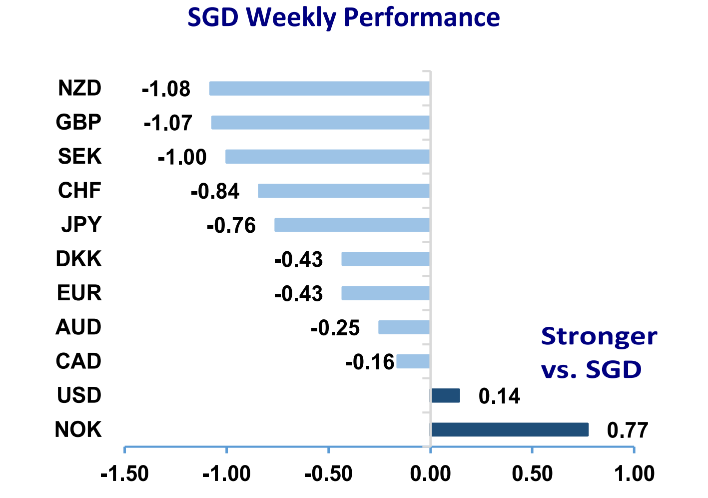
24 July 2026

Global Markets Research
Currency Outlook for the Week Ahead



Source: Bloomberg

1-Week Outlook – USD/ SGD Neutral

SGD depreciated slightly against the USD in trading this week, inching lower by 0.1% (prior: 0.2%) to 1.2921 from 1.2903 the week before, amidst softer than anticipated export growth for June and CPI figures for the month that were cooler than expected. Against other G10 currencies, the SGD was firmer across for the week except for against the NOK (-0.8%), while versus major regional currencies it was a mixed bag, appreciating against the THB (+0.6%) and MYR (+0.3%) but losing ground versus the KRW (-0.7%) and IDR (-0.5%). We are ***Neutral*** on USD/SGD for the week ahead, looking at a likely trading range of 1.2800 – 1.3050. The coming week brings the quarterly MAS monetary policy statement as well as the industrial production figures and unemployment rate for June.

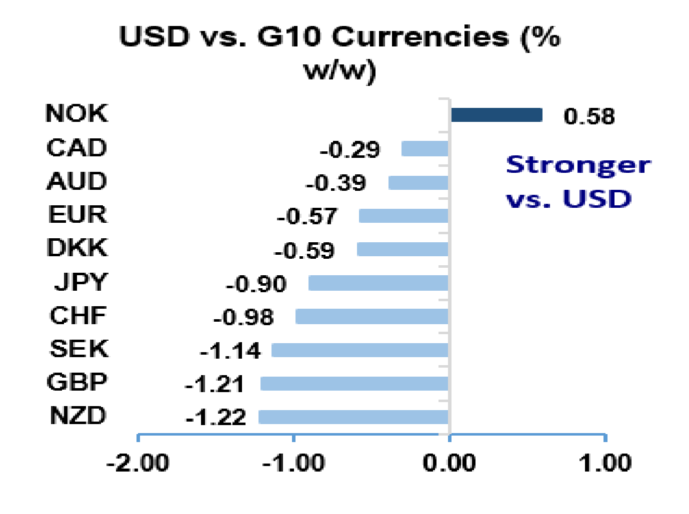
1-Month Outlook – USD/ SGD Neutral

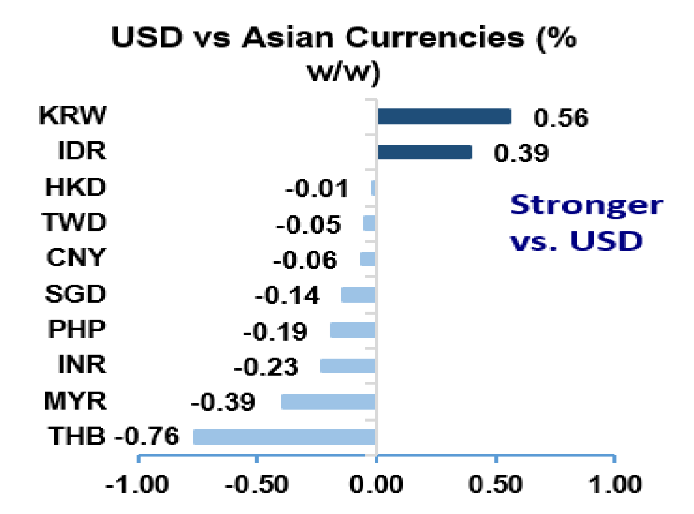
The USD/SGD one-month outlook is neutral in our view. The USD has been trading in a range as of late as the fragile interim ceasefire between the US and Iran while working towards the signing of a peace accord looks in danger of breaking down with both sides trading blows. The FOMC saw a hawkish twist in Kevin Warsh' first meeting as the new Fed Chair, with the policymakers revising their forecasts for Fed Funds higher even as they left rates unchanged, and Fed Chair Warsh re-iterated the hawkish tone during his semi-annual testimony to Congress. On the fundamental front, US economic conditions continued to remain firm, but recent inflation numbers have been softer than expected, curtailing expectations of Fed hikes for the year. On the domestic front, MAS tightened policy during the April monetary policy decision with a slight steepening of the S$NEER curve while revising their inflation forecasts higher. The advanced reading of Singapore 2Q GDP was slightly firmer than expected while the latest inflation numbers for May and export figures for June were both softer than expected.

	S2	S1	Prev. Close	R1	R2
USD/SGD	1.2801	1.2865	1.2921	1.2970	1.3033

Weekly Look Ahead

USD: The DXY advanced in trading this week, rising by 0.7% w/w (prior: -0.2%) to 101.44 from 100.71 the prior week, amidst the tensions in the Middle East escalating with Iran and the US trading daily blows and the Houthi's announcing a blockade of Saudi Arabia's ports. We are ***Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish*** on the USD for the coming week, foreseeing a possible trading range of 100.25 – 103.00 for the DXY. The week ahead looks set to be an eventful one, with the FOMC meeting to decide on policy where they are expected to leave rates on hold, and there is also quite a bit of economic data to pay attention to, with advanced 2Q GDP, the core PCE index for June, and the preliminary S&P Global US PMIs and the consumer confidence index from the Conference Board for July all set for release.





Source: Bloomberg, HL Bank

EUR: EUR lost a little ground in trading this week, depreciating by 0.6% (prior: 0.1%) against the USD to 1.1377 from 1.1442 the week before, amidst the ECB leaving policy unchanged as expected in a unanimous decision and opening the door for a potential rate hike in September with President Lagarde revealing that there were members that asked whether or not a rate hike should be considered during the meet. We are ***Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish*** on the EUR/USD for the week ahead, eyeing a probable trading range of 1.1225 – 1.1500. The coming week sees the release of the advanced Eurozone 2Q GDP growth numbers, the unemployment rate and ECB inflation expectations for June, as well as the economic confidence index and preliminary Eurozone PMIs for July.

GBP: The GBP declined against the greenback in trading this week for the first week in four, falling by 1.2% w/w (prior: 0.5% w/w) to 1.3315 from 1.3478 the prior week, amidst Andy Burnham becoming the new Prime Minister and ushering in a new cabinet while announcing several immediate measures to alleviate the cost of living. The CPI release for June was mixed, with the headline CPI coming in slightly softer than anticipated, while the core CPI and services CPI were a touch hotter than expected. We are ***Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish*** on the Cable for the coming week, looking at a likely trading range of 1.3150 – 1.3450 for the pair. The week ahead sees the release of the retail sales report and mortgage approval figures for June, with the Bank of England also due to decide on monetary policy.

JPY: The Japanese Yen depreciated against the USD in trading this week, losing ground by 0.9% (prior: 0.0%) to 163.86 from 162.39 the week before, amidst a renewed surge in oil and natural gas prices stemming from the escalation of hostilities in the Gulf and comments on the currency from Finance Minister Katayama reiterating that the Japanese government would take decisive action as needed. We are ***Slightly Bearish*** on USD/JPY for the week ahead, foreseeing a possible trading range of 160.50 – 165.00. After the national CPI figures for June came out mostly in line with expectations this morning, the coming week brings the release of the preliminary Japan PMIs for July and the department store sales figures for June as we build up towards the Bank of Japan's monetary policy decision next Friday.

AUD: AUD fell against the USD in trading for the first week in four, declining by 0.4% (prior: 0.8%) to 0.6969 from 0.6996 the prior week, amidst a better-than-expected monthly employment report for June, which saw more jobs added to the economy than anticipated even as the unemployment rate held steady. We are ***Neutral-to-Slightly Bearish*** on AUD/USD for the coming week, eyeing a probable trading range of 0.6850 – 0.7075. The week ahead sees the focus lie on the quarterly CPI figures for 2Q, with building approvals and monthly CPI for June, as well as the preliminary Australian PMIs for July all also scheduled for release. There are also scheduled comments from the RBA's Hunter and Governor Bullock during the week to take heed off.

MYR: MYR was softer against the USD in trading this week for the first week in four, losing ground by 0.4% w/w (prior: 0.1%) to 4.0890 from 4.0730 the week before, amidst advanced 2Q GDP coming out better than expected, while CPI for June unexpectedly cooled slightly and exports for the month remained firm. Against the rest of the G10, the MYR was mixed, but versus major regional currencies, the MYR was weaker across the board except against the THB (+0.3%) We remain ***Neutral-to-Slightly Bullish*** on USD/MYR for the week ahead, looking at a likely trading range of 4.0650 – 4.1250. The coming week sees little in terms of economic data releases domestically, with the focus likely to remain on the escalating situation in the Middle East.

House View and Forecasts

FX	3Q-26	4Q-26	1Q-27	2Q-27
DXY	102.28	100.86	99.42	98.07
USD/CAD	1.43	1.41	1.40	1.38
EUR/USD	1.13	1.14	1.16	1.18
GBP/USD	1.29	1.30	1.32	1.33
AUD/USD	0.68	0.70	0.71	0.72
NZD/USD	0.56	0.56	0.57	0.57
USD/JPY	162	159	155	153
USD/MYR	4.15	4.11	4.07	4.03
USD/SGD	1.31	1.30	1.28	1.27
USD/CNY	6.85	6.78	6.72	6.65

Policy Rate (%)	3Q-26	4Q-26	1Q-27	2Q-27
Fed	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75	3.50-3.75
BOC	2.25	2.25	2.50	2.50
ECB	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
BOE	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75
RBA	4.35	4.35	4.35	4.35
RBNZ	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50
BOJ	1.00	1.25	1.25	1.25
BNM	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75
MAS	Hold	Hold	Hold	Hold
PBOC	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00

2026 Central Bank Meetings/Announcements

Central Bank	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Federal Reserve (FOMC)	28		18	29		17	29		16	28		9
Bank of Canada (BOC)	28		18	29		10	15		2	28		9
European Central Bank (ECB)		5	19	30		11	23		10	29		17
Bank of England (BOE)		5	19	30		18	30		17		5	17
Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA)		3	17		5	16		11	29		3	8
Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ)		18		8	27		8		2	28		9
Bank of Japan (BOJ)	23		19	28		16	31		18	30		18
Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM)	22		5		7		9		3		5	
Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)	Jan			Apr			Jul			Oct		

Source: Bloomberg, HL Bank

General Disclaimer by the Bank

This report is for information purposes only and does not take into account the investment objectives, financial situation or particular needs of any particular recipient. The information contained in this report does not constitute the provision of investment advice and is not to be regarded as an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy with respect to the purchase or sale of any of the financial instruments mentioned in this report and/or to participate in any trading strategy. This report will not form the basis or a part of any contract or commitment whatsoever.

The information contained in this publication is derived from data obtained from sources believed by HL Bank to be reliable and in good faith, but no warranties or guarantees, representations are made by HL Bank with regard to the accuracy, completeness, correctness or suitability of the data. Any opinions expressed reflect the current judgment of the authors of the report and do not necessarily represent the opinion of HL Bank or any of the companies within the Hong Leong Bank Group ("HLB Group"). The opinions reflected in this report may change without notice and the opinions do not necessarily correspond to the opinions of HL Bank. HL Bank does not have an obligation to amend, modify or update this report or to otherwise notify a reader or recipient in the event that any matter stated in this report, or any opinion, projection, forecast, valuation or estimate in this report, changes or subsequently becomes inaccurate. The information contained in this report may be incomplete, condensed and it may not contain all material information concerning the company or currency referred to in this report.

HLB Group, their directors, employees and representatives do not have any responsibility or liability to any person or recipient (whether by reason of negligence, negligent misstatement or otherwise) arising from any statement, opinion or information, expressed or implied, arising out of, contained in or derived from or omission from the reports or matter nor will any liability be accepted for any loss whatsoever that may arise from any use and/or reliance on this report. HL Bank may, to the extent permitted by law, buy, sell or hold significantly long or short positions; act as investment and/or commercial bankers; be represented on the board of the issuers; and/or engage in 'market making' of securities or currencies mentioned in this report. The past performance of financial instruments is not indicative of future results. The value of and the income that is produced by the financial instruments mentioned in this report may fluctuate so that an investor may get back less than originally invested. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that statements of facts made in this report are accurate, all estimates, projections, forecasts, expressions of opinion and other subjective judgments contained in this report are based on assumptions considered to be reasonable as of the date of the document in which they are contained and must not be construed as a representation that the matters referred to therein will occur. Any projections or forecasts mentioned in this report may not be achieved due to multiple risk factors including without limitation market volatility, sector volatility, corporate actions, the unavailability of complete and accurate information. No assurance can be given that any opinion described in this report would yield favourable investment results. Recipients should seek the advice of their independent financial advisor before taking any investment decision based on any recommendations that may be contained in this report. Any recommendation that may be contained in this report does not consider the specific investment objectives, financial situation, suitability and the particular needs of a particular customer. This report is for the information of the addressee only and is not to be taken in substitution for the exercise of judgment by the addressee who should obtain separate independent legal or financial advice.

Past performance does not always indicate future performance or future results. The value of any investment or income from any investment may go up as well as down. All investments involve an element of risk including the potential to lose the entire amount that is invested.

HL Bank may provide hyperlinks to websites of entities mentioned in this report; however, the inclusion of a link does not imply that HL Bank endorses, recommends or approves any material on the linked page or accessible from it. Such linked websites are accessed entirely at your own risk. HL Bank does not accept responsibility whatsoever for any such material, nor for consequences of its use.

This report is not directed to, or intended for distribution to or use by, any person or entity who is a citizen or resident of or located in any state, country or other jurisdiction where such distribution, publication, availability or use would be contrary to law or regulation. This report is for the use of the addressees only and may not be redistributed, reproduced, copied, duplicated or passed on to any other person or published, in part or in whole, for any purpose, without the prior, written consent of HL Bank. The manner of distributing this report may be restricted by law or regulation in certain countries. Persons into whose possession this report may come are required to inform themselves about and to observe such restrictions. By accepting this report, a recipient agrees to be bound by all limitations contained in this report.

This report is being distributed in Singapore by HL Bank (Company registration number S56FC1182L) to Accredited Investors, Expert Investors or Institutional Investors, as defined in the Securities and Futures Act (Chapter 289 of Singapore). HL Bank is an Exempt Financial Adviser, as defined in the Financial Advisers Act (Chapter 110 of Singapore), and regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. HL Bank is a branch of Hong Leong Bank Berhad, a limited liability company incorporated in Malaysia. HL Bank holds a full bank license in Singapore. Hong Leong Bank Berhad is also a member of the Hong Leong Group Malaysia.