

Bond Market Insight

Yield curve mostly unchanged

Comment on government bond placement

Again concentrated on 3-month bonds, with the cut-off rate last week increased to 17.50%, demand was at the highest level of the yield curve at yesterday's primary auction. Most budget proceeds came from 12-month and 2-year maturities.

Per routine over the recent weeks, the MoF limited the offerings to UAH500m for the 3-month and 6-month bonds. It accepted 10 out of 11 bids for the 3-month bond but only half of the demand at par value. Interest rates for 3-month bonds came in at 17.30-18.00%, from which the MoF rejected only one bid at the highest rate as it accepted the full amount at interest rates below the cut-off rate of 17.50%. It accepted partial bids of the cut-off rate until it hit the limit of UAH500m.

Table 1. Details of domestic government bonds placed at the auction (UAHbn)

ISIN	Coupon rate (%)	Pay- ment freq ¹	Maturity	Qty of bonds sold	Price (UAH)	Pro- ceeds² (UAHm)	Volume² (UAHm)	YTM³ (%)	Out- standing (m) ⁴
UA4000200653	0.00	@Mty	6-Jun-18	500,000	961.42	480.71	500.00	17.44	684.45
UA4000200661	0.00	@Mty	5-Sep-18	92,589	924.64	85.61	92.59	17.00	236.84
UA4000200604	0.00	@Mty	28-Nov-18	11,000	892.36	9.82	11.00	17.00	469.60
UA4000197081	15.09	SA	6-Mar-19	237,393	986.18	234.11	237.39	17.77	1,128.16
UA4000196620	15.74	SA	15-Jan-20	265,000	1,018.01	269.77	265.00	16.80	2,932.87
Total UAH				1,105,982		1,080.02	1,105.98		5,451.92

Note: [1] payment frequency abbreviations: M - monthly, Qtly - quarterly, SA - semi-annually, @Mty - at maturity date; [2] proceeds and volumes for the USD-denominated bonds are calculated based on the previous day's exchange rate 27.82/USD, 32.26/EUR; [3] yields on coupon-bearing bonds are effective yields to maturity. Sources: Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, Bloomberg, ICU,

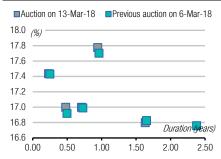
For other bonds, demand was much lower. The MoF accepted only partial demand at interest rates no higher than last week's cut-off rates. For bonds with maturity from six to 12 months, the cut-off and weighted-average rates were set at 17.00%. While the MoF accepted all bids in full at this rate for the 12-month bond, it rejected most demand for 6-month and 9-month bonds at this rate.

Only for the 2-year bond did the MoF decrease the cost of funds. Receiving two competitive bids at 16.10% and 17.00%, the MoF accepted one at the lowest rate and also accepted a non-competitive bid which fulfill 90% of demand.

The MoF rejected UAH0.50bn of possible budget financing to maintain last week's yield curve. Considering the new interest rates in these bids, this decision was a bit late. Had this occurred last week, the yield curve could have been locked with the new key policy rate.

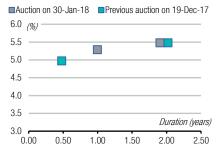
WEDNESDAY, 14 MARCH 2018

UAH-denominated domestic gov't bonds: yield curve in past two auctions



Source: Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, ICU.

USD-denominated domestic gov't bonds: yield curve in past two auctions

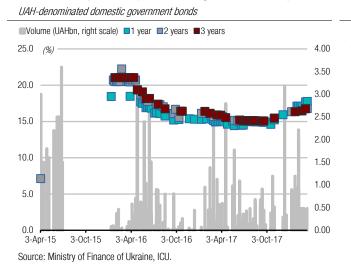


Source: Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, ICU



Appendix: Yields-to-maturity, repayments

Chart 1. Three-year history of domestic government bond placements at primary market: proceeds (in billions) and yields-to-maturity (%)



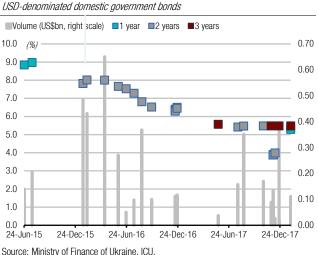
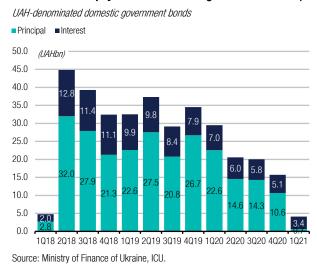


Chart 2. Future repayments on domestic government bonds (in billions of currency)



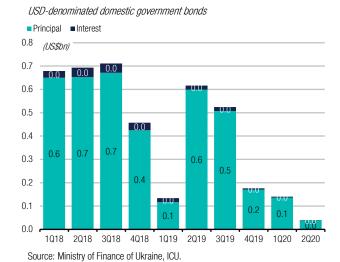
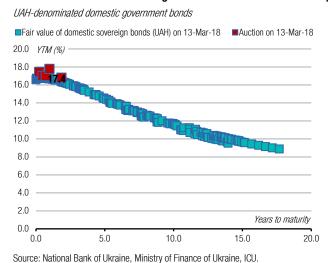
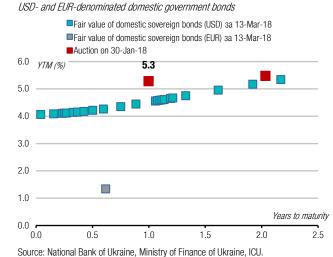


Chart 3. Fair value of domestic government bonds as calculated by NBU versus placements via primary market auctions







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