

Market Comment | Surge in commodity prices supports rebound in financial markets

Global Financial Markets Unit
19 Apr 2016

- **Worse-than-expected macroeconomic data in the US.** US housing starts moderated in March, increasing below expectations (by 1089K; consensus: 1166K; previous: 1194K), while building permits also rose by less than expected (by 1086K; consensus: 1200K; previous: 1177K).
- **Mixed ZEW data in Europe.** Euro zone ZEW survey expectations surged in April (to 21.5 points from 10.6). Nonetheless, the German ZEW showed a mixed performance, with the expectations index raising beating estimations (by 6.9 to 11.2; BBVAe: 7.3, consensus: 8.0), while the current situation index unexpectedly dropped (by 3.0 points to 47.7; BBVAe: 50.0, consensus: 50.8). The sharp increase in ZEW expectations could be underpinned by the green shoots in China, which improved the sentiment in financial markets.
- **Fed's Rosengren insists that markets are too pessimistic about the Fed's tightening path.** Eric Rosengren, Boston Fed President reiterated that the market is excessively pessimistic in expecting only one interest rate hike this year and another in 2017. Inflation is closer to the Fed's target of 2 percent.
- **Positive mood in financial markets extended today, driven by the rebound in commodity prices.** Although the Doha meeting ended without agreement on a freeze in production, oil prices enjoyed the positive market mood (Brent: +3.0% WTx: +3.7%), supporting the rebound in other commodity prices (Copper: +2.5% Natural Gas: +5.21% Silver: +4.5%) as well as other risky assets. The ongoing upward trend in oil prices was reinforced today by the Kuwait oil workers' strike - in reaction to public sector pay reform - which contributed to reducing - momentarily - the global oil supply. The depreciation of the USD also drove commodity prices upwards (repricing movement). The rebound in commodity prices, coupled with better-than-expected macroeconomic data, contributed to increased risk-taking in financial market, this mood especially benefiting EM currencies, which appreciated across the board against the US dollar (RUB: +0.8% BRL: +2.1% COP: +2.2% CLP: +0.9% MXN: +0.9%). The USD also weakened against the main developed country currencies with the exception of the Japanese Yen (EUR: +0.57% GBP: +0.83% CAD: 1.12% NOK: +1.30% JPY: -0.46%). The recent depreciation of the JPY, which is still at very high levels, gave a breath to the Nikkei index (+3.7%), which outperformed other developed country equity indices. The European equity indices also rose, helped by better-than-expected confidence data (Eurostoxx: +1.5% IBEX: +0.9% DAX: +2.2% CAC: +1.2%). On bond markets, the positive mood caused a mild increase in yields across the board (US 10Y and GER 10Y: +2 bps), while European peripheral yields showed a mixed performance with Portugal remaining unchanged (ITA 10Y: +6 bps SPA 10Y: +5 bps).

Update 17.3 CET 19 April, 2016
Table 1

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

Debt markets (change in bp)

Eurozone	
US 2yr	0.76 (2) (2) (20)
US 5yr	1.28 (2) (2) (20)
US 10yr	1.8 (2) (2) (47)
Japan 10yr	0.2 (1) (2) (12) (36)
GER 2yr	0.5 (0) (2) (16)
GER 5yr	0.8 (0) (1) (4) (2)
GER 10yr	0.9 (2) (1) (2) (46)
Belgium 10yr	0.57 (2) (0) (4) (4)
France 10yr	0.52 (2) (0) (4) (47)
Canada 5yr	0.7 (0) (0) (0) (0)
Canada 10yr	0.8 (0) (0) (0)
Kaz 10yr	1.4 (0) (2) (0) (1) (9)
Netherlands 10yr	0.7 (0) (0) (0) (0) (4)
Portugal 10yr	1.3 (0) (2) (1) (0) (2)
Spain 10yr	1.05 (0) (0) (2) (2)
UK 10yr	1.08 (0) (0) (1) (0) (2) (20)
China 10yr	3.2 (2) (1) (4) (2) (2)
Canada 10yr	1.1 (0) (0) (0) (0) (0)
Canada 5yr	0.8 (0) (0) (0) (0) (0)
India 10yr	7.4 (0) (1) (1) (1) (1)
Indonesia 10yr	7.4 (0) (1) (1) (1) (1)

Country risk (change in bp)

Eurozone	
Belgium	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
France	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Germany	100 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Italy	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Netherlands	100 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Portugal	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Spain	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
UK	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Poland	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Russia	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Turkey	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
India	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)
Indonesia	99 (0) (1) (4) (0)

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*CDS, EMBI & MSCI indices with one day delay

**Credit spread (BAA) with two days delay

***S&P GSCI with one day delay

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