

19 February 2025

Global Markets Research

Midday Currency Outlook

USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Intraday Thoughts – Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

USD/MYR opened 0.01% lower at 4.4452 before rebounding to 4.4520 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish, as we expect USD to be well supported today amid higher UST yields overnight and in anticipation that the FOMC minutes today will likely echo recent Fed speaks, for a policy pause stance in the near term. On top of that, US housing indicators are on deck today, from mortgage applications to building permits and housing starts.

1-Month Outlook – USD/MYR Neutral

The one-month outlook for USD/MYR is neutral in our view, largely reflecting some consolidation after the recent rally in greenback, which saw DXY hitting its 2-year high above the 109-handle. This comes after Trump’s election win, that saw traders pencilling in more business friendly and inflationary policies going forward. Amid more signs of upside of inflationary risks and solid economic environment, this saw traders expecting the next rate cut only in the September FOMC meeting. That said, the current Fed rate remains slightly restrictive at this juncture, and as such, we opine that policy easing remains on track for the US. On the domestic front, BNM maintained the OPR at 3.00% as well as neutral policy stance in its latest monetary policy meeting. With no material changes in the policy statement, other than the mention of uncertainties and risks stemming from “more trade and investment restrictions,” this supports our view for an extended pause in the OPR in 2025, and in tandem with this, supportive of the MYR as well.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/MYR	4.4211	4.4333	4.4520	4.4551	4.4647

USD/SGD



USD/SGD Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

USD/SGD opened flat at 1.3423 before trending up to 1.3431 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is thus neutral, facing resistance at 1.3442 (R1) and 1.3461 (R2) today. Overnight, Singapore's Budget FY 2025 appears to have minimal impact on the SGD, trading between 1.3410-1.3425 levels as the budget was delivered, and thus, is not expected to move the pair today,

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.3356	1.3391	1.3431	1.3442	1.3461

MYR Crosses

SGD/MYR



SGD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

SGD/MYR opened 0.02% higher at 3.3130 before strengthening to 3.3155 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish, with the direction of the pair likely swayed by risk on/off sentiment for the rest of the week and any surprises on Malaysia's trade and CPI prints.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
SGD/MYR	3.2959	3.3042	3.3155	3.3183	3.3241

GBP/MYR



GBP/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

GBP/MYR opened 0.12% higher at 5.6112 and trended up to 5.6146 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish in anticipation of GBP strength amid the stronger than expected wage growth overnight and in anticipation that core-CPI, due to be released today, will also accelerate, both likely to keep rate cut bets in check.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.5767	5.5907	5.6146	5.6178	5.6309

AUD/MYR



AUD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

AUD/MYR opened 0.15% lower at 2.8233 before paring some of these losses to trade at 2.8254 at the point of writing. We have a neutral-to-slightly bearish outlook for this pair as AUD/USD trades in red at 0.6347 at the point of writing, after the slower than expected wage growth data this morning, which is expected to support the case for further RBA rate cuts.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.8047	2.8161	2.8254	2.8353	2.8431

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

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