

Global Market Outlook



**US dollar to reign
short term?**

Contents

Highlights

p1

USD dollar to reign short term?

Strategy

p3

Investment strategy

Perspectives

p4

Perspectives on key client questions

p7

Macro overview

Asset classes

p10

Commodities

p12

Foreign exchange

Performance review

p15

Market performance summary

p16

Events calendar

p19

Disclosure appendix

Investment strategy

Figure 1: Our Tactical Asset Allocation views (12M) USD

Asset class	Sub-asset class	Relative outlook	Rationale
 Currencies	EUR	●	Economic momentum positive, but some consolidation likely after strong rally
	USD	●	Longer-term risks to the downside, but likely to rise short term
	GBP	●	Political and policy uncertainty to weigh in; sell the recent rebound
	EM currencies	●	Short-term stronger USD negative, long-term EM fundamentals constructive
	AUD	●	Status quo in RBA policy and weaker iron ore prices likely to limit rally
	JPY	●	USD/JPY remains tied to US 10-year yields, which we expect to rise gradually

Source: Standard Chartered Global Investment Committee

Legend: ● Overweight ● Neutral ● Underweight

Perspectives

on key client questions



Is low inflation something to celebrate or worry about?

For now, it reaffirms the ‘Goldilocks’ economy, where global growth expectations are being revised higher and inflation remains benign. This environment has been particularly positive for equity markets, but has also supported returns for bonds and multi-asset income strategies.

Such a benign outlook is unlikely to extend over the long term. Either inflationary pressures will rise or financial excesses will build, both of which would be challenging for asset markets, albeit in very different ways.

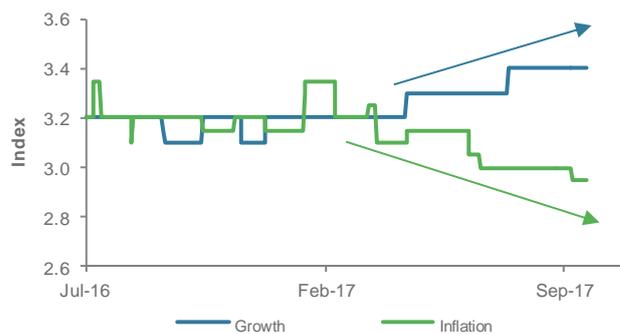
In some ways the late 1990s situation was similar to the current one. Growth then was above trend,

unemployment was falling towards 4% and inflationary pressures were benign. Against this backdrop, the equity market did very well. From when Alan Greenspan famously questioned whether markets were ‘irrationally exuberant’ (with a trailing P/E ratio of 19) in December 1996, the S&P500 index more than doubled in just over three years.

What does this mean in the current context? One simplistic way of looking at equity markets is through a dual lens of valuations and the macro outlook. The macro environment matters less when valuations are very low (a sub-10 P/E ratio) or when they are very high (over 30) as the bad/good news has likely been priced in, respectively.

Figure 2: Economic outlook remains constructive

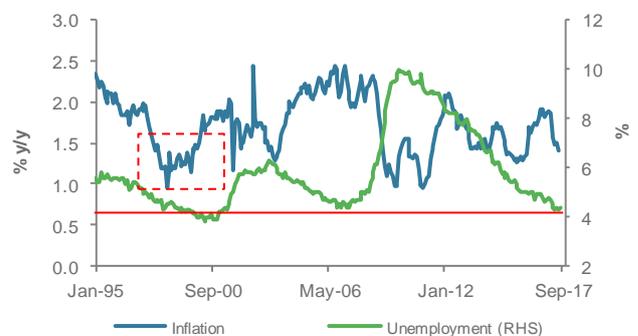
Goldilocks has been the best of both worlds – accelerating growth and declining inflation expectations



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 3: Some similarities between late 1990s and now

Inflation (core PCE deflator) was low in the late 1990s despite unemployment rate falling towards 4%



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered



Of course most of the time the P/E ratio is between these extremes. Today, our view is that global equity market valuations are high at 21.5x (but not extreme) and the macro environment is still improving. Balancing these factors, we continue to maintain a greater-than-normal allocation to equities.

Factors that would lead us to review this positioning include a sharp acceleration in inflation, signs of significant financial excesses and/or a sharp rise in equity market valuations.

What is the likely impact of North Korea tensions?

While geopolitical risks are always difficult to quantify, especially from a financial market perspective, we believe cooler heads will ultimately prevail. There is no incentive for either side to start a war.

For North Korea, inducing a conflict would increase the risks that the US would push for a regime change, which is exactly the thing that President Kim wants to avoid. For the US, the potentially catastrophic implications for South Korea, should the North retaliate against a US-induced conflict, are likely to encourage calmer heads to prevail.

Of course, this does not preclude periodic volatility should North Korea continue to test missiles, especially if it demonstrates new military capabilities. We see increasingly stern rhetoric. Indeed, we cannot rule out a limited conflict, which could be started by an accident tied to a missile test.

However, overall, we believe that any market volatility generated by US-North Korea tensions is likely to be short-lived.

What are the implications of the Fed decision to reduce the size of its balance sheet?

The Fed maintained its projection to hike rates four times by end 2018 and confirmed plans to start reducing its bond holdings by USD 10bn per month. This is a sign that it expects the economy to remain robust and inflation to gradually pick up over the next 6-12 months, the near-term impact of the hurricanes notwithstanding.

While the bond holding reduction plan was telegraphed well in advance and is likely to have already been factored in, markets are still pricing in a little less than two rate hikes by end 2018. Therefore, if the Fed does deliver on the projected

four rate hikes instead, it is likely to create a headwind for global bond markets.

We expect US 10-year Treasury yields to rise moderately and remain within 2.25-2.75%, pencilling a slightly slower

pace of rate hikes than the Fed, given the low likelihood of any substantial increase in inflation.

As discussed above, we believe global equity markets are likely to be dominated by the positive fundamental outlook, rather than the Fed's monetary policy.



What is the outlook for the USD?

The USD has fallen around 10% so far this year on the back of declining real interest rate differentials. However, we believe the stage is set for a short-term counter-trend move. Speculative market positioning has swung from being very long USD at the beginning of the year to becoming very short USD today. This creates the risk of a 'short squeeze' whereby a slight improvement in fundamentals leads speculators to buy USDs to cover their short positions.

One potential source of positive surprise comes from the Fed's monetary policy outlook (see above). Markets will be keen to see how severely the hurricanes will impact the economy and how the Fed responds to these uncertainties.

Overall, we expect the USD to rebound from oversold levels and initially test the 96-98 area.

Figure 4: USD sitting just above key support



Source: Thomson Reuters, Standard Chartered



What does this USD outlook mean for bond investors?

When the USD bounces, it is normal for this strength to be largely broad-based. In Developed Markets, we see the EUR, the AUD and the JPY as the most vulnerable, while the CAD and the GBP may be more resilient.

As far as Emerging Market (EM) currencies are concerned, we expect the strong local currency gains since the start of the year to be reversed to some extent. Against this backdrop, we have tempered our bullish view on EM local currency government bonds. EM USD government bonds remain our preferred area of global bonds, with Asia corporate USD bonds (especially Investment Grade bonds) and EM local currency government bonds ranked joint second.

This 'downgrade' to the near-term outlook for EM local currency bonds has been supported by signs that global investors have continued to invest money in EM USD bonds, while the inflows to local currency bonds have reduced.

Macro overview

IMPLICATIONS FOR INVESTORS

01

The Fed is likely to raise rates two more times over the next 12 months

02

The ECB is likely to taper policy stimulus in the next 12 months; the BoJ to stay on hold for now

03

China could tighten monetary policy further and use fiscal stimulus to support growth

Improving growth, subdued inflation

- **Core scenario:** Economic data surprises in major economies have turned positive, helped by a recovery in the US (despite near-term headwinds from the hurricanes), and an upturn in the Euro area and Japan. Inflation expectations remain subdued.
- **Policy outlook:** The Fed's plan to raise rates four more times by end 2018 is slightly faster than what we have pencilled in. The ECB is likely to start reducing stimulus next year, while China is likely to keep a tight leash on credit growth.
- **Key risks:** a) Geopolitics (North Korea) has climbed in the ranking of risk factors; b) Tighter monetary policy driven by an inflation surprise (in the US) or a greater focus on financial stability (in China); c) Deflation downside from a China slowdown.

Core scenario

The global economy continued to improve, with Developed economy data surprises turning positive for the first time since June and Emerging economies continuing to surprise positively. The increasingly synchronised global growth backdrop means our Global Investment Committee (GIC) continues to assign a combined 75% probability to 'reflation' or 'muddle-through' scenarios unfolding over the next 12 months. Inflation and deflation risks are broadly balanced, but low (about 10% probability each), as inflation expectations remain subdued despite declining slack. Given this benign inflation outlook, we still expect the Fed to raise rates at a more gradual pace than what it confirmed this month (ie, four rate hikes by end 2018). Geopolitical risks have increased, especially after North Korea's nuclear weapon and intercontinental ballistic missile tests.

Figure 5: Global growth outlook remains broad-based, while inflation remains subdued

Region	Growth	Inflation	Benchmark rates	Fiscal deficit	Comments
US	●	●	●	●	Hurricanes likely to be short-term negative, long-term positive for growth. Focus remains on tax reform. Fed on course to gradually tighten policy
Euro area	●	●	●	●	Growth expectations continue to be revised higher, although inflation remains tepid. The ECB may start withdrawing stimulus in 2018
UK	●	●	●	●	Rising inflation, slowing wages hurting demand. Brexit talks remain key risk. The BoE signals possible rate hike as inflation closes in on 3%
Japan	●	●	●	●	Growth upgrades continue as Abe calls snap elections. The BoJ to maintain easy monetary policy as deflationary pressures remain
Asia ex-Japan	●	●	●	●	China's economy slows gradually as focus turns to financial stability. India may boost fiscal spending in a bid to revive growth
EM ex-Asia	●	●	●	●	Brazil and Russia cut rates further amid falling inflation. There is still room for further rate cuts

Source: GIC views

Legend: ● Supportive of risk assets ● Neutral ● Not supportive of risk assets

US – rebuilding after hurricanes

Reconstruction, tax reforms top of agenda. US data surprises were turning less negative before the two major hurricanes that impacted southern US. The hurricanes are likely to cloud near-term data, although reconstruction activity is likely to support growth in the next few quarters. President Trump remains invested in enacting tax reforms – success here could help revive US business spending.

Fed sticks with rate hike plan. The Fed's plan to start balance sheet tightening from October was telegraphed well in advance. However, we expect a slightly slower pace of rate hikes than the Fed (which forecasts four more rate hikes by end 2018), given still-subdued inflation expectations.

Euro area – broad-based growth

Southern slack to sustain expansion. The Euro area continues to see growth upgrades, with growth rates in Italy gradually catching up with those in France and Germany. Significant slack remains across southern Europe, which should sustain the expansion for some more quarters without inducing a significant rise in inflation (even though the overall region is growing above trend). The re-election of Chancellor Angela Merkel for a fourth term in Germany is positive for Euro area policy continuity.

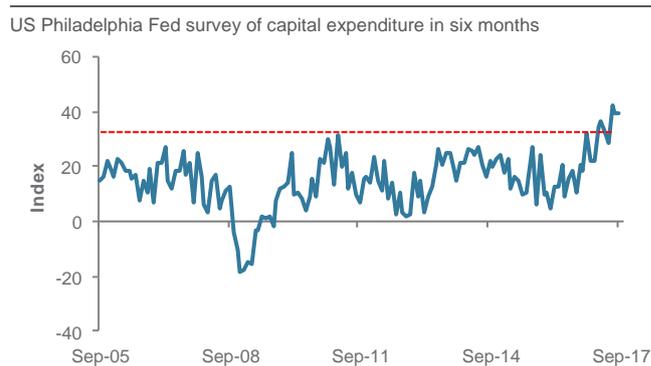
ECB to withdraw stimulus. As growth broadens, the ECB is likely to taper its bond purchases from 2018 (although low inflation suggests the process is likely to be gradual). There is a risk the recent EUR strength could tighten financial conditions, delaying ECB tapering.

UK – BoE signals rate hike

Job market tightens further. The UK jobless rate fell to a 42-year low of 4.3%, which is 0.2ppt below the BoE's sustainable rate. However, consumption remains subdued as tepid wage growth continues to fall short of inflation. Meanwhile, Brexit talks have made little progress.

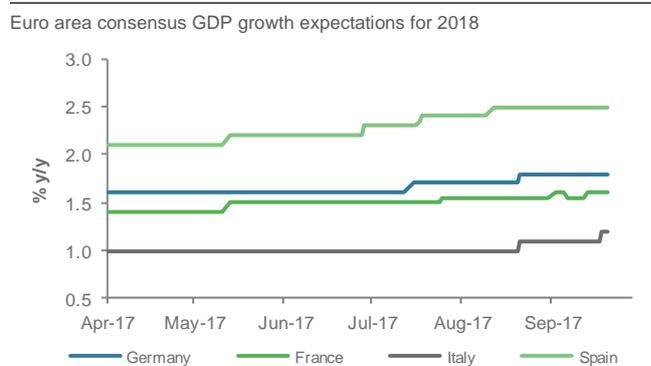
BoE builds case for rate hike. The BoE cited the reduced slack in the economy to build a case for a possible rate hike. Any hike is likely to be one-off for now, given the overhang of Brexit-related risks and the likely impact on the job market.

Figure 6: US business spending intentions have picked up; clarity on tax reforms could provide a further boost



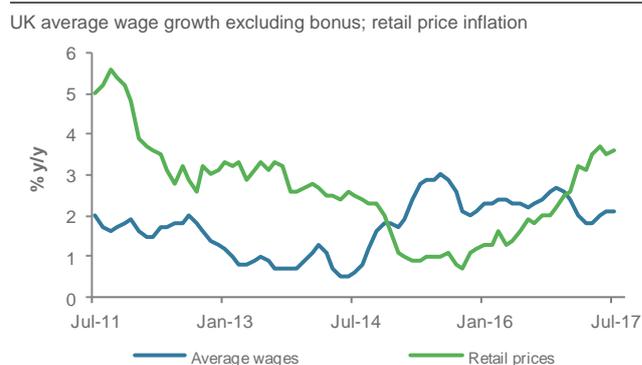
Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 7: Euro area growth expectations continue to be revised higher across the region, most recently in Italy



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 8: UK's wage growth remains well below retail inflation, hurting consumers' purchasing power



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Japan – growth upgrades continue

Above-trend growth to support Abe’s re-election. Japan’s growth forecasts continue to be upgraded as domestic consumption joined exports to boost growth above its long-term trend. The improved outlook is likely to help Prime Minister Abe win re-election in October. However, it also means Abe is likely to push through with another sales tax hike, which is likely to dampen growth next year.

BoJ to stay accommodative. We believe Japan’s continued deflationary challenges, despite a pick-up in activity, and uncertainty around the sales tax hike are likely to keep the BoJ accommodative, at least over the next 12 months.

China – policy-driven slowdown

Economy slows further. After a stronger-than-expected H1, China’s economy continued to slow into August amid tighter credit supply, property-sector policy tightening and efforts to phase out old industrial capacity. The measures have impacted fixed asset investment, housing sales and industrial production. However, domestic consumption remains robust.

Tightening to continue. We expect the above policy moves to remain after the Communist Party Congress in October, given the focus on financial stability and sustainable growth. We expect a smooth leadership transition, with President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang ensuring policy continuity.

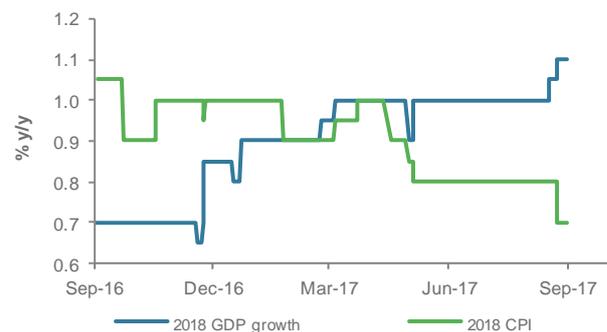
Emerging Markets – further rate cuts likely

India likely to boost fiscal spending, cut rates. India’s economy continues to be affected by the rollout of the goods and services tax. Private investment remains subdued, with banks constrained from lending due to non-performing assets. This raises the chances of the government boosting fiscal spending. We also expect another rate cut by the RBI, although the recent rebound in inflation is a constraint.

More rate cuts in Brazil, Russia likely. Inflation-adjusted rates in Brazil and Russia remain high, despite recent rate cuts. This is likely to encourage further easing of rates, especially as inflation continues to decline. Meanwhile, inflation may have peaked in Mexico, which should allow the central bank to end its rate-tightening policy.

Figure 9: Japan’s consensus growth forecasts continue to be revised higher, but inflation expectations have been downgraded

Consensus economic growth and CPI inflation forecasts for 2018



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 10: China’s fixed asset investment showed signs of further slowdown as authorities tightened the supply of credit

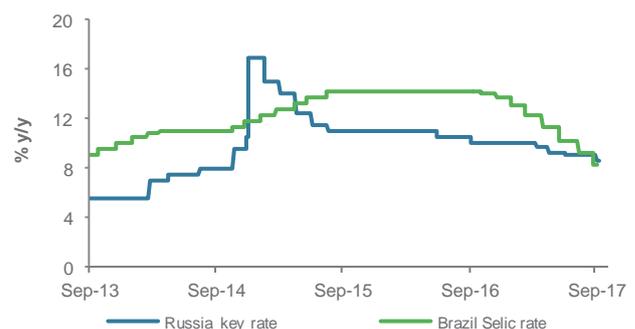
China’s fixed asset investment (YTD) and M2 money supply



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 11: Brazil and Russia are likely to see further rate cuts as inflation-adjusted rates remain high, constraining growth

Brazil’s Selic rate and Russia’s key rate



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Commodities

IMPLICATIONS FOR INVESTORS

01 Risks to oil prices are more balanced

02 Gold to remain range-bound

03 Modest retracement of base metal prices likely

Shrugging off geo-political risks

- We expect commodities to rise modestly amid continued strength in global growth, though any slowdown in China's growth remains the key risk.
- We believe risks to the oil price outlook are becoming more balanced following the recent rise.
- Gold is expected to return to USD 1,200-1,300/oz, implying some downside from current prices amid gradually rising real yields globally.

Figure 13: Commodities – key driving factors and outlook

Commodity	View	Inventory	Production	Demand	Real interest rates	USD	Risk sentiment	Comments
Oil	◆	●	●	●	NA	●	●	OPEC cuts and slowing US shale production to support prices
Gold	◆	●	●	●	●	●	●	Gradually rising yields to weigh on gold
Metals	◆	●	●	●	NA	●	●	Modest retracement likely as China demand stalls

Source: Standard Chartered Global Investment Committee

Legend: ● Supportive ● Neutral ● Not Supportive ▲ Preferred ▼ Less Preferred ◆ Neutral

China remains key

We remain moderately constructive on commodities as global economic data improves, with growth broadening across both Developed and Emerging economies. China's macroeconomic outlook remains resilient, although the slowdown over the past few months could act as a headwind to industrial metal prices. We remain watchful of the progress of environmental and supply-side reforms after the Party Congress in October, as that would determine industrial metal prices going forward.

Gold prices have surrendered recent gains as investors reacted to a hawkish outlook after the recent FOMC meeting, despite heightened geo-political risks surrounding the Korean peninsula. Additionally, the physical market has remained soft despite the seasonally strong period for consumption (Diwali) nearing. Nevertheless, we believe gold's outlook will be centred on USD strength and real yields as gold's correlation with the USD and 10-year US Treasuries has remained largely intact. In our view, we continue to believe gold prices will turn lower as rising real yields will pose a headwind going forward.

Figure 12: Where markets are today

Commodity	Current level	1-month return
Gold (USD/oz)	1,287	-1.6%
Crude Oil (USD/bbl)	57.4	11.6%
Base Metals (index)	126	-1.7%

Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Crude oil – Not chasing the rally for now

Brent crude prices have rallied due to rising geopolitical tensions as Turkey threatened to shut down Kurdish oil exports in response to the region’s independence vote. Hurricane Harvey also impacted the US energy market, with the drop in oil product inventory outpacing the build-up of crude inventories, which supported prices.

Looking forward, US crude inventories are likely to build up further due to healthy US production. Furthermore, while the prospect of additional OPEC production cuts remains under discussion, we doubt an agreement will be reached in the short term.

As a result, we believe the recent rally in oil prices has made the risks to the outlook more balanced. Therefore, while we do not see huge downside to oil prices from here, we also believe upside is limited in the near term as well.

Gold – Some downside likely in the near term

Although gold prices reached this year’s high in early September, they have since retraced due to the recent rebound in US Treasury yields (which diminished the relative appeal of a non-yielding commodity such as gold). We retain our view that gold prices will trade within a broad range of USD 1200-1300/oz for the remainder of 2017.

Barring large downside surprises in inflation, we believe central banks will gradually move towards tightening policy, which implies further downside for gold at current prices. A re-escalation of political tensions and a weaker USD are key risks to our view.

Industrial metals – Stay cautious

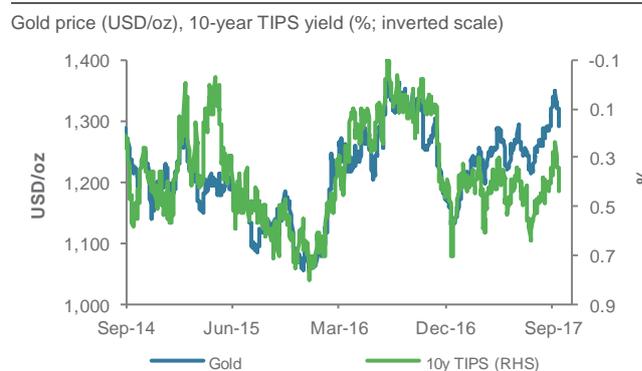
As we highlighted last month, we believe that the broader industrial metals complex may retrace modestly as the recent attrition in supplies is likely transitory. Copper prices have since pulled back. We note that key macroeconomic data—such as industrial output, investment, retail sales and trade—all grew less than expected last month. Eventually, we expect demand to fall as China’s economy slows with its focus turning to financial stability.

Figure 14: Lower oil product inventories in the wake of Hurricane Harvey helped support oil prices



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 15: Hawkish reading of FOMC meeting weighs on gold prices



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 16: What has changed – Oil

Factor	Recent moves
Supply	OPEC continues to cut production; US crude oil inventories picked up slightly
Demand	Leading economic indicators in the US continue to expand
USD	Close to one-year low; Rebound a risk

Source: Standard Chartered

Figure 17: What has changed – Gold

Factor	Recent moves
Interest rate expectations	US yields have risen as the Fed looks to pare down its balance sheet
Inflation expectations	Marginal increase in the US
USD	Close to one-year low; Rebound a risk

Source: Standard Chartered

FX

IMPLICATIONS FOR INVESTORS

- 01 Position for short-term USD strength
- 02 Expect further JPY downside
- 03 Short-term downside in EM currencies

USD to reign short term?

- We believe there is potential for a short-term USD rebound. However, we maintain our moderately bearish bias for the longer term.
- While we believe the EUR is likely to appreciate further over the medium term, positives may have been priced in for the short term.
- We continue to expect further JPY weakness as the BoJ maintains its monetary policy while most other major central banks move towards policy normalisation.
- Emerging Market (EM) currencies to remain broadly stable over the next 12 months as most positive factors remain intact. However, a pick-up in the USD and potentially higher volatility are likely to pose a challenge short term.

Figure 19: Foreign exchange – key driving factors and outlook

Currency	View	Real interest rate differentials	Risk sentiment	Commodity prices	Broad USD strength	Comments
USD	◆	●	●	NA	NA	Policy divergence diminishing, but likely priced in weaker USD
EUR	▲	●	●	NA	●	Economic momentum argues for ECB stimulus withdrawal
JPY	▼	●	●	NA	●	Remains tied to US 10-year yields
GBP	◆	●	●	NA	●	Political and policy uncertainty to weigh
AUD NZD	◆	●	●	●	●	Central banks likely to maintain policy for now despite rising interest rates elsewhere
EM FX	◆	NA	●	●	●	Headwinds mounting short term

Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered Global Investment Committee

Legend: ● Supportive ● Neutral ● Not Supportive ▲ Preferred ▼ Less Preferred ◆ Neutral

Figure 18: Where markets are today

FX (against USD)	Current Level	1-month change
Asia ex-Japan	107	-0.7%
AUD	0.79	-1.3%
EUR	1.18	-1.6%
GBP	1.34	3.9%
JPY	112	-2.8%
SGD	1.36	-0.3%

Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

USD negative factors largely priced in

- The USD has consistently weakened since the start of the year, falling about 10%. We attribute three reasons for a weaker USD: 1) a number of other major central banks moving towards stimulus withdrawal, 2) a decline in US inflation expectations is resulting in US yield-curve flattening, and 3) disappointment regarding progress on tax reform. We believe many of the above factors have been priced in and there is some possibility of a reversal in the next three months.
- Over the medium term, we believe the continued focus of major global central banks towards tightening monetary policy and robust growth in EM countries are likely to limit any near-term USD gains.

EUR – Short-term pain, long-term gain

The EUR has rallied strongly over the past six months against the backdrop of declining political risks, strong economic momentum and the ECB hinting at the potential withdrawal of policy stimulus. However, EUR strength seems over-extended. The EUR is running ahead of both real and nominal interest rate differentials and speculator positioning is near extreme levels. As a result, a short-term pullback is expected.

Over the medium term (6-12 months), we remain bullish on the EUR as most of the supportive drivers remain in place. We expect a reduction in ECB bond purchases to lead to narrowing interest rate differentials and an increase in demand for Euro area assets. While political risks have certainly reduced, they are likely to remain a factor worth watching, as the recent German elections have shown.

JPY – Downside risks intact for now

We retain our bearish bias on the JPY. So far this year, a compression in US-Japan real interest rate differentials has supported a stronger JPY. Nevertheless, we expect a US 10-year Treasury yield rebound. Which is likely to weaken the JPY. A key assumption is the BoJ maintains its current yield curve control policy. We believe this is likely, as so far inflation indicators in Japan have continued to weaken.

Longer term, we believe the BoJ could eventually raise its target for 10-year yields, along with other central banks withdrawing policy stimulus. However, this is more likely once yields pick up more significantly elsewhere globally.

GBP – Sell the rally

In our view, strong GBP/USD gains are unlikely to be sustained and we are unlikely to see the GBP at pre-Brexit levels, at least in the short term.

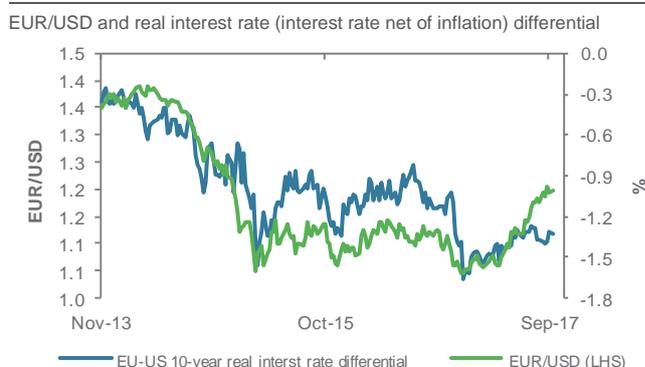
Recent GBP gains have largely been the result of BoE rate hike expectations. However, there is very little clarity on the future BoE interest rate trajectory beyond what could be a mere reversal of last year's post-Brexit 'emergency rate cut'. Economic momentum is slowing, suggesting downside risks remain considerable.

Figure 20: What has changed – G3 currencies

Factor	Recent moves
Real interest rate differentials	Moderately moved against the EUR. Moved in favour of the USD at the expense of the JPY and the GBP
Risk sentiment	Equity and FX volatility has risen from the lows of last month. Still at a low level compared with historical averages
Speculator positioning	USD positioning remains net-short while EUR positioning is near extreme net long. JPY positioning remains significantly net-short while GBP is near historical averages

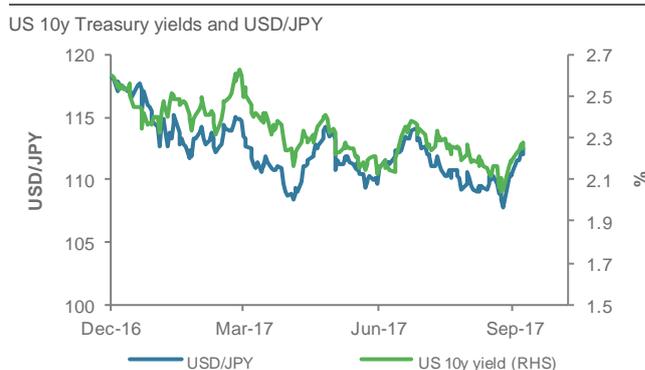
Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 21: Recent EUR strength has diverged from interest rate differentials



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 22: US Treasury yields remain the key driver for USD/JPY



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

AUD – Headwinds mounting

The AUD has struggled to strengthen meaningfully beyond 0.80 after breaching its medium-term range. This validates our view past month that fundamentals do not warrant a sustained rally in the AUD. We broadly maintain a range-bound stance on the AUD over the medium term, with a slight downside bias leading into year end.

We believe fundamentals are not supportive for two main reasons. First, we believe the RBA is unlikely to hike rates, despite higher yields elsewhere. This has been communicated by the RBA, which prefers to see further evidence of an economic recovery taking hold in Australia. Second, the rebound in iron ore prices is at odds with the weaker China fixed asset investment data. Therefore, we believe limited upside in iron ore could weigh on the AUD.

Emerging Market currencies – A notch towards caution

While the overall macro environment is likely to favour EM currencies over the next 12 months, we are seeing a number of reasons to turn more cautious moving into year end.

First, we believe the decline in the USD against major currencies has become overextended. Second, capital inflows into EMs have begun to taper off, suggesting valuations in local assets have now incorporated most of the positives. Third, EM volatility remains exceptionally low and any pick-up in volatility is likely to have negative implications. Finally, we believe, local central banks are likely to push back against further appreciation of local currencies should the USD continue to weaken.

Within Asian currencies, we do not expect the PBoC to favour continued CNY appreciation. We believe authorities may have allowed the CNY to catch up with earlier USD weakness amid an improvement in economic data and focus on domestic deleveraging. However, any significant appreciation of the CNY (trade-weighted) could result in excessive tightening of domestic financial conditions, something which authorities would likely want to avoid. We believe there is room for some short-term weakness in the externally oriented, trade-focused SGD and KRW as they are likely to closely follow the USD in the short term.

Figure 23: Yield differentials unlikely to support the AUD if the RBA maintains status quo



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Figure 24: What has changed in Emerging Market currencies

Factor	Recent moves
USD	USD is near its last one-year range lows
China risks	China economic data positive; however, fixed asset investment data has been weak lately
Risk sentiment	EM FX volatility remain near one-year lows

Source: Standard Chartered

Figure 25: Emerging Market currencies have been supported by a decline in volatility

JPMorgan Emerging Market FX volatility (reverse scale) and Emerging Market FX index



Source: Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

Market performance summary*



Commodity

	Year to date	1 month
Diversified Commodity	-2.7% ↓	1.5% ↑
Agriculture	-10.0% ↓	0.5% ↑
Energy	-12.3% ↓	7.4% ↑
Industrial Metal	16.8% ↑	-1.7% ↓
Precious Metal	8.5% ↑	-2.5% ↓
Crude Oil	-2.3% ↓	11.6% ↑
Gold	11.7% ↑	-1.6% ↓



FX (against USD)

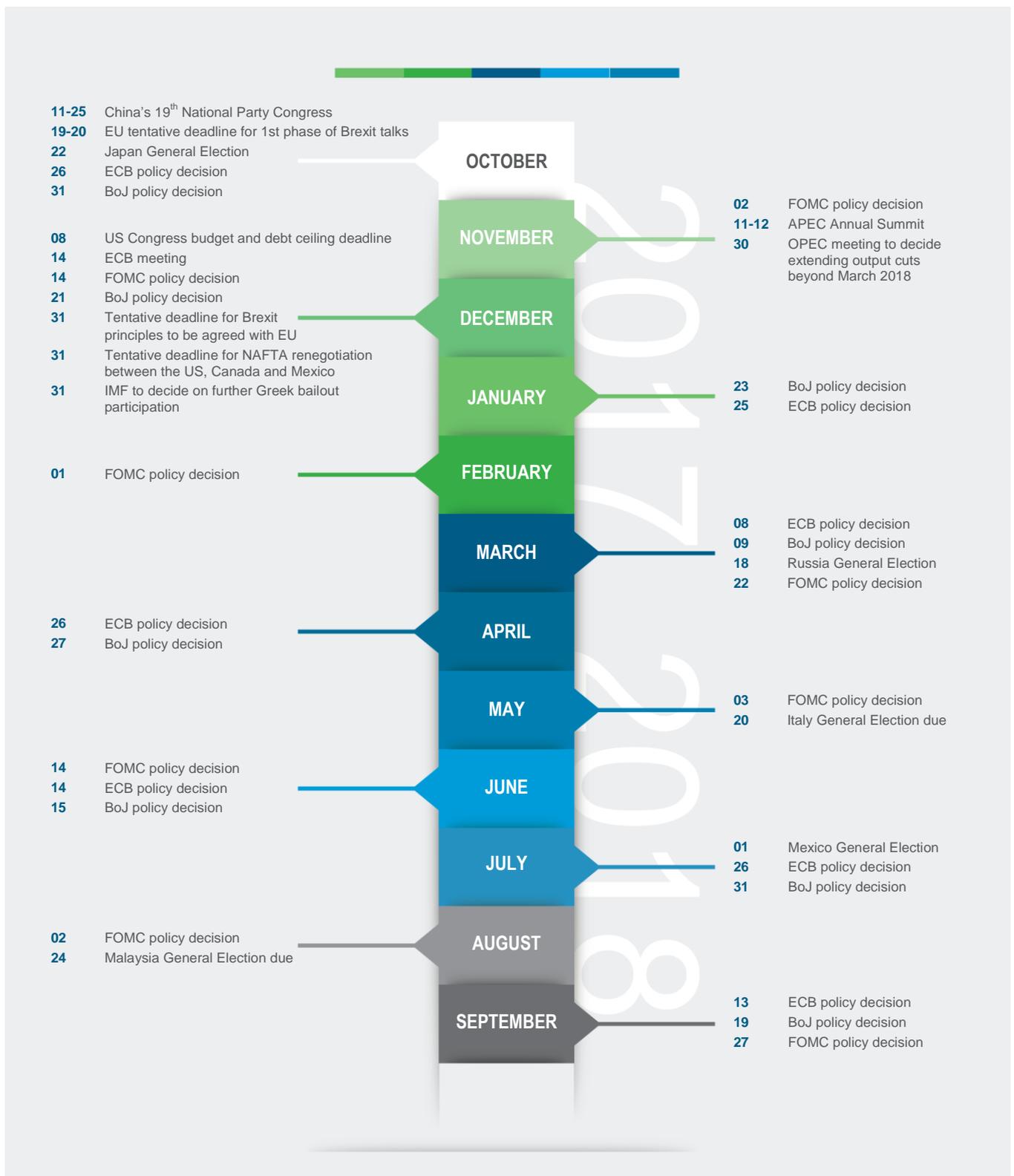
	Year to date	1 month
Asia ex- Japan	4.1% ↑	-0.7% ↓
AUD	9.0% ↑	-1.3% ↓
EUR	12.1% ↑	-1.6% ↓
GBP	8.9% ↑	3.9% ↑
JPY	4.1% ↑	-2.7% ↓
SGD	6.6% ↑	-0.3% ↓

Source: MSCI, JPMorgan, Barclays, Citigroup, Dow Jones, HFRX, FTSE, Bloomberg, Standard Chartered

*All performance shown in USD terms, unless otherwise stated

*YTD performance data from 31 December 2016 to 28 September 2017 and 1-month performance from 28 August 2017 to 28 September 2017

Events calendar



Legend: X – Date not confirmed | ECB – European Central Bank | FOMC – Federal Open Market Committee | BoJ – Bank of Japan

The team



Our experience and expertise help you navigate markets and provide actionable insights to reach your investment goals.

Alexis Calla*

Global Head, Investment Advisory
and Strategy,
Chair of the Global Investment Council
Alexis.Calla@sc.com

Steve Brice*

Chief Investment Strategist
Steve.Brice@sc.com

Aditya Monappa*, CFA

Head, Asset Allocation and
Portfolio Solutions
Aditya.Monappa@sc.com

Clive McDonnell*

Head, Equity
Investment Strategy
Clive.McDonnell@sc.com

Audrey Goh, CFA

Director, Asset Allocation and
Portfolio Solutions
Audrey.Goh@sc.com

Manpreet Gill*

Head, FICC
Investment Strategy
Manpreet.Gill@sc.com

Rajat Bhattacharya

Investment Strategist
Rajat.Bhattacharya@sc.com

Arun Kelshiker*, CFA

Executive Director,
Asset Allocation and Portfolio Solutions
Arun.Kelshiker@sc.com

Tariq Ali, CFA

Investment Strategist
Tariq.Ali@sc.com

Abhilash Narayan

Investment Strategist
Abhilash.Narayan@sc.com

Trang Nguyen

Analyst, Asset Allocation and
Portfolio Solutions
Trang.Nguyen@sc.com

Jeff Chen

Analyst, Asset Allocation and
Portfolio Solutions
JeffCC.Chen@sc.com

DJ Cheong

Investment Strategist
DJ.Cheong@sc.com

Jill Yip, CFA

Investment Strategist
Jill.Yip@sc.com

* Core Global Investment Council voting members

Contacts Information

Wealth Management, Vietnam

Do Lan Anh

Head of Wealth Management
LanAnh.Do@sc.com

Nguyen Anh Tuan

Associate Director,
WMPS, WM
AnhTuanWMPS.Nguyen@sc.com

Chu Thi Minh Anh

WMPS Dealer
Anh-Thi-Minh-Chu@sc.com

Mach Khoi Tin, CFA

WMPS Dealer
Tin.MachKhoi@sc.com

Nguyen Thanh Tung, CFA

Treasury Specialist
Tung.Nguyenthanh@sc.com

Tran Quyên Bieu

Treasury Specialist
Bieu.Tranquyen@sc.com

Disclosure appendix

THIS IS NOT A RESEARCH REPORT AND HAS NOT BEEN PRODUCED BY A RESEARCH UNIT.

This document is not research material and it has not been prepared in accordance with legal requirements designed to promote the independence of investment research and is not subject to any prohibition on dealing ahead of the dissemination of investment research. This document does not necessarily represent the views of every function within Standard Chartered Bank, particularly those of the Global Research function.

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.

Banking activities may be carried out internationally by different Standard Chartered Bank branches, subsidiaries and affiliates (collectively "SCB") according to local regulatory requirements. With respect to any jurisdiction in which there is a SCB entity, this document is distributed in such jurisdiction by, and is attributable to, such local SCB entity. Recipients in any jurisdiction should contact the local SCB entity in relation to any matters arising from, or in connection with, this document. Not all products and services are provided by all SCB entities.

This document is being distributed for general information only and it does not constitute 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.

Investment involves risks. The prices of investment products fluctuate, sometimes dramatically. The price of investment products may move up or down, and may become valueless. It is as likely that losses will be incurred rather than profit made as a result of buying and selling investment products. 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 SCB 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. 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 has not been and will not be registered as a prospectus in any jurisdiction and it is not authorised by any regulatory authority under any regulations.

SCB makes no representation or warranty of any kind, express, implied or statutory regarding, but not limited to, the accuracy of this document or the completeness of any information contained or referred to in this document. This document is distributed on the express understanding that, whilst the information in it is believed to be reliable, it has not been independently verified by us. SCB 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 this document, howsoever arising, and including any loss, damage or expense arising from, but not limited to, any defect, error, imperfection, fault, mistake or inaccuracy with this document, its contents or associated services, or due to any unavailability of the document or any part thereof or any contents.

SCB, and/or a connected company, may at any time, to the extent permitted by applicable law and/or regulation, be long or short any securities, currencies or financial instruments referred to on this document or have a material interest in any such securities or related investment, or may be the only market maker in relation to such investments, or provide, or have provided advice, investment banking or other services, to issuers of such investments. Accordingly, SCB, its affiliates and/or subsidiaries may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this document. This document must not be reproduced, forwarded or otherwise made available to any other person without the express written consent of SCB, nor

should it be distributed into any other jurisdiction unless permitted by the local laws and regulations of that jurisdiction. Neither SCB nor any of its directors, employees or agents accept any liability whatsoever for the actions of third parties in this respect.

Copyright: Standard Chartered Bank 2017. Copyright in all materials, text, articles and information contained herein is the property of, and may only be reproduced with permission of an authorised signatory of, Standard Chartered Bank. Copyright in materials created by third parties and the rights under copyright of such parties are hereby acknowledged. Copyright in all other materials not belonging to third parties and copyright in these materials as a compilation vests and shall remain at all times copyright of Standard Chartered Bank and should not be reproduced or used except for business purposes on behalf of Standard Chartered Bank or save with the express prior written consent of an authorised signatory of Standard Chartered Bank. All rights reserved. © Standard Chartered Bank 2017.

Standard Chartered Private Bank is the private banking division of SCB. Private banking activities may be carried out internationally by different SCB legal entities and affiliates according to local regulatory requirements. Not all products and services are provided by all SCB branches, subsidiaries and affiliates. Some of the SCB entities and affiliates only act as representatives of the Standard Chartered Private Bank, and may not be able to offer products and services, or offer advice to clients. They serve as points of contact only.

Country Specific Disclosures

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.

China: This document is being distributed in China by, and is attributable to, Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited which is mainly regulated by China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC), State Administration of Foreign Exchange (SAFE), and People's Bank of China (PBOC).

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 click [here](#). 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 the Bank via e-mail, as the Bank makes no representations or warranties as to the security or accuracy of any information transmitted via e-mail. The Bank 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.

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 Bank. 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 Private Bank is the private banking division of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited.

India: Standard Chartered Bank is registered with Securities and Exchange Board of India as an Investment Advisor (Registration Number: INA000002249) under the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Investment Advisers) Regulations,

2013. You can avail of investment advisory services of Standard Chartered Bank only upon (i) executing separate documents with the Investment Advisory Group of Standard Chartered Bank for availing 'Investment Advice' (as defined in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Investment Advisers) Regulations, 2013); and (ii) paying specific fees (if applied by Standard Chartered Bank) for such 'Investment Advice'. Standard Chartered Bank acts as a distributor of mutual funds and referrer of other third party financial products, for which Standard Chartered Bank receives commission / referral fees from the product provider.

Jersey: In Jersey, Standard Chartered 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 Services Board 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 Standard Chartered Group Offices 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: Investment Products and Services are distributed by Standard Chartered Investment Services Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Limited (Standard Chartered Bank/the Bank) that is licensed by the Capital Markets Authority as a Fund Manager. Standard Chartered Bank Kenya Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Kenya.

Singapore SCBSL: This document is being distributed in Singapore by, and is attributable to, Standard Chartered Bank (Singapore) Limited ("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, Chapter 19. IN RELATION TO ANY FIXED INCOME AND STRUCTURED SECURITIES REFERRED TO IN THIS DOCUMENT (IF ANY), THIS DOCUMENT TOGETHER WITH THE ISSUER DOCUMENTATION SHALL BE DEEMED AN INFORMATION MEMORANDUM (AS DEFINED IN SECTION 275 OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES ACT, CHAPTER 289 ("SFA"). IT IS INTENDED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ACCREDITED INVESTORS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 4A OF THE SFA, OR ON TERMS THAT THE SECURITIES 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 fixed income and structured securities mentioned (if any), neither this document nor the Issuer Documentation have been, and will not be, 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. Singapore dollar deposits of non-bank depositors are insured by the Singapore Deposit Insurance Corporation, for up to S\$50,000 in aggregate per depositor per Scheme member by law. Foreign currency deposits, dual currency investments, structured deposits and other investment products are not insured.

Singapore SCB, Singapore Branch: This document is being distributed in Singapore by SCB, Singapore branch only to accredited investors, expert investors or institutional investors, as defined in the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore. Recipients in Singapore should contact SCB, Singapore branch in relation to any matters arising from, or in connection with, this document. In Singapore, Standard Chartered Private Bank is the Private Banking division of SCB, Singapore branch. SCB, Singapore branch (Registration No. S16FC0027L) (GST Registration No.: MR-8500053-0) is licensed to conduct banking business under the Banking Act, Chapter 19 of Singapore. IN RELATION TO ANY FIXED INCOME AND STRUCTURED SECURITIES REFERRED TO IN THIS DOCUMENT (IF ANY), THIS DOCUMENT TOGETHER WITH THE ISSUER DOCUMENTATION SHALL BE DEEMED AN INFORMATION MEMORANDUM (AS DEFINED IN SECTION 275 OF THE SFA). IT IS INTENDED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ACCREDITED INVESTORS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 4A OF THE

SFA. Further, in relation to fixed income and structured securities mentioned (if any), neither this document nor the Issuer Documentation have been, and will not be, 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, 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. Singapore dollar deposits of non-bank depositors are insured by the Singapore Deposit Insurance Corporation, for up to S\$50,000 in aggregate per depositor per Scheme member by law. Foreign currency deposits, dual currency investments, structured deposits and other investment products are not insured. In relation to any collective investment schemes referred to in this document (if any), 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 financial product; or (ii) an advertisement of an offer or intended offer of any financial product.

Thailand: Please study the Scheme Information Documents carefully e.g. investment policy, risks, fund performance before investing.

UAE: DIFC - Standard Chartered Bank, Dubai International Financial Centre (SCB DIFC) 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 authorized 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

UAE: For residents of the UAE – Standard Chartered Bank 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: Standard Chartered Bank (trading as Standard Chartered Private Bank) is an authorised financial services provider (licence number 45747) in terms of the South African Financial Advisory and Intermediary Services Act, 2002.

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.

Market Abuse Regulation (MAR) Disclaimer

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. Banking activities may be carried out internationally by different Standard Chartered Bank branches, subsidiaries and affiliates (collectively "SCB") 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 SCB's own trading strategies or positions. SCB 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 SCB has a material interest in one or more of the financial instruments mentioned herein. If specific companies are mentioned in this communication, please note that SCB may at times do business or seek to do business with the companies covered in this communication; hold a position in, or have economic exposure to, such companies; and/or invest in the financial products issued by these companies. Further, SCB may be involved in activities such as dealing in, holding, acting as market makers or liquidity providers, or performing financial or advisory services including but not limited to, lead manager or co-lead manager in relation to any of the products referred to in this communication. SCB may have received compensation for these services and activities. Accordingly, SCB may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this communication.

SCB has in place policies and procedures, logical access controls and physical information walls to help ensure confidential information, including material non-public or inside information is not disclosed unless in line with its policies and procedures and the rules of its regulators.

Please refer to <https://www.sc.com/en/banking-services/market-disclaimer.html> for more detailed disclosures, including past opinions in the last 12 months and conflict of interests, as well as disclaimers. This document must not be forwarded or otherwise made available to any other person without the express written consent of SCB.

THIS IS NOT A RESEARCH REPORT AND HAS NOT BEEN PRODUCED BY A RESEARCH UNIT.