Daily Market Commentary

Gulf Bank Treasury Sales Desk

CBK USD/KWD

0.30820 0.30830



January 28, 2025

Foreign Exchange Development

The Japanese yen gave up some of the safe-haven driven gains on Tuesday as investors grappled with the potential implications of a Chinese startup's free open-source artificial intelligence model, while fresh tariff threats had the euro on the back foot.

The dollar was up 0.7% against the yen at 155.70, putting the currency pair back within its recent trading range after the yen strengthened to its strongest level since mid-December at 153.715 on Monday amid the safe-haven bids.

The dollar, which measures the U.S. currency against six rivals the yen and the euro, rose 0.13% to 107.94.

Sterling last traded at \$1.2441, down 0.4% on the day.

Oil prices ticked up but hovered near a two-week low on Tuesday after weak economic data from China and warming weather forecasts elsewhere soured the demand outlook.

Gold held steady on Tuesday as investors focused on the U.S. Federal Reserve's policy meeting to see if President Donald Trump's policies have an impact on the central bank's views.

Currencies & Commodities								
Currency	Price	MTD%	3M%	YTD%				
EUR/USD	1.0440	0.81	-3.47	0.81				
GBP/USD	1.2452	-0.54	-4.06	-0.54				
USD/CHF	0.9055	-0.29	4.55	-0.29				
USD/JPY	155.73	-0.73	1.57	-0.73				
AUD/USD	0.6253	1.05	-5.03	1.05				
USD/CAD	1.4402	0.10	3.64	0.10				
USD INDEX	107.89	-0.55	3.43	-0.55				
Gold	Silver	KWT OSP	Brent					
2743.19	30.15	83.76	77.11					



Economic Updates

The Fed is expected to keep interest rates on hold this week even as the ECB is likely to cut, arguing that inflation is coming down only slowly and that some policy proposals of the Trump administration could actually increase price pressures, likely drawing criticism from the White House.

A leading indicator of Japan's service-sector inflation hit 2.9% in December as prices rose for a broad range of services such as accommodation and transportation, data showed, keeping alive expectations of further interest rate hikes by the central bank.

Most stock markets in the Gulf ended lower on Monday due to uncertainty surrounding U.S. trade policy, although the Qatari index bucked the trend. Investors in the region are increasingly cautious due to the unpredictable nature of U.S. trade decisions, which have the potential to significantly impact global markets.

Global Markets								
Index	Price	Change	MTD%	YTD%				
DOWJONES	44,713.58	65.00	5.10	5.10				
FTSE 100	8,503.71	1.36	4.05	4.05				
KUWAIT ALL	7,830.81	53.84	6.36	6.36				
Benchmark	1 Month	3 Month	6 Month	12 Month				
TERM SOFR	4.31300	4.29387	4.24623	4.17975				
EURIBOR	2.7350	2.6410	2.5810	2.4990				
KIBOR	3.6875	3.9375	4.1875	4.3750				
Benchmark	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year				
US TRSY	4.100	4.262	4.354	4.551				
Benchmark	ON	3 Month	6 Month	12 Month				
CBK BOND	-	4.125	4.250	4.375				
KONIA	2.080							
SOFR	4.340							
Country	KWT	US	EURO	UK				
INT. RATES	4.000	4.500	3.00	4.750				

Upcoming Indicators / Events							
Date	Country	Indicator Name	Prior	Forecast			
29Jan	Canada	BoC Rate Decision	3.25	3.05			
29Jan	United States	Fed Funds Tgt Rate	4.25-4.5	4.4			
30Jan	Euro Zone	Consumer Confid. Final	-14.20	-14.2			
30Jan	Euro Zone	GDP Flash Prelim YY	0.90	1.04			
30Jan	Euro Zone	ECB Deposit Rate	3	3			
30Jan	Euro Zone	Unemployment Rate	6.30	6.32			
30Jan	United States	Initial Jobless Clm	223000.00	220700.00			
Source: Reuters and Bloomberg							

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