

23 April 2025

Global Markets Research

Midday Currency Outlook

USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Intraday Thoughts – Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

USD/MYR opened 0.14% higher at 4.3980 before climbing up further to 4.4070 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish as hopes of de-escalation in the US-China trade war and Trump’s “reprieve” for Fed Chair Jerome Powell saw investors regaining appetite for US assets and the Dollar regaining some footing. The DXY strengthened further to 99.06 at the point of writing. On the domestic front, MYR also lagged its regional peers following news on the tariff imports on solar. Key data releases today will be Malaysia’s CPI, followed by US PMIs and Beige Book.

1-Month Outlook – USD/MYR Neutral

We prefer to stay neutral on USD/MYR, but trading in the Dollar is likely to remain volatile given the uncertainty over Trump’s tariff and consequently risk-on and risk-off mood. The DXY has continued to flirt around the 99-100-handle in the past weeks, dipping to below 98 levels intermittently. That said, we expect it to be held firmly above the 97-handle as the pair is still trading close to its oversold territory, supported by still solid economic and labour market indicators, and lingering concerns over rising price pressures from the recent slew of tariffs, which will likely keep the Fed on its toes in their easing cycle for now. That said, nervousness over growth due to tariff hikes will likely cap gains for the Dollar, thus our neutral outlook for this pair over the month. On the domestic front, we expect the BNM to maintain its OPR rate to fully assess the development and impact from the new tariffs to the economy, as such, continuously lend some support MYR for the next month. However, any dovish shift at the May MPC meeting may have some knee-jerk repercussions on MYR movement.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/MYR	4.3587	4.3753	4.4070	4.4117	4.4382

USD/SGD

USD/SGD Neutral

USD/SGD opened flat at 1.3112, strengthened to as high as 1.3166 but lost its lustre to trade at 1.3115 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral, with key risk on the Singapore front being its inflation prints. As it is, consensus is expecting core to accelerate slightly to 0.7% y/y in March from +0.6% y/y previously.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.3004	1.3058	1.3115	1.3143	1.3174

MYR Crosses

SGD/MYR

SGD/MYR Neutral

SGD/MYR opened 0.51% lower at 3.3422 before paring all its losses and more to trade just above its previous close at 3.3600 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral pending release of CPI prints at both sides of the border today. Similar to Singapore, Malaysia's CPI is also expected to pick-up slightly to 1.6% y/y in March (prior: 1.5% y/y).



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
SGD/MYR	3.3375	3.3485	3.3600	3.3665	3.3735

GBP/MYR

GBP/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

GBP/MYR opened 0.74% lower at 5.8292 before paring most of its losses to trade near its previous close at 5.8667 at the point of writing. We have a neutral-to-slightly bearish outlook for this pair on GBP weakness, expecting GBP/USD to consolidate around the 1.3310 level following BOE Megan Greene's comments that tariffs are disinflationary for the UK and nervousness ahead of the S&P PMI.



	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.8232	5.8480	5.8667	5.8887	5.9046

AUD/MYR



AUD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

AUD/MYR opened 0.43% lower at 2.7998 before paring all its losses to trade at 2.8188 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish as a de-escalation in US-China trade war will likely whet appetite for AUD, around the 0.6400 handle.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.7934	2.8026	2.8188	2.8298	2.8480

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

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