

# **EM Alpha**

# **Indonesia – Close long IndoGB 5y**

### Close long IndoGB 5y

We close our recommendation for long IndoGB 5y (FR101 series) on FX-unhedged basis (entry 6.64%, current yield 6.50%, entry FX spot 15,495, current FX spot 15,572, target 6.1%, stop 7.0%) (see report <u>Asia FI & FX Strategy Viewpoint: Asia Year Ahead 2024 – A break out year 21 November 2023</u>). Yields have rallied 14bps since the entry but weakness in FX spot has offset part of the duration gains and carry from bonds.

We close the trade as expectations for BI's rate cut cycle have been pushed back towards mid-year, due to uncertainty on the commencement of Fed rate-cutting cycle (see report Indonesia Watch: BI Review: Holding on 21 February 2024). Uncertainty on USD outlook and pressure on IDR would mean that BI maintains higher rates on openmarket operations and SRBI issuance in the near-term, which would limit the room for bond yields to move lower. That has weighed on debt flows over the last couple of months as the market reduced long positioning while waiting for more clarity on the key appointments in the new government.

We expect bonds to stay range-bound until 2Q as the market awaits clarity on BI's ratecutting cycle and further details on the fiscal deficit trajectory under the new government. With the curve being flat, we see more value in 5y IndoGBs as front-end yields have room to move lower on easing expectations and premium reduction in bill yields spread over the policy rate. However, the triggers for that move are unlikely to materialize over the next couple of months.

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GEM FI & FX Strategy Emerging Markets Global

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For a list of our open trades and those closed over the last 12 months, please see <u>Global Emerging Markets</u>
<u>Weekly: EM is dead – long live EM!</u>
07 March 2024

### Glossary

BI: Bank Indonesia

BoP: Balance of payments

IDR: Indonesian Rupiah

IndoGB: Indonesia local currency

government bonds

NDF: Non-deliverable forward

NEER: Nominal effective exchange rate

REER: Real effective exchange rate

SRBI: Bank Indonesia Rupiah Securities

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