

Market Comment | Metal commodity prices fall further

Global Financial Markets Unit
23 Nov 2015

- **Negative data in the US.** The US Markit manufacturing PMI dropped in November more than expected (by 1.5 points to 52.6; consensus: 54.0). Furthermore, existing home sales declined more than estimated in October (-0.19M to USD5.36 million; consensus: 5.40 million). Meanwhile, the Chicago Fed national activity index rose below estimates in October (by 0.25 points to -0.04; consensus: 0.05).
- **PMI's data in the eurozone improved in November.** Eurozone Markit composite PMI rose in November more than expected (by 0.5 points to 54.4; BBVAe: 53.5 consensus: 54.0), due to the increase in both the services and manufacturing PMI. By country, German composite PMI surged to 54.9 from 54.2 (consensus: 54.0). Meanwhile, French composite PMI declined more than expected to 51.3 from 52.6 (consensus: 52.5) dragged by terrorist attacks in Paris. ([see](#)). Although the information for 4Q15 is limited to confidence data, improved PMIs so far this quarter suggest that the pace of growth could be strengthened or even accelerated slightly, in line with our scenario that contemplates a quarterly GDP growth of 0.4% QoQ in 4Q15.
- **Metal commodity prices fall further.** Positive PMI data in the eurozone boosted medium- and long-term yields in Europe, with the core country yields registering greater increases, while the rise in peripheral yields were more moderated (GER 10Y: +6bp, FRA 10Y: +6bp, ITA 10Y: +3bp, SPA 10Y: +1bp, POR 10Y: +6bp). As a result, peripheral risk premia slightly narrowed (Italy -2bp, Spain -4bp). On the other hand, the 2Y European yields remained anchored to the ECB's monetary policy, inching down from Friday's levels and widening the spread against US 2Y yields. On the FX markets, the euro depreciated slightly against the USD (-0.35%), despite the positive economic data, dragged by the increase in the 2Y yield spread between US and European yields. Furthermore, the US dollar appreciated against most currencies, especially those linked to commodity prices (Russian ruble: -1.4%, Australian dollar: -0.77%, New Zealand dollar: -0.87%, Colombian peso: -0.8%, Chilean peso: -0.6%). The Turkish lira also performed poorly today (-0.7%). Volatility in commodity markets was very high today, especially in the oil market ahead of December's OPEC meeting. Early in the day, oil prices plunged but then recovered suddenly after Saudi Arabia said that it was ready to cooperate to stabilise crude prices (Brent: +1.5%, WTI: +4.6%). Nonetheless, these comments contrasted with other news flows that suggested that Saudi Arabia's main target is to maintain its market share. All in all, it seems that volatility in crude markets will remain high in coming weeks. Furthermore, the signals for metal commodities also paint a bleak picture, with copper prices extending its recent falls (-1.7%). Equity indices were generally flat today, although at the time of writing US markets were inching up (S&P 500: +0.2%, Dow: +0.1%) despite the worse-than-expected macroeconomic data, while European equity indices were edging down as the increase in yields together with the high volatility in commodity prices offset the positive activity data, and therefore dragged stocks down.

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Table1

Current level and changes at daily, weekly, monthly and annual frequencies

Debt markets (changes in bp)

US 2yr	0.81 (1) (1) (20) (26)
US 5yr	1.7 (1) (0) (30) (5)
US 10yr	2.26 (0) (-1) (24) (9)
Japan 10yr	1.32 (0) (2) (5) (14)
GER 5yr	4.39 (0) (1) (2) (28)
GER 10yr	4.14 (0) (-1) (41) (15)
EUR 5yr	4.53 (0) (0) (14) (1)
Brazil 10yr	8.84 (5) (1) (5) (1)
France 10yr	6.97 (2) (2) (5) (5)
China 10yr	2.74 (2) (2) (2) (12)
India 10yr	6.87 (1) (1) (1) (12)
Indonesia 10yr	7.5 (0) (1) (1) (12)
Italy 10yr	5.15 (1) (1) (1) (12)
Mexico 10yr	7.9 (0) (1) (1) (12)
Poland 10yr	5.24 (0) (-4) (22) (15)
Spain 10yr	5.83 (1) (-1) (2) (6) (9)

Emerging markets

Brazil 10yr	6.15 (4) (3) (1) (1) (27)
China 10yr	2.74 (2) (2) (2) (12)
India 10yr	6.87 (1) (1) (1) (12)
Indonesia 10yr	7.5 (0) (1) (1) (12)
Italy 10yr	5.15 (1) (1) (1) (12)
Mexico 10yr	7.9 (0) (1) (1) (12)
Poland 10yr	5.24 (0) (-4) (22) (15)
Spain 10yr	5.83 (1) (-1) (2) (6) (9)

Country risk (changes in bp)

FR overnight swap rate (against Germany)	
Belgium	34 (0) (1) (1)
France	34 (0) (1) (1)
Germany	0 (0) (0) (0) (24)
Ireland	82 (2) (-4) (-1) (1)
Italy	28 (2) (-4) (-1) (1)
Netherlands	18 (1) (-2) (-1) (1)
Portugal	20 (0) (-2) (-1) (1)
Spain	112 (4) (-1) (1) (1)

FR overnight swap rate (against Germany)

Belgium	12 (0) (0) (0) (1)
France	12 (0) (0) (0) (1)
Germany	0 (0) (0) (0) (1)
Ireland	20 (0) (0) (0) (1)
Italy	20 (0) (0) (0) (1)
Netherlands	12 (0) (0) (0) (1)
Portugal	12 (0) (0) (0) (1)
Spain	112 (4) (-1) (1) (1)

FR overnight swap rate (against Germany)

Belgium	7 (0) (0) (1)
France	7 (0) (0) (1)
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*CDS, EMBI & MSCI indices with one day delay

**Credit spread (BAA) with two days delay

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