

# **Fixed Income Outlook**

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## **Fault Lines in Euro Zone**

#### The Greek Tragedy

- Made in Athens. Endured by the world
- 17<sup>th</sup> June election is a *critical* Milestone
- Germany continues to hold its view on austerity
- Too many cooks spoil the...
  - Syriza hard left coalition
    - Pro EU Membership but Anti Austerity
  - New Democracy
    - Pro EU Membership
  - Pasok
    - Pro Bailout
- Prolonged political instability increases the probability of Grexit.

# **Euro Zone Borrowing Costs and Credit Spreads**

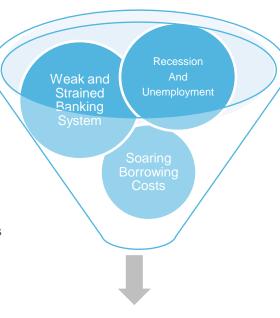




## **Fault Lines in Euro Zone**

#### The Pain in Spain is not so Plain

- It is more of a Banking System Crisis that has not yet become a broad based Sovereign Crisis
- Domestic leverage and property bubble (facilitated by banks) has lead Spain's total debt at 90% of GDP
- Brussels and Berlin need to give some breathing room to Spain
  - Think more about bank cleanup less about austerity
- Is there a solution?
  - European Funds (ESM, EFSF, IMF, EU Commission) should collectively put money in the Spanish banks
  - This ends the vicious spiral between weakening banks and faltering public finances
- It only sounds simple...
  - High and mighty political hurdles
    - Requires approvals from national parliaments
    - Germany holds a 'philosophical' argument against bank strengthening



3 Notch Downgrade to BBB



# **Global Outlook**

#### In Summary..

- Spain's problems are relatively contained within its banking system
- Spain will likely not seek an international bailout like those of Greece, Ireland and Portugal
- Safe Haven bonds (Germany, Switzerland, Holland. US) will continue to rally until volatility subsides
- Greece exit is likely but will not happen immediately and that will keep the volatility alive
- China is visibly slowing down evident from fresh round of stimulus and bias towards easy credit
- Slowing aggregate global demand is likely to keep Oil prices tamed
- Coordinated central bank Quantitative Easing is around the corner
- Volatility is here to stay



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- I. Inflation is sticky and stubborn
- II. Fiscal Deficit is troublesome
- III. Current account deficit is all time high at north of 4% of GDP
- IV. Currency has depreciated
- V. Growth is faltering
- VI. Government inaction on reforms

Are things really that murky from an investor's point of view?

We don't think so.

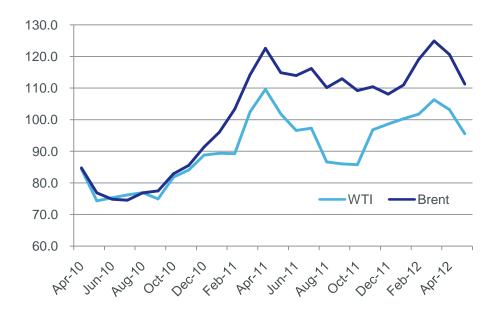


#### I. Inflation is sticky and stubborn

- Against the backdrop of slowdown in growth, inflation can not become a serious threat
- Oil prices are receding
- II. Monsoon unlikely to disappoint
- III. Global food prices are trending down

#### II. Liquidity conditions are tight

- I. OMOs have kept liquidity closer to RBI's comfort zone
- II. RBI intervention in currency market is diminishing



#### III. Twin deficits are troublesome

- I. FII flows have been resilient so far (\$12.8 Billion YTD) adequately funding CAD
- II. Much awaited diesel price hike anticipated by end of June helps largest component of subsidies (Every 10\$ barrel helps 0.3% of GDP in subsidy)
- III. Again, declining oil prices (around \$99/barrel Brent) could come to rescue for both, Current Account Deficit and Fiscal Deficit
- IV. India's non-oil import (70% of total imports) is expected to decelerate to single digits in FY13 from 24% y-o-y last year



#### IV. Currency has depreciated

- I. INR has weakened almost 20% against the USD and 15% in nominal effective exchange rate (NEER) in nearly 1Y
- II. World can rely on Fed to talk USD down as QE3 morphs into reality
- III. In absence of a major risk aversion scenario, INR exhibits a strengthening bias in medium term

#### V. Growth is faltering

- I. Manufacturing growth holding steady, while services have picked up pace
- II. Domestic consumption driven economy is somewhat insulated from weak global demand

#### VI. Government inaction on reforms

- I. The government is now more likely to kick start its fiscal reform process
- II. This should provide a much needed impetus to financial markets

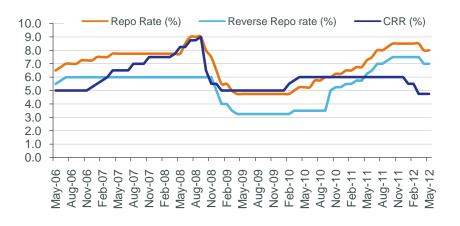
The resurgence of the euro area crisis and severe *risk off* scenario poses downside risk to our view.



#### So where does it leave domestic markets?

- Market participants are less pessimistic across the board
- RBI is likely to step on the gas with rates easing
- We expect additional 50-75 bps rate cuts this year
- Now is the time to add duration in a gradual manner
  without sacrificing liquidity
- Credit spreads could widen from current levels though
- Road is likely to be bumpy along the way.







## **Disclaimers**

# Mutual Fund Investments are subject to market risk, read all scheme related documents carefully

The views expressed are as of June 11, 2012 and may change as subsequent conditions vary.

This presentation shall not constitute any offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy units of any of the Schemes of the DSP BlackRock Mutual Fund.

