

21 February 2025

Global Markets Research

Midday Currency Outlook

USD/MYR



Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

Intraday Thoughts – Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish

USD/MYR opened 0.27% lower at 4.4175 before erasing some of these losses to trade at 4.4215 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bearish in anticipation that USD could see further pull-back today, weighed down by lower Treasury yields overnight, and on caution over Trump’s tariff policies. Weaker US leading index also does not bode well for the greenback today, while the next hurdle will be US S&P PMIs as well as the existing home sales print.

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	4.3873	4.4108	4.4215	4.4437	4.4578

USD/SGD



USD/SGD Neutral

USD/SGD opened flat at 1.3335, surged to as high as 1.3361 before losing its lustre to trade at 1.3344 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral, while noting bullish risk to the pair given that it is trading near its oversold position, eyeing trading range between 1.3296-1.3402 today.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.3258	1.3296	1.3344	1.3402	1.3470

MYR Crosses

SGD/MYR



SGD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

SGD/MYR opened 0.41% higher at 3.3217 before losing momentum to trade at 3.3127 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish given its higher opening and key watch being Malaysia's CPI print due at noon today. As it is, consensus is expecting inflation to accelerate slightly to 1.8% in January from 1.7% the prior month.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
SGD/MYR	3.2908	3.2995	3.3127	3.3169	3.2568

GBP/MYR



GBP/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

GBP/MYR opened 0.17% higher at 5.5971 before strengthening to 5.5997 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish, with cautiousness over the retail sales print due to be released later today likely capping gains at this juncture.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
GBP/MYR	5.5535	5.5707	5.5997	5.6014	5.6151

AUD/MYR



AUD/MYR Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish

AUD/MYR opened 0.16% higher at 2.8285 and strengthened to 2.8295 at the point of writing. Daily outlook is neutral-to-slightly bullish as a possible US-China trade deal will likely keep CNH and AUD well supported today, facing R1 and R2 at 2.8379 and 2.8556 today.

	S2	S1	Indicative	R1	R2
AUD/MYR	2.8025	2.8132	2.8295	2.8379	2.8556

Source: Bloomberg, HLBB Global Markets Research

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