

Bond market outlook, issuance and other topics

Franck Motte Global Head of Euro Rates

January 2016

HSBC (

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A look back, a look forward



The story of 2015

Main levels, quarterly history for 2015

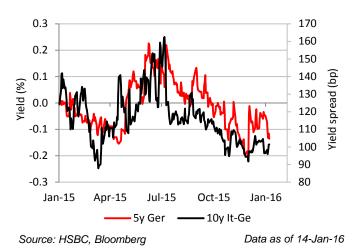
| | CQ1 2015 | CQ2 2015 | CQ3 2015 | CQ4 2015 | Current [†] |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------------------------|
| ECB Deposit Facility Rate | -0.20% | -0.20% | -0.20% | -0.30% | -0.30% |
| ECB Main Refinancing Rate | 0.05% | 0.05% | 0.05% | 0.05% | 0.05% |
| ECB Marginal Rate | 0.30% | 0.30% | 0.30% | 0.30% | 0.30% |
| ECB Balance Sheet | €2,251bn | €2,540bn | €2,621bn | €2,768bn | €2,781bn |
| ECB Excess Liquidity | €273bn | €396bn | €503bn | €661bn | €661bn |
| 3m Euribor | 0.019% | -0.014% | -0.040% | -0.131% | -0.143% |
| 3m Euribor-EONIA spread | 11.5bp | 10.6bp | 10.4bp | 10.7bp | 11.3bp |
| Repo Funds Rate Germany | -0.159% | -0.237% | -0.240% | -0.443% | -0.368% |
| Repo Funds Rate Italy | -0.049% | -0.109% | -0.181% | -0.280% | -0.284% |
| 2y Germany* | -0.25% | -0.23% | -0.25% | -0.35% | -0.39% |
| 5y Germany* | -0.10% | 0.07% | -0.01% | -0.05% | -0.15% |
| 10y Germany* | 0.18% | 0.76% | 0.59% | 0.63% | 0.55% |
| 10y France-Germany spread* | 29.4bp | 42.9bp | 39.8bp | 35.8bp | 32.4bp |
| 10y Italy-Germany spread* | 105.9bp | 156.8bp | 113.7bp | 96.4bp | 99.9bp |
| 10y Spain-Germany spread* | 102.7bp | 153.5bp | 130.3bp | 113.8bp | 120.9bp |
| Italy 5y CDS (USD) | 115.7bp | 110.9bp | 119.8bp | 98.8bp | 102.9bp |
| Spain 5y CDS (USD) | 94.4bp | 89.9bp | 107.7bp | 91.5bp | 95.8bp |
| Euro STOXX 50 | 3731.35 | 3625.97 | 3079.99 | 3284.47 | 2999.47 |
| EUR-USD | 1.0924 | 1.1167 | 1.1186 | 1.0963 | 1.0917 |

Source: HSBC, Bloomberg

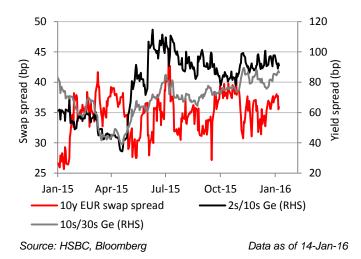
*Note: Bloomberg generic benchmark yields used †Note: As of 14 January 2016

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5y German* yield and 10y Italy-Germany* spread



EUR swap spread and German* curve spreads







HSBC Economics forecasts

Growth to remain subdued over forecast horizon, inflation to rebound in 2016 due to base effects

| % (Year) World Developed Emerging US | | GDP | | | Inflation | |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| /0 (Teal) | 2015 (f) | 2016 (f) | 2017 (f) | 2015 (f) | 2016 (f) | 2017 (f) |
| World | 2.6 | 2.7 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.2 | 3.4 |
| Developed | 1.9 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 0.3 | 1.2 | 1.8 |
| Emerging | 3.5 | 3.6 | 4.4 | 4.8 | 4.5 | 4.3 |
| US | 2.5 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 2.1 |
| UK | 2.2 | 2.4 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.7 |
| Eurozone | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 1.3 |
| Japan | 0.6 | 1.3 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 2.4 |
| Brazil | -3.6 | -2.8 | 1.0 | 8.9 | 7.0 | 5.5 |
| Russia | -4.0 | -0.9 | 1.0 | 15.6 | 8.0 | 6.1 |
| India | 7.3 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 5.0 |
| China | 7.0 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 0.9 |

Source: HSBC Economics and Fixed Income Research estimates (see "The Great Escape". HSBC Global Economics, Q1 2016)

- Fed has finally achieved lift-off, but how long will the tightening cycle be?
- The dichotomy between a relatively healthy US • economy versus concerns elsewhere remains the key discussion point
- Euro-zone is likely to benefit from loose monetary • policy and be an assist to global growth
- Lack of inflation remains the most significant drag... •
- ...global deflationary forces could yet force the Fed to make the 'great reversal'

Rate and bond yield forecasts highlight diverging monetary paths, yet contained rises in yields

| % Year | | 3-month money | | 10-year bond yield | | | | | |
|----------|------|---------------|---------|--------------------|---------|------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| /0 I Cal | 2015 | 2016(f) | 2017(f) | 2015 | 2016(f) | d 2017(f) 2.0 0.4 0.6 1.1 | | | |
| US | 0.5 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 2.3 | 1.5 | 2.0 | | | |
| Germany | -0.3 | -0.4 | -0.4 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.4 | | | |
| France | -0.3 | -0.4 | -0.4 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.6 | | | |
| Italy | -0.3 | -0.4 | -0.4 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 1.1 | | | |
| Spain | -0.3 | -0.4 | -0.4 | 1.8 | 0.9 | 1.1 | | | |

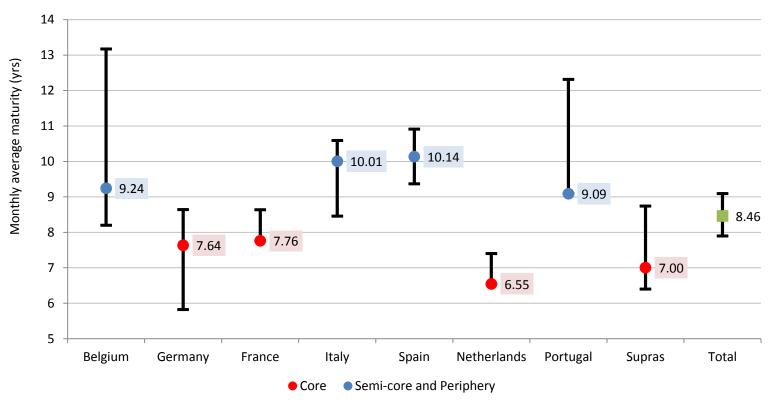
Source: HSBC Economics and Fixed Income Research estimates (see "The Great Escape', HSBC Global Economics, Q1 2016)

Note: *Fiscal year; ** Period end

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Historical range of average PSPP purchase maturities



Ranges for monthly average maturities of ECB and NCB QE purchases

Source: HSBC calculations. ECB website

Data as of 14-Jan-16

Note: March and April 2015 are averaged. A 1m drift is assumed each month

Differentiated approach to the average maturity of PSPP purchases

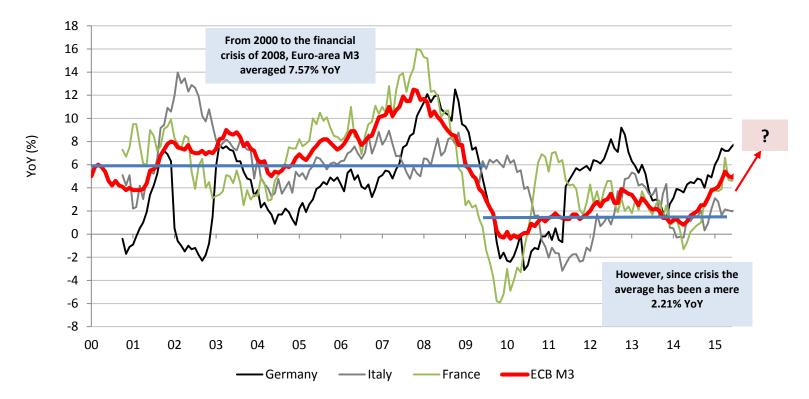
- Tiering effect with higher levels for semi and peripherals versus core...
- ...comparing to average life of Bloomberg/EFFAS indices, purchases in Italy and Spain have been substantially above, whereas for Netherlands it has been below

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Building block for ECB QE achievement...M3 growth increasing

M3 growth has rebounded following introduction of ECB QE



Source: HSBC, Bloomberg

Data as of 14-Jan-16

Growth in monetary aggregates highlights flow through into real economy

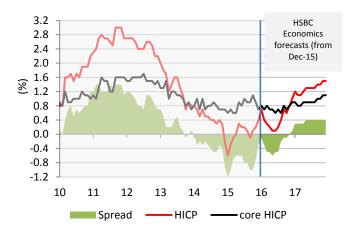
- EU M3 year-on-year growth is back to around 5%, the highest since the financial crisis
- Pre-crisis average around 7.5% YoY...will it be possible to re-capture those kind of levels? _
- Implication would be that core inflation may have upside traction

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Lack of inflation in the Eurozone



EU HICP headline, core and difference

Source: HSBC, Bloomberg, HSBC Economics estimates (see 'Eurozone inflation briefing note', HSBC Global Economics, 16 December 2015)

Data as of 14-Jan-16

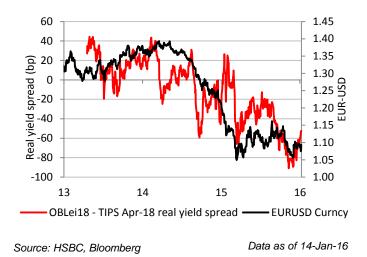
When will Eurozone inflation rebound?

- Persistence of weaker inflationary outturns is an on-going issue for Eurozone and the ECB
- A weakening currency is a positive factor for the European economy, including providing the potential for upward impetus to inflation
- Additionally, headline HICP is below core due to base effects; however this is forecast to recede over coming months. Could this be a catalyst for stabilisation and some upward momentum for EU HICP?
- EU-US real rate differentials are affected by a weaker euro

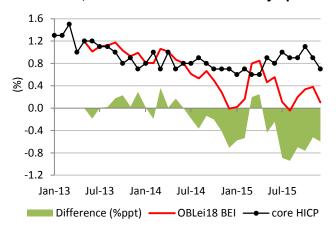
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EU-US real rate difference and EUR-USD currency



OBLei18 BEI, core HICP YoY and monthly spread



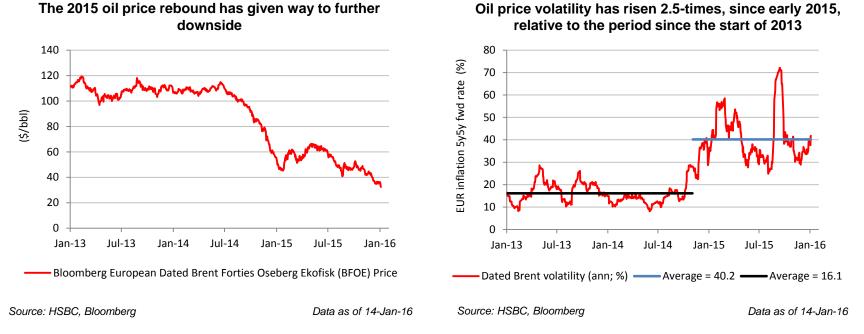
Source: HSBC, Bloomberg





Data as of 14-Jan-16

Oil price decline, but also increased volatility



Oil renewed its slide

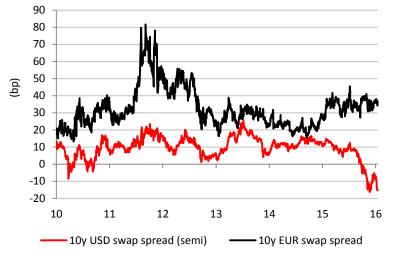
- Elevated geo-political tensions have failed to draw any upside response from the oil price
- Over supply versus demand is still the key driver _
- Significant increase in oil price volatility in 2015 versus 2014
- What next?
 - US exporting crude...when will Iran come back on-stream?
 - ...will global growth turn the corner and create demand?

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Asynchronous global swap spread moves

US and Euro-zone swap spreads diverged through the course of 2015



Source: HSBC, Bloomberg

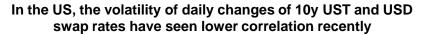
Data as of 14-Jan-16

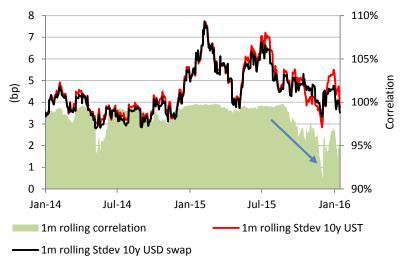
• US swap spread tightening

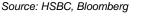
- Balance sheet constraint for the dealer community
- However, growth in dealer position through second half of 2015
- Strong issuance flow
- Shift in perception of swap 'credit' over recent years, given central clearing
- Euro-zone spreads widening
 - Long-dated swap paying pressure

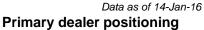
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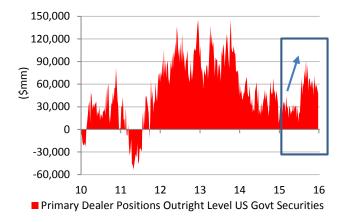
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Source: HSBC, Bloomberg

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Data as of 14-Jan-16



Supply

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Euro-zone gross issuance outlook

| Country/Month | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| IT | 24.0 | 23.0 | 20.0 | 25.0 | 19.0 | 19.0 | 19.0 | 9.0 | 19.0 | 20.0 | 15.0 | 8.0 | 220.0 |
| FR | 21.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 7.0 | 20.0 | 20.0 | 18.0 | 7.0 | 213.0 |
| DE | 12.0 | 17.0 | 18.0 | 10.0 | 15.0 | 15.0 | 16.0 | 18.0 | 15.0 | 10.0 | 15.0 | 3.0 | 164.0 |
| ES | 15.0 | 12.0 | 13.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 8.0 | 10.0 | 10.0 | 9.0 | 8.0 | 125.0 |
| NL | 1.5 | 0.0 | 6.0 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 8.0 | 1.5 | 0.0 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 30.0 |
| BE | 5.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 33.5 |
| AT | 5.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 4.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 21.0 |
| РТ | 4.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 18.0 |
| IE | 3.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 10.0 |
| FI | 0.0 | 4.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 13.0 |
| GR | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SK | 1.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 4.5 |
| SI | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 |
| LT | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| LV | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| MT | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| LX | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EE | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| CY | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EZ | 91.9 | 85.8 | 82.4 | 81.6 | 73.3 | 77.5 | 75.8 | 43.2 | 81.0 | 70.5 | 66.5 | 27.2 | 856.7 |

Gross Euro-zone issuance for 2016

Source: HSBC Strategy estimates (see SSA Monitor, 8 January 2016), Official debt agencies

Lower gross issuance forecast

- A decrease of over €60bn in gross issuance... _
- ...especially for Italy, Spain and Netherlands

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Euro-zone net issuance outlook

| Country/Month | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|---------------|-------|------|------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| IT | 24.0 | 23.0 | 12.7 | -3.6 | 5.3 | 17.3 | 5.6 | -30.8 | -6.8 | 2.0 | 2.6 | -7.6 | 43.7 |
| FR | 21.0 | -5.3 | 20.0 | -10.3 | 20.0 | 20.0 | -13.2 | 7.0 | 20.0 | -6.5 | 6.3 | 7.0 | 86.0 |
| DE | -11.0 | 1.0 | 5.0 | -25.4 | 15.0 | -1.8 | -7.0 | 18.0 | 1.3 | -6.0 | 15.0 | -11.0 | -6.9 |
| ES | 15.0 | -8.6 | 13.0 | -11.2 | 10.0 | 10.0 | -7.1 | 8.0 | 10.0 | -11.2 | 9.0 | 8.0 | 44.9 |
| NL | 1.5 | 0.0 | 6.0 | -10.7 | 2.0 | 8.0 | -12.9 | 0.0 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| BE | 5.0 | 0.0 | -4.6 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | -7.3 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 0.0 | 11.6 |
| AT | 5.0 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | -7.6 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 9.4 |
| РТ | 4.0 | -0.1 | 1.0 | 3.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | -1.4 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 11.4 |
| IE | 3.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | -5.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.9 |
| FI | 0.0 | 4.0 | 0.0 | -4.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 | 0.0 | 6.5 |
| GR | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -2.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -2.3 |
| SK | 1.2 | -2.8 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 0.2 | -1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SI | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.0 |
| LT | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| LV | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| MT | 0.0 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| LX | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| EE | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| СҮ | -0.1 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.7 |
| EZ | 68.5 | 14.6 | 54.5 | -62.2 | 59.5 | 59.0 | -28.1 | 3.3 | 18.6 | -15.8 | 40.7 | -2.4 | 210.1 |

Net of redemptions Euro-zone issuance for 2016

Source: HSBC Strategy estimates (see SSA Monitor, 8 January 2016), Official debt agencies

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Euro-zone net issuance outlook, adjusting for coupons and PSPP

| Country/Month | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Total |
|---------------|-------|-------|------|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|--------|
| IT | 16.8 | 15.8 | 5.5 | -10.8 | -1.9 | 10.1 | -1.6 | -36.9 | -13.9 | -5.2 | -4.6 | -13.7 | -40.2 |
| FR | 12.7 | -13.6 | 11.7 | -18.5 | 11.7 | 11.7 | -21.5 | -0.1 | 11.7 | -14.8 | -1.9 | -0.1 | -10.7 |
| DE | -21.5 | -9.5 | -5.5 | -35.9 | 4.5 | -12.2 | -17.5 | 9.1 | -9.2 | -16.5 | 4.5 | -19.9 | -129.6 |
| ES | 9.9 | -13.8 | 7.9 | -16.4 | 4.9 | 4.9 | -12.3 | 3.6 | 4.9 | -16.3 | 3.9 | 3.6 | -15.4 |
| NL | -0.8 | -2.3 | 3.7 | -13.0 | -0.3 | 5.7 | -15.2 | -2.0 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.2 | -2.0 | -25.3 |
| BE | 3.6 | -1.4 | -6.0 | 2.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 1.6 | -1.2 | -8.8 | 1.6 | 1.1 | -1.2 | -5.3 |
| AT | 3.9 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | -8.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 | -4.0 |
| IE | 3.3 | -0.8 | 0.3 | 2.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | -0.6 | 0.3 | -2.1 | 0.3 | -0.6 | 3.5 |
| РТ | 2.0 | 1.0 | -1.0 | -6.1 | -1.0 | -1.0 | 0.0 | -0.9 | 0.0 | -1.0 | -1.0 | -0.9 | -10.0 |
| FI | -0.7 | 3.3 | -0.7 | -5.2 | -0.7 | -0.7 | 2.3 | -0.6 | 1.3 | -0.7 | 1.3 | -0.6 | -2.1 |
| SK | 0.8 | -3.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.5 | -0.2 | -0.4 | -0.4 | 0.8 | -0.2 | -1.7 | -0.4 | -5.3 |
| SI | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.8 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.8 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.3 |
| Sub Total | 29.6 | -24.7 | 15.5 | -101.5 | 20.3 | 19.9 | -64.4 | -29.9 | -20.7 | -54.8 | 1.8 | -35.7 | -244.7 |
| EZ Total | 27.5 | -26.4 | 13.5 | -103.2 | 18.5 | 18.0 | -69.1 | -31.7 | -22.4 | -56.8 | -0.3 | -37.4 | -269.9 |

Net of redemptions Euro-zone issuance for 2016 less projected coupons and ECB PSPP*

Source: HSBC Strategy estimates (see SSA Monitor, 8 January 2016), Official debt agencies

Impact of ECB PSPP

- Effect of the ECB QE programme remains the dominant theme for the coming year.
- Impact is not smooth; for example, April has the largest negative net cash flow requirement, while June has the most positive

Country differentials

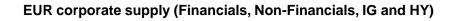
- In absolute terms, Germany has the largest negative cash flow requirement position at over €150bn
- Italy has €93bn; however, that needs to be balanced with the absolute size of the bond market

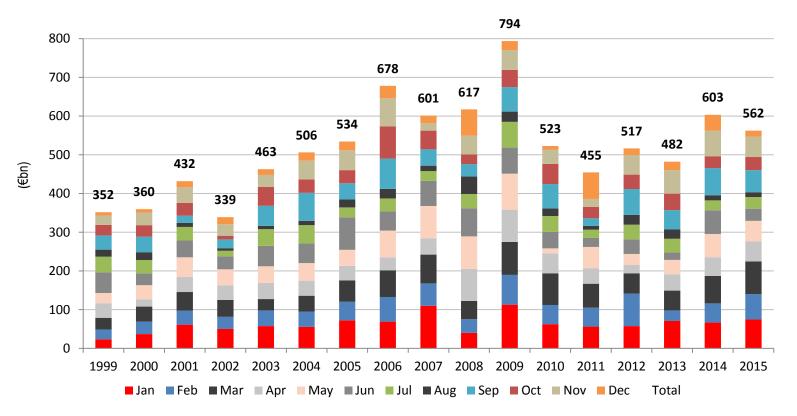
*Note: Assuming an average monthly PSPP of €50bn

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EUR non-sovereign issuance





Source: HSBC calculations, Dealogic

Data as of 14-Jan-16

• Issuance in EUR from financials, non-financials, IG and HY softened in 2015

Outlook for 2016 is for similar softening. HSBC Global Research forecast is for EUR IG non-financial (fixed coupon) corporate gross issuance of €210-230bn, Meanwhile, European banks issuance expected to be €240-280bn for senior, €30-40bn for LT2 and €30-40bn for AT1.

Source: HSBC Global Research (see 'European Credit Outlook 2016: Hang in there for one more year', November 2015)

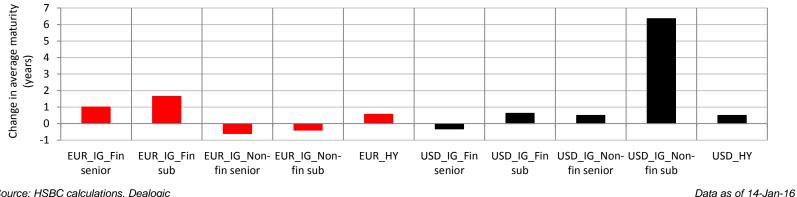
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Average maturities for various corporate bond sectors

25 Average corporate bond maturity (years) 40 Average corporate bond maturity (years) 35 20 30 25 15 20 10 15 10 5 5 0 0 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 99 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 IG Fin senior -IG Fin sub IG Non-fin senior ----- IG_Fin senior ------ IG_Non-fin senior -----IG Non-fin sub - HY -----IG Non-fin sub - HY Source: HSBC calculations, Dealogic Data as of 14-Jan-16 Source: HSBC calculations, Dealogic Data as of 14-Jan-16

Change in average maturity for 2015



Source: HSBC calculations, Dealogic

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Average corporate bond maturity - EUR

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Average corporate bond maturity - USD



Conclusion

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The path ahead

Macro key issues

- China: can the situation be contained
- Oil: will there be stabilisation in the price level; will the supply-demand equilibrium be brought back into balance
- Regulation: finality of landscape for banking sector; dynamic environment for other investors

Directionality

- Macro evolution is key, and a clarification of the deflation versus reflation conundrum will define the overall direction of yields
- Yield levels are low; however on-going ECB QE purchases means a net negative supply environment in EGBs, so yields could fall further
- Divergent monetary policy will drive EU-US yield differential

Curve

- ECB tool selection is important...
- ...depo rate moves act at front-end, implying bull steepening/bear flattening...
- ...while QE acts out on the curve creating a bull flattening/bear steepening dynamic

Swap spreads

- Banking sector balance sheet reduction has created a constraint
- International reserve assets have declined by around \$1trillion* since August 2014, suggestive of government bond holding reduction
- Broadening of central clearing may have altered credit perception of swaps
- Long-term liability investors and evolution of regulation (NSFR, Solvency II, FRTB)

*Source: Bloomberg



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