.

We believe there is limited upside in Bund yields in the Euro area. Markets have already priced in a fairly hawkish ECB path, including a 25bps hike as early as June and another by Q3 2026-end, which is ahead of our expectations (we believe it would likely only be able to hike once in June). The hurdle for a further meaningful spike in Bund yields is, therefore, relatively high, unless the ECB delivers a distinctly hawkish message via forward guidance or balance sheet policy. Moreover, a June hike alone is unlikely to be enough to drive sustained currency upside if already discounted.

Investment strategy: We turn more positive on Bunds and expect them to outperform US and Japanese government bonds. EUR-denominated credit spreads could widen in a weakening growth environment, so we prefer high-quality defensive credit exposure to weather recessionary impulse, particularly the European financials, given their solid fundamentals.

— Cedric Lam, Senior Investment Strategist

Q What is your outlook for the New Zealand dollar (NZD) after the latest Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ) policy meeting?

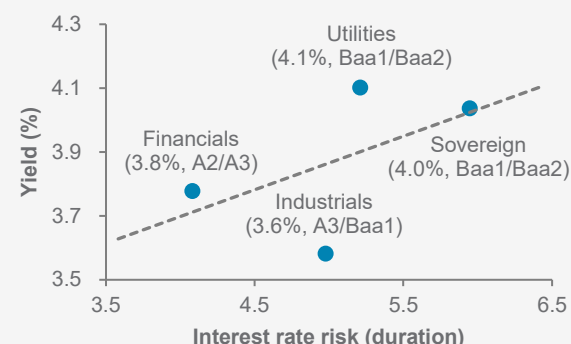
Our view: We are bullish on NZD/USD, with upside potential supported by a hawkish RBNZ and market expectations favouring further rate hikes. Immediate resistance is at 0.60.

Rationale: The RBNZ has adopted a distinctly hawkish tone, keeping the **official cash rate (OCR) unchanged at 2.25%** in a split decision, but signalling its intention to implement at least two additional 25bps hikes by year-end 2026. This clear commitment to tightening monetary policy, coupled with market pricing that now reflects a total of 110bps in rate increases with a terminal rate forecasted at 3.25% by 2027, provides **strong support to the NZD**.

Beyond policy signals, the RBNZ is firmly focused on addressing inflation risks, particularly those driven by rising fuel prices, even as

Financial bonds offer attractive risk-reward balance among major EUR-denominated bonds

Bloomberg Pan-Euro Agg Indices (by sectors)



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Hawkish RBNZ supports a bullish NZD

NZD/USD and technical levels

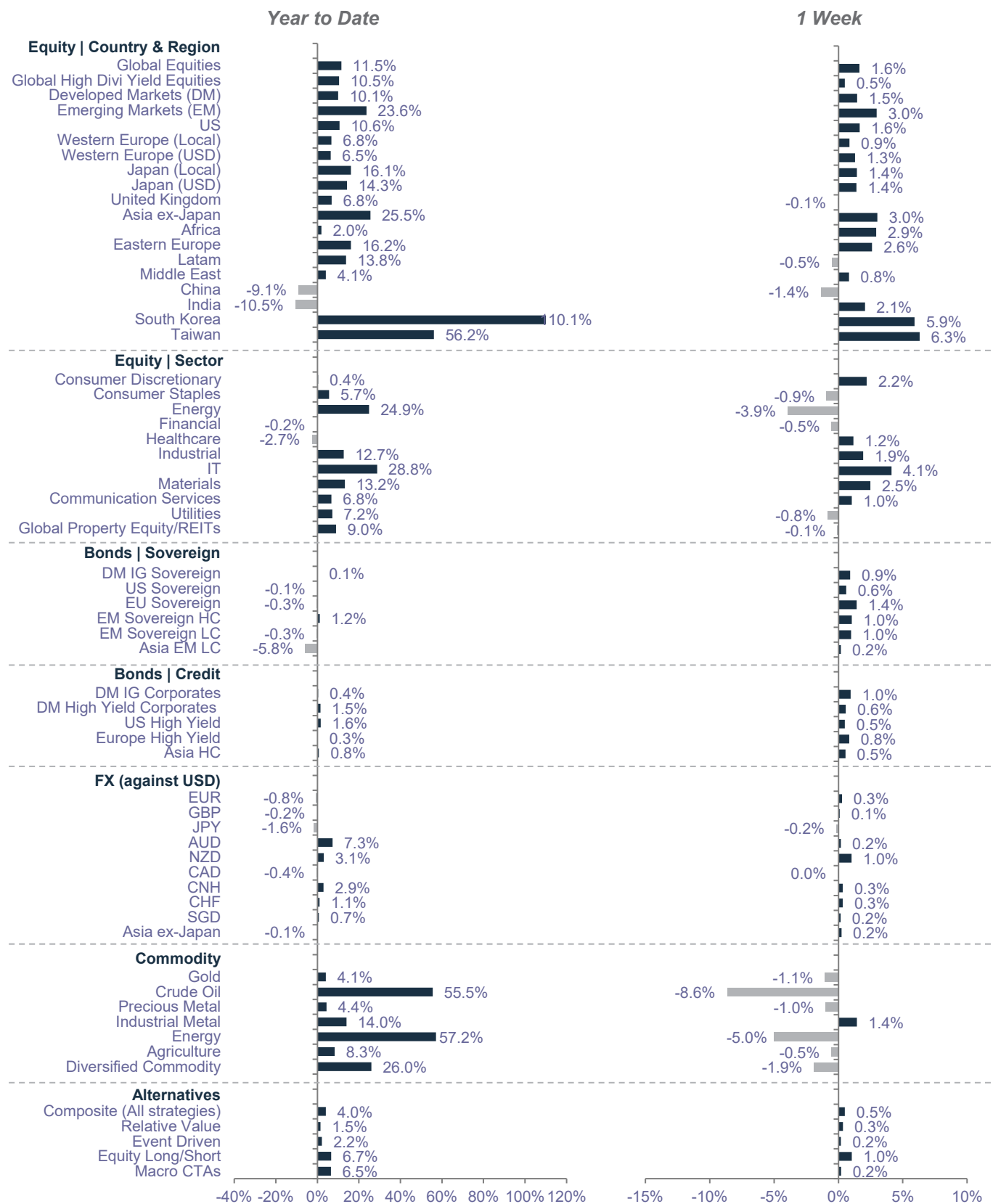


Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

it recognises the potential downside for consumer spending and business sentiment. Projections from the central bank suggest a widening output gap and persistently elevated unemployment; yet, the **policy rate is poised to rise further** despite a subdued labour market. The RBNZ prioritises price stability over short-term economic softness. **Key risk to our view:** A hawkish Fed repricing.

— **Iris Yuen**, *Investment Strategist*

Market performance summary*



Sources: MSCI, JP Morgan, Barclays Capital, Citigroup, Dow Jones, HFRX, FTSE, Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

*Performance in USD terms unless otherwise stated, 2026 YTD performance from 31 December 2025 to 29 May 2026; 1-week period: 21 May 2026 to 29 May 2026

Our 12-month asset class views at a glance

Asset class	
Equities ▲	Preferred Sectors
US ▲	US Technology ▲
Europe ex-UK ◆	US Communication ▲
UK ▼	US Healthcare ▲
Asia ex-Japan ◆	Europe ex-UK Financials ▲
Japan ◆	China Communication ▲
Other EM ◆	China Technology ▲
	China Healthcare ▲
Bonds ◆	
Credit	Alternatives ◆
Asia USD ◆	
Corp DM HY ◆	
Govt EM USD ▲	Gold ▲
Corp DM IG ◆	
Govt	
Govt EM Local ▲	
Govt DM IG ▼	

Source: Standard Chartered Global Investment Committee

Legend: ▲ Most preferred | ▼ Less preferred | ◆ Core holding

The S&P500 has next interim resistance at 7,719

Technical indicators for key markets as of 28 May close

Index	Spot	1st support	1st resis- tance	12m forward P/E (x)	12m forward dividend yield (%)
S&P 500	7,564	7,258	7,719	21.1	1.2
STOXX 50	6,055	5,820	6,217	15.3	3.1
FTSE 100	10,426	10,199	10,605	12.8	3.5
TOPIX	3,902	3,739	4,019	16.9	2.3
Shanghai Comp	4,099	4,017	4,220	13.8	2.9
Hang Seng	25,006	24,207	26,325	10.6	3.5
Nifty 50	23,907	23,286	24,505	18.4	1.8
MSCI Asia ex-Japan	1,140	1,066	1,190	12.6	2.0
MSCI EM	1,725	1,626	1,792	11.9	2.4
Crude oil (WTI)	88.9	80.4	104.2	na	na
Gold	4,495	4,317	4,724	na	na
UST 10Y Yield	4.45	4.28	4.65	na	na

Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Note: These short-term technical levels are based on models and may differ from a more qualitative analysis provided in other pages

Economic and market calendar

	Market Event	Period	Expected	Prior
MON	EUR Unemployment Rate	Apr	-	6.2%
	USD ISM Manufacturing	May	53.2	52.7
	USD ISM New Orders	May	-	54.1
TUE	EUR CPI y/y	May P	3.2%	3.0%
	EUR CPI Core y/y	May P	-	2.2%
	USD JOLTS Job Openings	Apr	6866k	6866k
WED	AUD GDP y/y	1Q	-	2.6%
	EUR PPI y/y	Apr	-	2.1%
	USD ADP Employment Change	May	110k	109k
	USD ISM Services Index	May	53.8	53.6
THU	USD Fed Releases Beige Book	-	-	-
	USD Initial Jobless Claims	30-May	-	-
	USD Continuing Claims	23-May	-	-
FRISAT	USD Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	May	95k	115k
	USD Unemployment Rate	May	4.3%	4.3%

Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Prior data are for the preceding period unless otherwise indicated. Data are % change on previous period unless otherwise indicated

P - preliminary data, F - final data, sa - seasonally adjusted, y/y - year-on-year, m/m - month-on-month

Investor diversity has normalised across asset classes

Our proprietary market diversity indicators as of 28 May close

Level 1	Diversity	1-month trend	Fractal dimension
Global Bonds	●	↓	1.70
Global Equities	◐	↓	1.49
Gold	◐	↓	1.41
Equity			
MSCI US	◐	↓	1.39
MSCI Europe	●	→	1.77
MSCI AC AXJ	●	→	1.59
Fixed Income			
DM Corp Bond	●	↓	1.87
DM High Yield	●	→	1.87
EM USD	●	↑	2.00
EM Local	●	↓	1.54
Asia USD	●	→	1.83
Currencies			
EUR/USD	●	→	1.61

Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered; **Fractal dimensions below 1.25 indicate extremely low market diversity/high risk of a reversal**

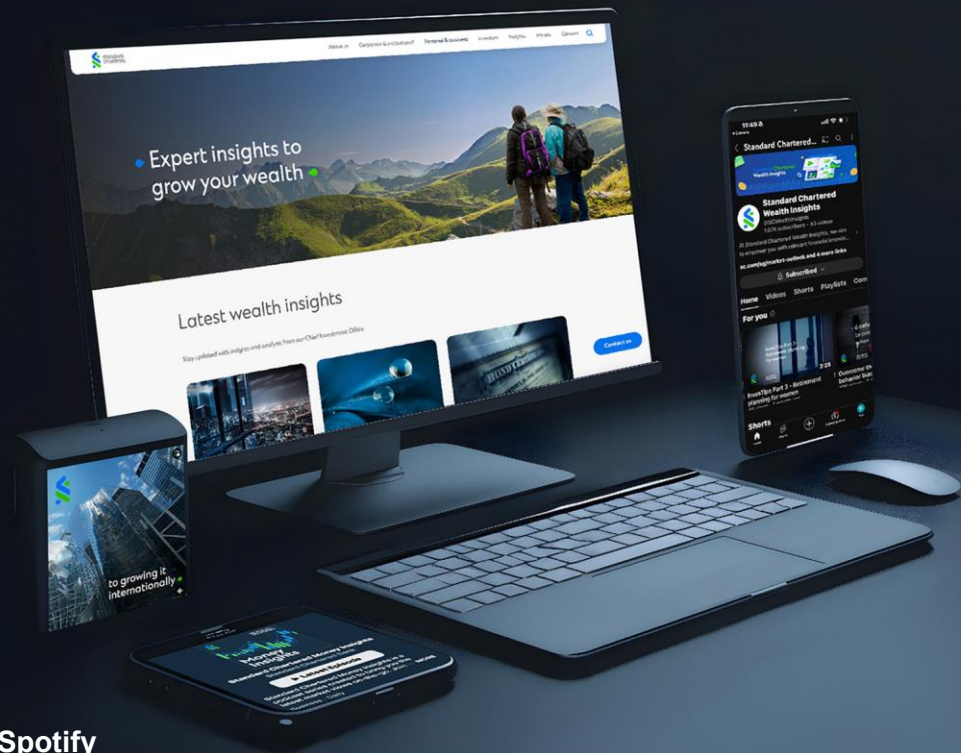
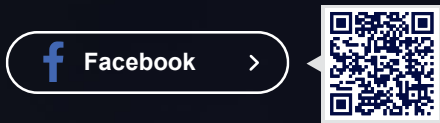
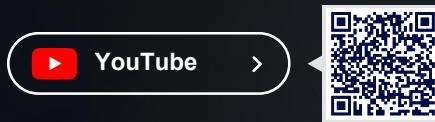
Legend: ● High | ◐ Low to mid | ○ Critically low

Access our views 24/7 on key platforms

Market views on-the-go



SC Wealth Insights



SC Money Insights

4 podcasts shows on Spotify and Apple platforms



Speak to your Relationship Manager/Investment Advisor today for access to our security specific publications.

Disclosures

This document is confidential and may also be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please destroy all copies and notify the sender immediately. This document is being distributed for general information only and is subject to the relevant disclaimers available at our Standard Chartered website under Regulatory disclosures. It is not and does not constitute research material, independent research, an offer, recommendation or solicitation to enter into any transaction or adopt any hedging, trading or investment strategy, in relation to any securities or other financial instruments. This document is for general evaluation only. It does not take into account the specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular person or class of persons and it has not been prepared for any particular person or class of persons. You should not rely on any contents of this document in making any investment decisions. Before making any investment, you should carefully read the relevant offering documents and seek independent legal, tax and regulatory advice. In particular, we recommend you to seek advice regarding the suitability of the investment product, taking into account your specific investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs, before you make a commitment to purchase the investment product. Opinions, projections and estimates are solely those of SC at the date of this document and subject to change without notice. Past performance is not indicative of future results and no representation or warranty is made regarding future performance. The value of investments, and the income from them, can go down as well as up, and you may not recover the amount of your original investment. You are not certain to make a profit and may lose money. Any forecast contained herein as to likely future movements in rates or prices or likely future events or occurrences constitutes an opinion only and is not indicative of actual future movements in rates or prices or actual future events or occurrences (as the case may be). This document must not be forwarded or otherwise made available to any other person without the express written consent of the Standard Chartered Group (as defined below). Standard Chartered Bank is incorporated in England with limited liability by Royal Charter 1853 Reference Number ZC18. The Principal Office of the Company is situated in England at 1 Basinghall Avenue, London, EC2V 5DD. Standard Chartered Bank is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. Standard Chartered PLC, the ultimate parent company of Standard Chartered Bank, together with its subsidiaries and affiliates (including each branch or representative office), form the Standard Chartered Group. Standard Chartered Global Private Bank is the private banking division of Standard Chartered. Private banking activities may be carried out internationally by different legal entities and affiliates within the Standard Chartered Group (each an "SC Group Entity") according to local regulatory requirements. Not all products and services are provided by all branches, subsidiaries and affiliates within the Standard Chartered Group. Some of the SC Group Entities only act as representatives of Standard Chartered Global Private Bank and may not be able to offer products and services or offer advice to clients.

Copyright © 2026, Accounting Research & Analytics, LLC d/b/a CFRA (and its affiliates, as applicable). Reproduction of content provided by CFRA in any form is prohibited except with the prior written permission of CFRA. CFRA content is not investment advice and a reference to or observation concerning a security or investment provided in the CFRA SERVICES is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold such investment or security or make any other investment decisions. The CFRA content contains opinions of CFRA based upon publicly-available information that CFRA believes to be reliable and the opinions are subject to change without notice. This analysis has not been submitted to, nor received approval from, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or any other regulatory body. While CFRA exercised due care in compiling this analysis, CFRA, ITS THIRD-PARTY SUPPLIERS, AND ALL RELATED ENTITIES SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIM ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ANY WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR USE, to the full extent permitted by law, regarding the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of this information and assumes no liability with respect to the consequences of relying on this information for investment or other purposes. No content provided by CFRA (including ratings, credit-related analyses and data, valuations, model, software or other application or output therefrom) or any part thereof may be modified, reverse engineered, reproduced or distributed in any form by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of CFRA, and such content shall not be used for any unlawful or unauthorized purposes. CFRA and any third-party providers, as well as their directors, officers, shareholders, employees or agents do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness or availability of such content. In no event shall CFRA, its affiliates, or their third-party suppliers be liable for any direct, indirect, special, or consequential damages, costs, expenses, legal fees, or losses (including lost income or lost profit and opportunity costs) in connection with a subscriber's, subscriber's customer's, or other's use of CFRA's content.

Market Abuse Regulation (MAR) Disclaimer

Banking activities may be carried out internationally by different branches, subsidiaries and affiliates within the Standard Chartered Group according to local regulatory requirements. Opinions may contain outright "buy", "sell", "hold" or other opinions. The time horizon of this opinion is dependent on prevailing market conditions and there is no planned frequency for updates to the opinion. This opinion is not independent of Standard Chartered Group's trading strategies or positions. Standard Chartered Group and/or its affiliates or its respective officers, directors, employee benefit programmes or employees, including persons involved in the

preparation or issuance of this document may at any time, to the extent permitted by applicable law and/or regulation, be long or short any securities or financial instruments referred to in this document or have material interest in any such securities or related investments. Therefore, it is possible, and you should assume, that Standard Chartered Group has a material interest in one or more of the financial instruments mentioned herein. Please refer to our Standard Chartered website under Regulatory disclosures for more detailed disclosures, including past opinions/ recommendations in the last 12 months and conflict of interests, as well as disclaimers. A covering strategist may have a financial interest in the debt or equity securities of this company/issuer. All covering strategist are licensed to provide investment recommendations under Monetary Authority of Singapore or Hong Kong Monetary Authority. This document must not be forwarded or otherwise made available to any other person without the express written consent of Standard Chartered Group.

Sustainable Investments

Any ESG data used or referred to has been provided by Morningstar, Sustainalytics, MSCI or Bloomberg. Refer to 1) Morningstar website under Sustainable Investing, 2) Sustainalytics website under ESG Risk Ratings, 3) MCSI website under ESG Business Involvement Screening Research and 4) Bloomberg green, social & sustainability bonds guide for more information. The ESG data is as at the date of publication based on data provided, is for informational purpose only and is not warranted to be complete, timely, accurate or suitable for a particular purpose, and it may be subject to change. The ESG data providers may not provide data coverage of all companies or securities in our Sustainable Investment Universe or Fund Select funds. As a result, a small subset of companies or securities will not be in scope for exclusionary screening. Sustainable Investments (SI): This refers to funds that have been classified as 'ESG Intentional Investments - Overall' by Morningstar. SI funds have explicitly stated in their prospectus and regulatory filings that they either incorporate ESG factors into the investment process or have a thematic focus on the environment, gender diversity, low carbon, renewable energy, water or community development. For equity, it refers to shares/stocks issued by companies with Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating of Low/Negligible. For bonds, it refers to debt instruments issued by issuers with Sustainalytics ESG Risk Rating of Low/Negligible, and/or those being certified green, social, sustainable bonds by Bloomberg. For structured products, it refers to products that are issued by any issuer who has a Sustainable Finance framework that aligns with Standard Chartered's Green and Sustainable Product Framework, with underlying assets that are part of the Sustainable Investment universe or separately approved by Standard Chartered's Sustainable Finance Governance Committee. Sustainalytics ESG risk ratings shown are factual and are not an indicator that the product is classified or marketed as "green", "sustainable" or similar under any particular classification system or framework.

Country/Market Specific Disclosures

Bahrain: This document is being distributed in Bahrain by Standard Chartered Bank, Bahrain Branch, having its address at P.O. 29, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, is a branch of Standard Chartered Bank and is licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain as a conventional retail bank. **Botswana:** This document is being distributed in Botswana by, and is attributable to, Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited which is a financial institution licensed under the Section 6 of the Banking Act CAP 46.04 and is listed in the Botswana Stock Exchange. **Brunei Darussalam:** This document is being distributed in Brunei Darussalam by, and is attributable to, Standard Chartered Bank (Brunei Branch) | Registration Number RFC/61 and Standard Chartered Securities (B) Sdn Bhd | Registration Number RC20001003. Standard Chartered Bank is incorporated in England with limited liability by Royal Charter 1853 Reference Number ZC18. Standard Chartered Securities (B) Sdn Bhd is a limited liability company registered with the Registry of Companies with Registration Number RC20001003 and licensed by Brunei Darussalam Central Bank as a Capital Markets Service License Holder with License Number BDCB/R/CMU/S3-CL and it is authorised to conduct Islamic investment business through an Islamic window. **China Mainland:** This document is being distributed in China by, and is attributable to, Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited which is mainly regulated by National Financial Regulatory Administration (NFRA), State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE), and People's Bank of China (PBOC). **Hong Kong:** In Hong Kong, this document, except for any portion advising on or facilitating any decision on futures contracts trading, is distributed by Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited ("SCBHK"), a subsidiary of Standard Chartered PLC. SCBHK has its registered address at 32/F, Standard Chartered Bank Building, 4-4A Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong and is regulated by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and registered with the Securities and Futures Commission ("SFC") to carry on Type 1 (dealing in securities), Type 4 (advising on securities), Type 6 (advising on corporate finance) and Type 9 (asset management) regulated activity under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Cap. 571) ("SFO") (CE No. AJI614). The contents of this document have not been reviewed by any regulatory authority in Hong Kong and you are advised to exercise caution in relation to any offer set out herein. If you are in doubt about any of the contents of this document, you should obtain independent professional advice. Any product named herein may not be offered or sold in Hong Kong by means of any document at any time other than to "professional investors" as defined in the SFO and any rules made under that ordinance. In addition, this document may not be issued or possessed for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, and any interests may not

be disposed of, to any person unless such person is outside Hong Kong or is a “professional investor” as defined in the SFO and any rules made under that ordinance, or as otherwise may be permitted by that ordinance. In Hong Kong, Standard Chartered Global Private Bank is the private banking division of SCBHK, a subsidiary of Standard Chartered PLC. **Ghana:** Standard Chartered Bank Ghana Limited accepts no liability and will not be liable for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly (including special, incidental or consequential loss or damage) from your use of these documents. Past performance is not indicative of future results and no representation or warranty is made regarding future performance. You should seek advice from a financial adviser on the suitability of an investment for you, taking into account these factors before making a commitment to invest in an investment. To unsubscribe from receiving further updates, please send an email to feedback.ghana@sc.com. Please do not reply to this email. Call our Priority Banking on 0302610750 for any questions or service queries. You are advised not to send any confidential and/or important information to Standard Chartered via e-mail, as Standard Chartered makes no representations or warranties as to the security or accuracy of any information transmitted via e-mail. Standard Chartered shall not be responsible for any loss or damage suffered by you arising from your decision to use e-mail to communicate with the Bank. **India:** This document is being distributed in India by Standard Chartered in its capacity as a distributor of mutual funds and referrer of any other third party financial products. Standard Chartered does not offer any ‘Investment Advice’ as defined in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013 or otherwise. Services/products related securities business offered by Standard Chartered are not intended for any person, who is a resident of any jurisdiction, the laws of which imposes prohibition on soliciting the securities business in that jurisdiction without going through the registration requirements and/or prohibit the use of any information contained in this document. **Indonesia:** This document is being distributed in Indonesia by Standard Chartered Bank, Indonesia branch, which is a financial institution licensed and supervised by Otoritas Jasa Keuangan (Financial Service Authority) and Bank Indonesia. **Jersey:** In Jersey, Standard Chartered Global Private Bank is the Registered Business Name of the Jersey Branch of Standard Chartered Bank. The Jersey Branch of Standard Chartered Bank is regulated by the Jersey Financial Services Commission. Copies of the latest audited accounts of Standard Chartered Bank are available from its principal place of business in Jersey: PO Box 80, 15 Castle Street, St Helier, Jersey JE4 8PT. Standard Chartered Bank is incorporated in England with limited liability by Royal Charter in 1853 Reference Number ZC 18. The Principal Office of the Company is situated in England at 1 Basinghall Avenue, London, EC2V 5DD. Standard Chartered Bank is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. The Jersey Branch of Standard Chartered Bank is also an authorised financial services provider under license number 44946 issued by the Financial Sector Conduct Authority of the Republic of South Africa. Jersey is not part of the United Kingdom and all business transacted with Standard Chartered Bank, Jersey Branch and other SC Group Entity outside of the United Kingdom, are not subject to some or any of the investor protection and compensation schemes available under United Kingdom law. **Kenya:** This document is being distributed in Kenya by and is attributable to Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Limited. Investment Products and Services are distributed by Standard Chartered Investment Services Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Limited that is licensed by the Capital Markets Authority in Kenya, as a Fund Manager. Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya. **Malaysia:** This document is being distributed in Malaysia by Standard Chartered Bank Malaysia Berhad (“SCBMB”). Recipients in Malaysia should contact SCBMB in relation to any matters arising from, or in connection with, this document. This document has not been reviewed by the Securities Commission Malaysia. The product lodgement, registration, submission or approval by the Securities Commission of Malaysia does not amount to nor indicate recommendation or endorsement of the product, service or promotional activity. Investment products are not deposits and are not obligations of, not guaranteed by, and not protected by SCBMB or any of the affiliates or subsidiaries, or by Perbadanan Insurans Deposit Malaysia, any government or insurance agency. Investment products are subject to investment risks, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. SCBMB expressly disclaim any liability and responsibility for any loss arising directly or indirectly (including special, incidental or consequential loss or damage) arising from the financial losses of the Investment Products due to market condition. **Nigeria:** This document is being distributed in Nigeria by Standard Chartered Bank Nigeria Limited (SCB Nigeria), a bank duly licensed and regulated by the Central Bank of Nigeria. SCB Nigeria accepts no liability for any loss or damage arising directly or indirectly (including special, incidental or consequential loss or damage) from your use of these documents. You should seek advice from a financial adviser on the suitability of an investment for you, taking into account these factors before making a commitment to invest in an investment. To unsubscribe from receiving further updates, please send an email to clientcare.ng@sc.com requesting to be removed from our mailing list. Please do not reply to this email. Call our Priority Banking on 02 012772514 for any questions or service queries. SCB Nigeria shall not be responsible for any loss or damage arising from your decision to send confidential and/or important information to Standard Chartered via e-mail. SCB Nigeria makes no representations or warranties as to the security or accuracy of any information transmitted via e-mail. **Pakistan:** This document is being distributed in Pakistan by, and attributable to Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited having its registered office at PO Box 5556, I.I Chundrigar Road Karachi, which is a banking company registered with State Bank of Pakistan under Banking Companies Ordinance 1962 and is also having licensed issued by Securities & Exchange Commission of Pakistan for Security Advisors. Standard Chartered Bank (Pakistan) Limited

acts as a distributor of mutual funds and referrer of other third-party financial products. **Singapore:** This document is being distributed in Singapore by, and is attributable to, Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) Limited (Registration No. 201224747C/ GST Group Registration No. MR-8500053-0, "SCBSL"). Recipients in Singapore should contact SCBSL in relation to any matters arising from, or in connection with, this document. SCBSL is an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered Bank and is licensed to conduct banking business in Singapore under the Singapore Banking Act, 1970. Standard Chartered Global Private Bank is the private banking division of SCBSL. IN RELATION TO ANY SECURITY OR SECURITIES-BASED DERIVATIVES CONTRACT REFERRED TO IN THIS DOCUMENT, THIS DOCUMENT, TOGETHER WITH THE ISSUER DOCUMENTATION, SHALL BE DEEMED AN INFORMATION MEMORANDUM (AS DEFINED IN SECTION 275 OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES ACT, 2001 ("SFA")). THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ACCREDITED INVESTORS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 4A(1)(a) OF THE SFA, OR ON THE BASIS THAT THE SECURITY OR SECURITIES-BASED DERIVATIVES CONTRACT MAY ONLY BE ACQUIRED AT A CONSIDERATION OF NOT LESS THAN S\$200,000 (OR ITS EQUIVALENT IN A FOREIGN CURRENCY) FOR EACH TRANSACTION. Further, in relation to any security or securities-based derivatives contract, neither this document nor the Issuer Documentation has been registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore under the SFA. Accordingly, this document and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale, or invitation for subscription or purchase, of the product may not be circulated or distributed, nor may the product be offered or sold, or be made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons other than a relevant person pursuant to section 275(1) of the SFA, or any person pursuant to section 275(1A) of the SFA, and in accordance with the conditions specified in section 275 of the SFA, or pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the SFA. In relation to any collective investment schemes referred to in this document, this document is for general information purposes only and is not an offering document or prospectus (as defined in the SFA). This document is not, nor is it intended to be (i) an offer or solicitation of an offer to buy or sell any capital markets product; or (ii) an advertisement of an offer or intended offer of any capital markets product. Deposit Insurance Scheme: Singapore dollar deposits of non-bank depositors are insured by the Singapore Deposit Insurance Corporation, for up to S\$100,000 in aggregate per depositor per Scheme member by law. Foreign currency deposits, dual currency investments, structured deposits and other investment products are not insured. This advertisement has not been reviewed by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. **Taiwan:** SC Group Entity or Standard Chartered Bank (Taiwan) Limited ("SCB (Taiwan)") may be involved in the financial instruments contained herein or other related financial instruments. The author of this document may have discussed the information contained herein with other employees or agents of SC or SCB (Taiwan). The author and the above-mentioned employees of SC or SCB (Taiwan) may have taken related actions in respect of the information involved (including communication with customers of SC or SCB (Taiwan) as to the information contained herein). The opinions contained in this document may change, or differ from the opinions of employees of SC or SCB (Taiwan). SC and SCB (Taiwan) will not provide any notice of any changes to or differences between the above-mentioned opinions. This document may cover companies with which SC or SCB (Taiwan) seeks to do business at times and issuers of financial instruments. Therefore, investors should understand that the information contained herein may serve as specific purposes as a result of conflict of interests of SC or SCB (Taiwan). SC, SCB (Taiwan), the employees (including those who have discussions with the author) or customers of SC or SCB (Taiwan) may have an interest in the products, related financial instruments or related derivative financial products contained herein; invest in those products at various prices and on different market conditions; have different or conflicting interests in those products. The potential impacts include market makers' related activities, such as dealing, investment, acting as agents, or performing financial or consulting services in relation to any of the products referred to in this document. **UAE:** DIFC - Standard Chartered Bank is incorporated in England with limited liability by Royal Charter 1853 Reference Number ZC18. The Principal Office of the Company is situated in England at 1 Basinghall Avenue, London, EC2V 5DD. Standard Chartered Bank is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. Standard Chartered Bank, Dubai International Financial Centre having its offices at Dubai International Financial Centre, Building 1, Gate Precinct, P.O. Box 999, Dubai, UAE is a branch of Standard Chartered Bank and is regulated by the Dubai Financial Services Authority ("DFSA"). This document is intended for use only by Professional Clients and is not directed at Retail Clients as defined by the DFSA Rulebook. In the DIFC we are authorised to provide financial services only to clients who qualify as Professional Clients and Market Counterparties and not to Retail Clients. As a Professional Client you will not be given the higher retail client protection and compensation rights and if you use your right to be classified as a Retail Client we will be unable to provide financial services and products to you as we do not hold the required license to undertake such activities. For Islamic transactions, we are acting under the supervision of our Shariah Supervisory Committee. Relevant information on our Shariah Supervisory Committee is currently available on the Standard Chartered Bank website in the Islamic banking section. For residents of the UAE – Standard Chartered UAE ("SC UAE") is licensed by the Central Bank of the U.A.E. SC UAE is licensed by Securities and Commodities Authority to practice Promotion Activity. SC UAE does not provide financial analysis or consultation services in or into the UAE within the meaning of UAE Securities and Commodities Authority Decision No. 48/r of 2008 concerning financial consultation and financial analysis. **Uganda:** Our Investment products and services are distributed by Standard Chartered Bank

Uganda Limited, which is licensed by the Capital Markets Authority as an investment adviser. **United Kingdom:** In the UK, Standard Chartered Bank is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority. This communication has been approved by Standard Chartered Bank for the purposes of Section 21 (2) (b) of the United Kingdom's Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 ("FSMA") as amended in 2010 and 2012 only. Standard Chartered Bank (trading as Standard Chartered Global Private Bank) is also an authorised financial services provider (license number 45747) in terms of the South African Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 2002. The Materials have not been prepared in accordance with UK legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research, and that it is not subject to any prohibition on dealing ahead of the dissemination of investment research. **Vietnam:** This document is being distributed in Vietnam by, and is attributable to, Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited which is mainly regulated by State Bank of Vietnam (SBV). Recipients in Vietnam should contact Standard Chartered Bank (Vietnam) Limited for any queries regarding any content of this document. **Zambia:** This document is distributed by Standard Chartered Bank Zambia Plc, a company incorporated in Zambia and registered as a commercial bank and licensed by the Bank of Zambia under the Banking and Financial Services Act Chapter 387 of the Laws of Zambia.