

# **GPF's approaches in Asset Allocation & 2025 Investment Outlook**

**2025 Krungsri Business Exclusive Talk**

**15 March 2025**

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# Agenda

## I) GPF's Asset allocation framework

- SAA Risk / return objectives & Capital market assumptions
- TAA Alpha generations

## II) Currency management

- Framework & Benchmarking
- Hedged or Unhedged?

## III) 2025 Investment Outlook

- Landing scenarios
- How we position accordingly?



# SAA Framework



# GPF's Asset Allocation Framework

Time Horizon	Objectives and actions	Approach	Governance structure	Considerations
<b>SAA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To deliver a sustainable long-term return at a given risk level</li> <li>A return target is CPI-base and is derived by replacement rate and Minimum lump sum of members</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mean-Variance Optimization (MVO)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board of Directors to approve SAA</li> <li>Risk, Research and Investment strategy teams to propose</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member profiles</li> <li>Long-term growth &amp; inflation</li> <li>Risk/return profiles, VaR, Max. drawdown</li> </ul>
<b>MTAA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To add additional return over SAA</li> <li>Economic scenarios (expansion/compression) leads to volatilities and that presents opportunities in medium-term</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MVO + Risk budget</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved by IC</li> <li>TAA requires different skill set and is often covered by another team</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic regimes</li> <li>Monetary policy shift</li> <li>Market equilibrium</li> </ul>
<b>TAA / DAA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To hedge downside or to lever up risks arisen from particular events</li> <li>To benefit from price dislocations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trade sizing</li> <li>RV / Correlation trades</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GPF</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liquidity</li> <li>Policy responses</li> <li>Volatilities</li> <li>Price equilibrium</li> </ul>

- SAA is passive & no view. It shall contribute 80-90% to long-term return target
- TAA aims at generating Alpha (excess return) over that of SAA or Reference portfolio

# Construction of SAA : Risk/Return objectives & Capital market assumptions

## Member Centric

Replacement Rate > 80%

Minimum Lump Sum > P70

Risk appetite

Risk / return objectives

## Investment themes & Demography

- Low Potential Economic Growth
- Higher long-term inflation
- High liquidity in financial system
- Rising Geopolitical risk

Long-term Inflation at 2.0%

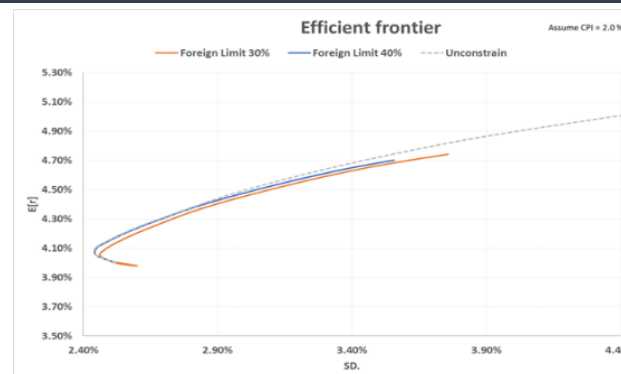
Capital Market Assumptions

Optimization

SAA

## Observations

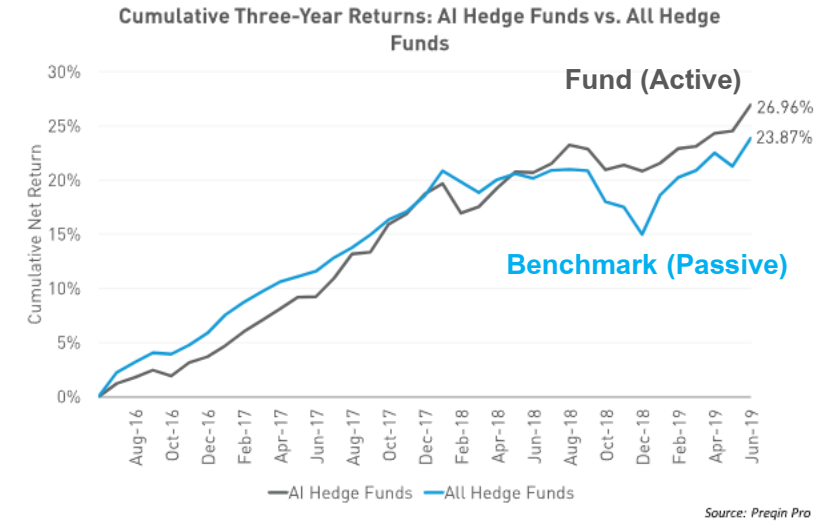
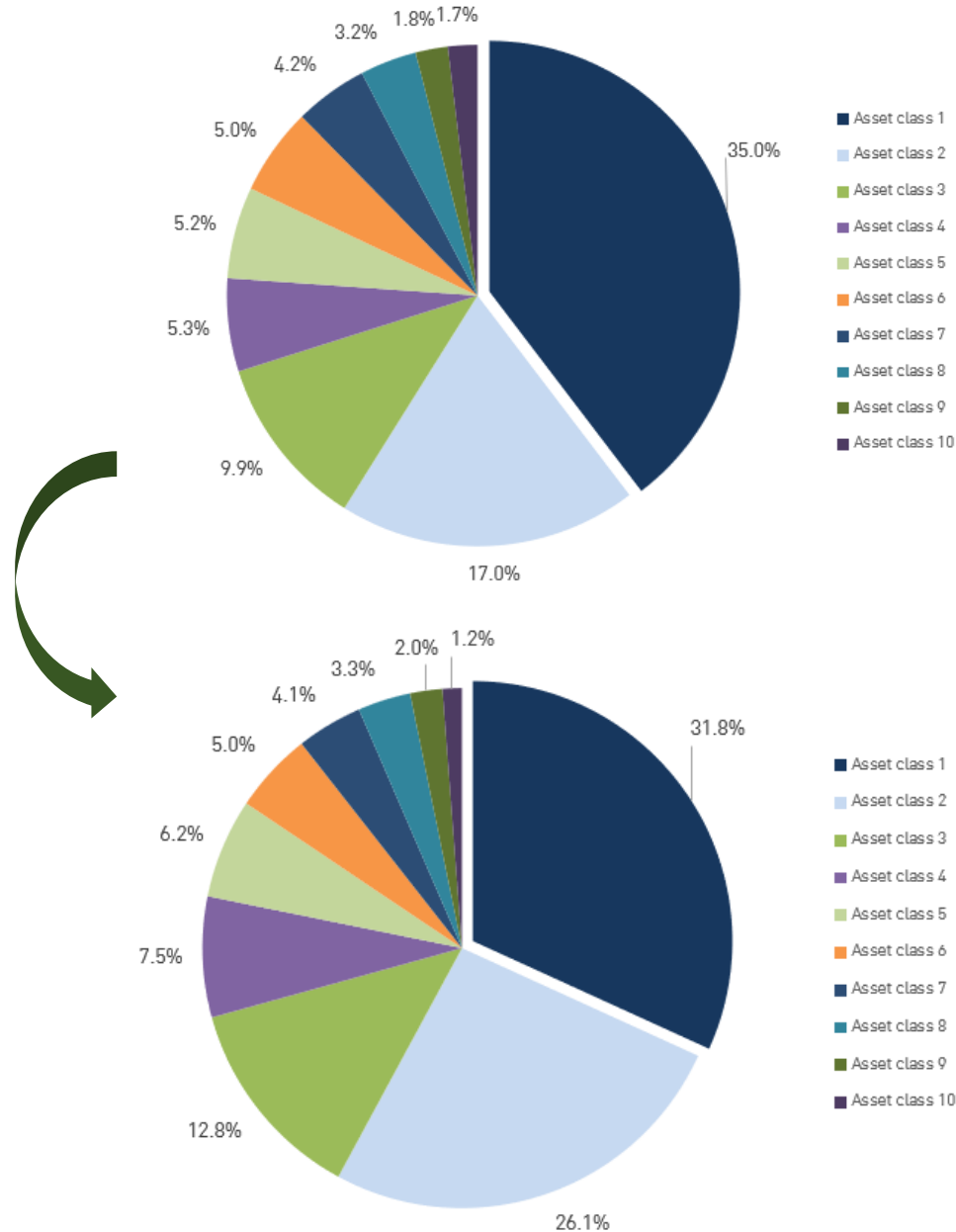
- SAAs are designed to provide an attractive return-risk trade-off **over the next full economic cycle**. They are constructed from optimizing asset class's equilibrium returns, risk and correlation matrix.
- Drivers behind SAA changes stem from **significant evolution of global economic and policy environment** in responds to specific occurrences.
- Incidents believed to be shorter than one economic cycle can be tackled or responded by TAA.



# Active / Passive ALLOCATION

vs

# Active / Passive SELECTION



# GPF's Investment Management Structure

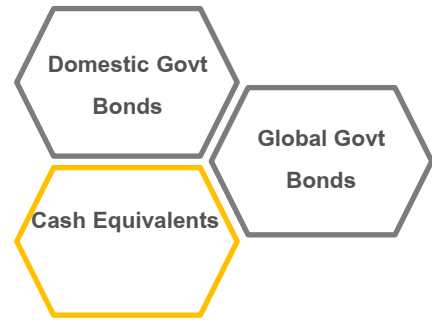
## GPF's key limits

- Safety assets  $\geq 60\%$
- Offshore limits  $\leq 60\%$

Asset class	Insourcing		Outsourcing	
	Allocation	Internal Team	Allocation	No.of mgrs
Inv. Strategy	N/A	3		
THB bonds	25-35%	2*		
Thai equities	5%	2*		
Global Govy + Ccy	8-10%	3		
DM equities			7-15%	5
EM equities			5%	4
Global credits			10-15%	4
EM Debts			5%	3
ARF			5%	5
Private markets			20%	3+3



# Asset classes and their roles



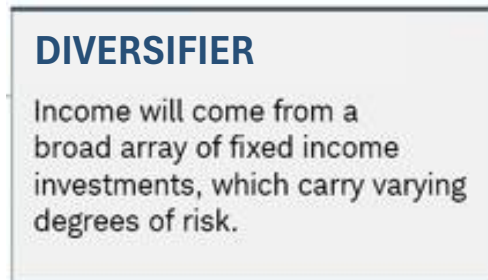
## SAFETY

Defensive assets generally have low correlations—don't move in tandem—with equities. They tend to perform well when there is downward pressure on equities.



## GROWTH

Growth will come primarily from equities, which have historically delivered the highest returns, with a correspondingly higher risk.



## INFLATION PROTECTION

Inflation protection is the ability to minimize the corrosive impact of inflation on the value of your investments. It can come from commodities and inflation-protected bonds.



- Bonds
- Private markets
- Commodities
- Equities
- Unconstrained
- Credits

## GPF's Philosophy and Styles

- We believe in active Asset Allocation and active Selection Strategies.

## EM

- EM are inefficient, alphas can be sought from security selections and arbitrage.
- Fundamental quants have become a trend as they can leverage from their analytics to digest news feeds and apply across a stock universe.

## DM assets

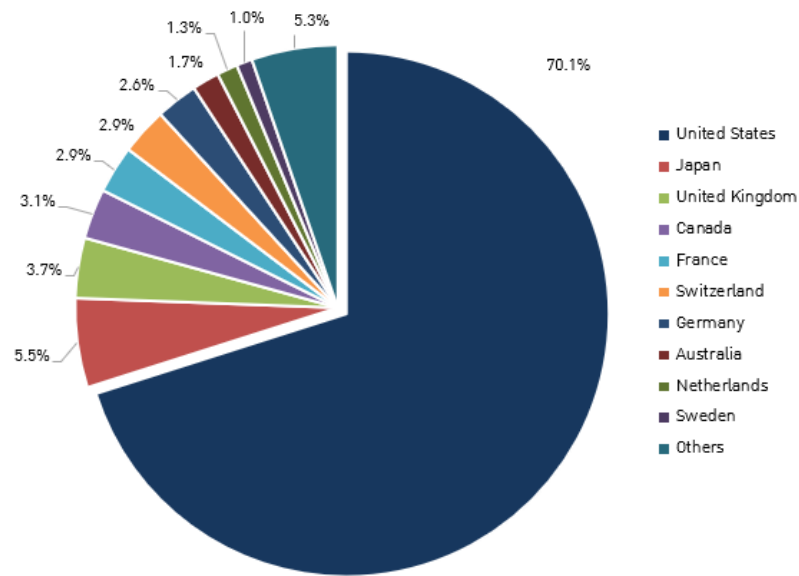
- Though markets are very efficient, top-tier managers can deliver decent 250-350bp alphas over long run.
- Asset owners can expect 80% of total alpha from security selection.

## Currencies

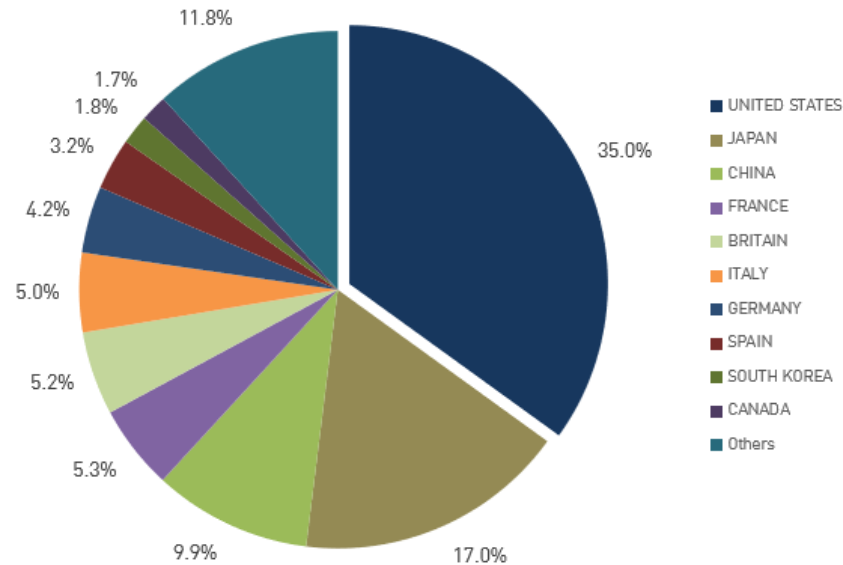
- In long term, we look at Currency as an asset class that helps lower risk of our portfolio. Yet, in shorter-run, it presents opportunities to increase return.

# Asset classes and Benchmarking

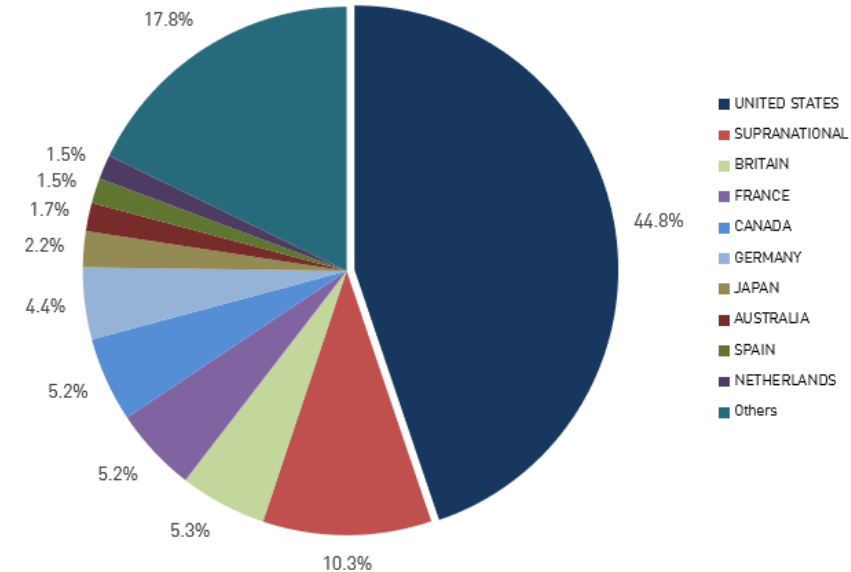
MSCI World Equity Index



Bloomberg Global Agg. Treasuries



Bloomberg Global Agg. Credits



No.	Name	Weight
1	Technology	27.7%
2	Financials	14.5%
3	Consumer Discretionary	13.8%
4	Industrials	13.7%
5	Health Care	10.9%
6	Consumer Staples	5.3%
7	Energy	4.0%
8	Utilities	2.9%
9	Basic Materials	2.6%
10	Telecommunications	2.5%
11	Others	2.2%
Total		100.0%

## Policies & Risk framework

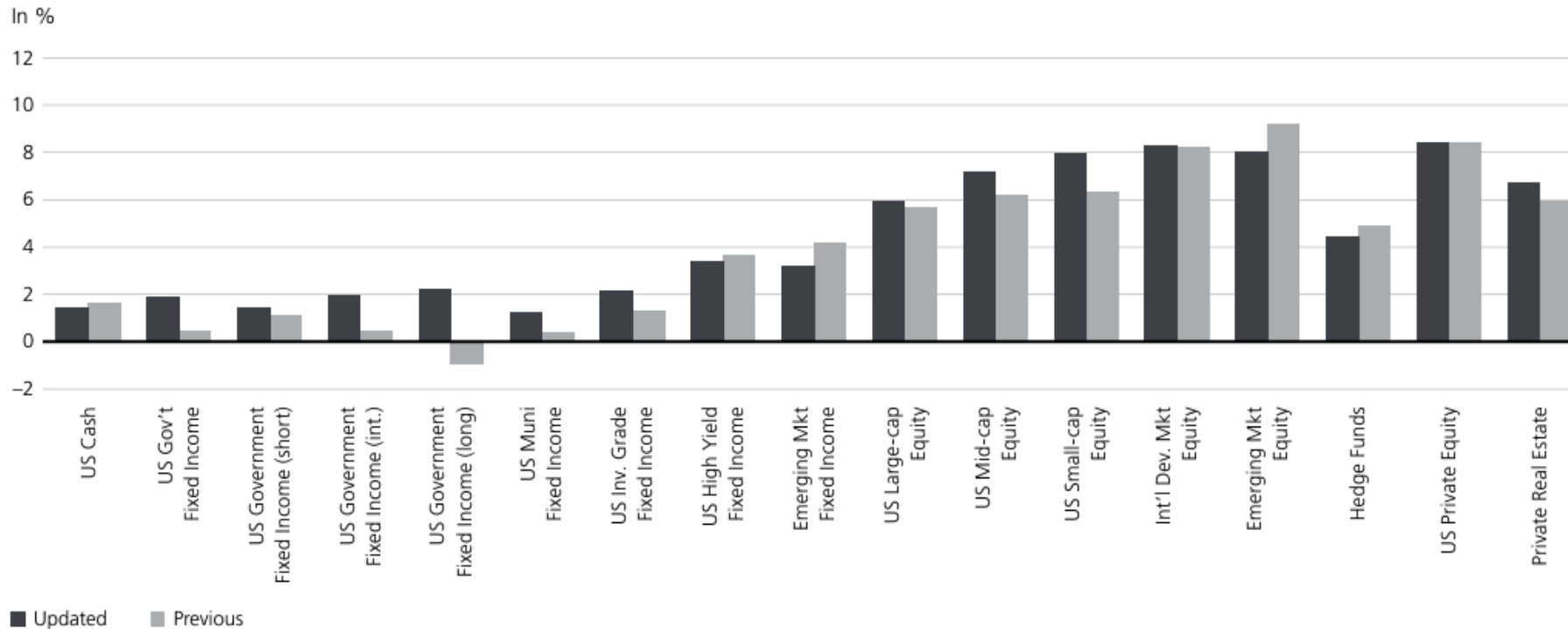
- Concept : Asset owner vs Asset manager
- Style : Active / Passive ALLOCATION vs Active / Passive SELECTION
- Good portfolio managers deliver consistent return and alphas over the long-run
- Setting tracking error limit controls active risk and drawdown

No.	Sector	Weight
1	Banking	20.1%
2	Supranational	10.4%
3	Consumer Non-Cyclical	10.1%
4	Consumer Cyclical	5.9%
5	Electric	5.5%
6	Communications	5.3%
7	Sovereign	5.0%
8	Technology	4.9%
9	Insurance	4.7%
10	Energy	4.6%
11	Others	23.5%
Total		100.0%

# Capital Market Assumptions

Fig. 5

## 2022 vs. 2020 Strategic Arithmetic Return CMAs



Source: UBS WM-USA Asset Allocation Committee, as of 21 March 2022

## Snapshots

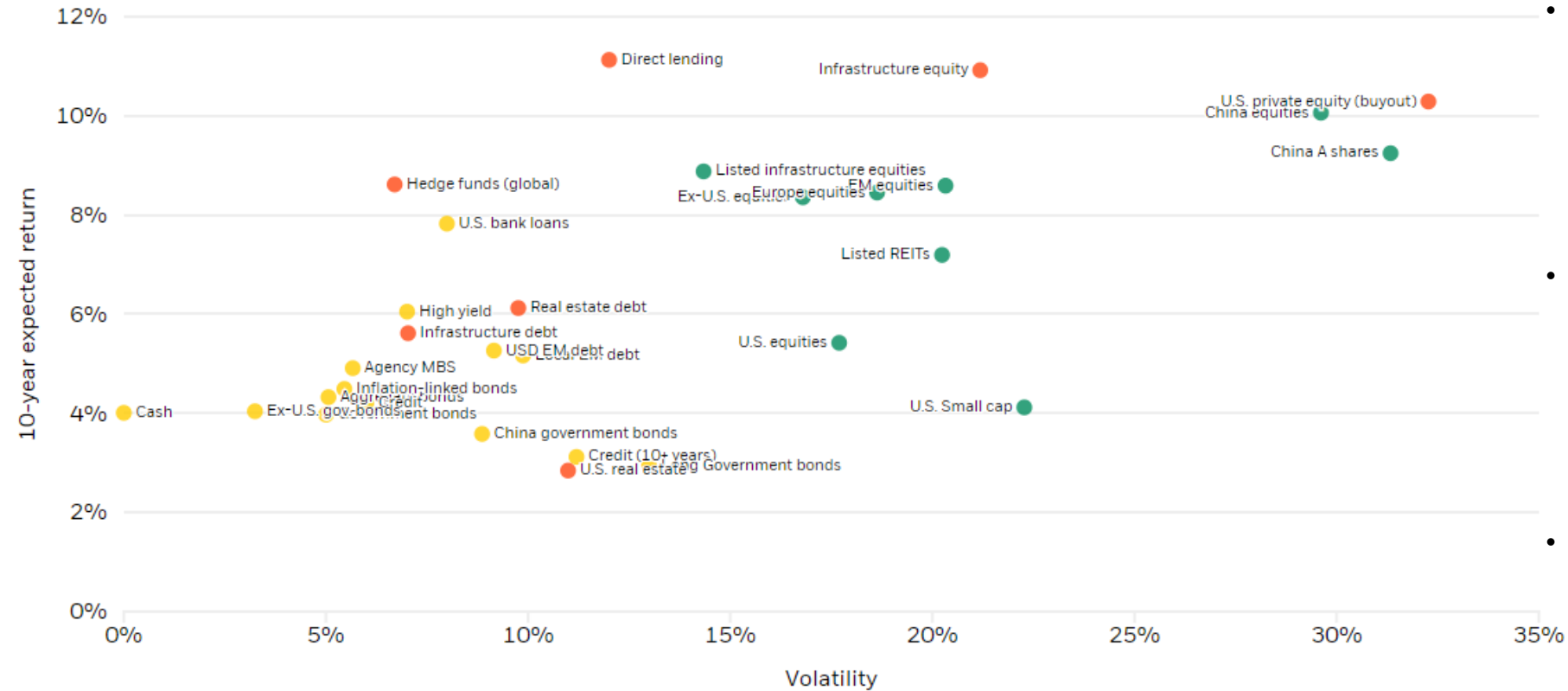
- The [increase in fixed income returns](#) stems from the [higher Treasury yields](#) now versus their level in 2020 when the pandemic began — they're over 100bps higher across the entire Treasury curve.
- The strategic expected US equity arithmetic returns increase by 30-40bps for large-cap stocks, and between 1-1.5% for mid- and small-cap equities.

# Capital Market Assumptions

## Asset return and volatility expectations

USD ▾

Select to show/hide ● Equities ● Fixed income ● Private markets



Source: BlackRock Investment Institute, May 2024. Data as of 28 March 2024.

This information is not intended as a recommendation to invest in any particular asset class or strategy or as a promise - or even estimate - of future performance.

### Notes:

- Return assumptions are **total nominal returns**. Our CMAs generate market, or beta, geometric return expectations. Asset return expectations are gross of fees.
- We use **long-term volatility assumptions**. We break down each asset class into factor exposures and analyze those factors' historical volatilities and correlations over the past 20 years.
- We **combine the historical volatilities with the current factor makeup of each asset class to arrive at our forward-looking assumptions**. This approach takes into account how asset classes evolve over time.
- Some fixed income indices are of shorter or longer duration than they were in the past. **Our forward-looking assumptions** reflect these changes, whereas a volatility calculation based only on historical monthly index returns would fail to capture the shifts.

# Asset Classes and Asset Roles

No.	Asset Classes	SAA	MTAA 2023	Port as of 31-Mar-23	Active Weight
<b>Asset classifications</b>		<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	
1	<b>Bonds</b>	<b>65.10%</b>	64.60%	63.50%	-1.00%
2	<b>Stocks (Risky Assets)</b>	<b>15.50%</b>	14.50%	13.60%	-0.90%
3	<b>Alternatives (Liquid)</b>	<b>2.00%</b>	2.50%	3.80%	1.30%
4	<b>Alternatives (Private)</b>	<b>17.40%</b>	18.50%	19.10%	0.70%
<b>Bonds</b>		<b>65.10%</b>	<b>64.60%</b>	<b>63.50%</b>	
1	<b>Short Term Bond (STB)</b>	<b>4.10%</b>	2.60%	4.00%	1.40%
2	<b>Thai Government Bond (TGB)</b>	<b>17.00%</b>	15.00%	14.10%	-0.90%
3	<b>Thai Credit Bond (TCB)</b>	<b>18.00%</b>	17.50%	16.90%	-0.60%
4	<b>Global Government Bond (GGB)</b>	<b>3.00%</b>	13.00%	9.70%	-3.30%
5	<b>Global Credit Bond (GCB)</b>	<b>21.00%</b>	14.00%	16.10%	2.10%
6	<b>Inflation Linked Bond (ILB)</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	0.50%	0.30%	-0.20%
7	<b>Emerging Market Bond (EMB)</b>	<b>2.00%</b>	2.80%	2.50%	0.50%
<b>Stocks (Risky Assets)</b>		<b>17.50%</b>	<b>17.00%</b>	<b>17.40%</b>	
8	<b>Thai Equity (TEQ)</b>	<b>4.50%</b>	4.00%	2.60%	-1.40%
9	<b>Developed Market Equity (DMEQ)</b>	<b>7.50%</b>	7.50%	7.80%	0.30%
10	<b>Emerging Market Equity (EMEQ)</b>	<b>3.50%</b>	3.00%	3.20%	0.20%
11	<b>Absolute Return Funds (ARFs)</b>	<b>2.00%</b>	1.50%	2.50%	1.00%
12	<b>Commodity (CMDY)</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	1.00%	1.30%	0.30%
<b>Alternatives (Private Assets)</b>		<b>17.40%</b>	<b>18.50%</b>	<b>19.10%</b>	
13	<b>Thai Real Estate (TRE)</b>	<b>3.70%</b>	4.00%	4.10%	0.10%
14	<b>Thai REITs (TREIT)</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
15	<b>Global Real Estate (GRE)</b>	<b>4.50%</b>	5.00%	5.30%	0.30%
16	<b>Global Infastructure (GIF)</b>	<b>4.50%</b>	4.80%	4.90%	0.10%
17	<b>Regional Private Equity (RPE)</b>	<b>1.30%</b>	1.30%	0.80%	-0.50%
18	<b>Global Private Equity (GPE)</b>	<b>3.40%</b>	3.40%	4.10%	0.70%
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	

## GPF's key limits

- Safety assets  $\geq 60\%$
- Offshore limits  $\leq 60\%$

## Rationales

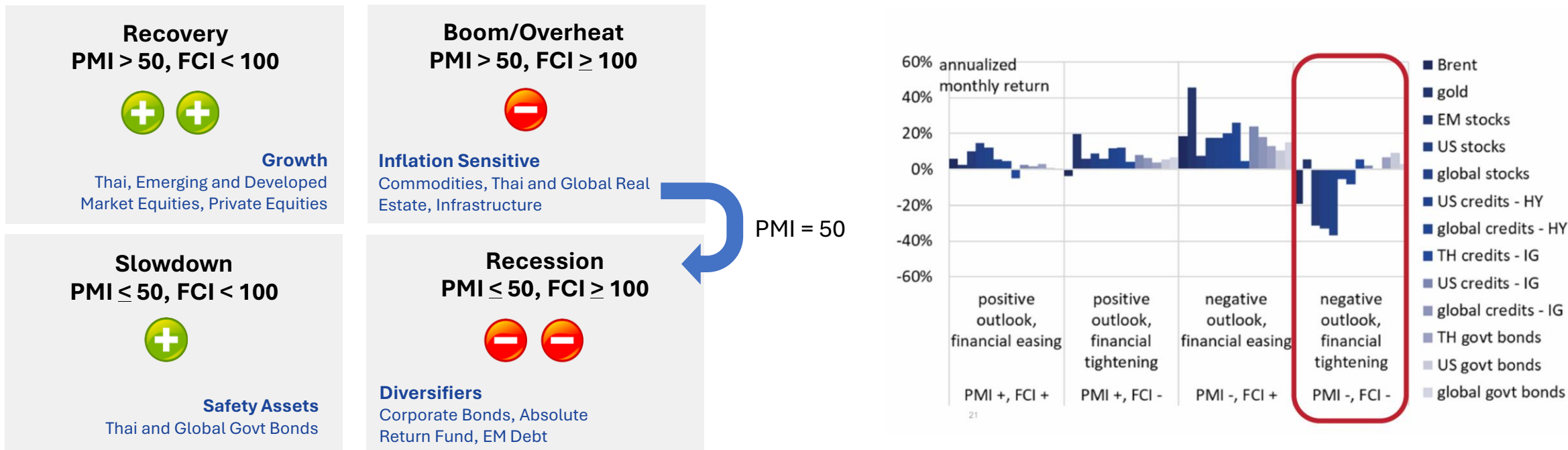
- SAA was last revised during Covid-19 when connectedness across key asset classes were largely affected
- Equity and USD indices are the primary transmitters of shocks before the outbreak, whereas the bond index becomes the main transmitters of shocks during the COVID-19 outbreak. However, the USD index is a net receiver of shocks to other assets during the outbreak period

# MTAA / TAA Framework



# MTAA : Asset regime navigator

GS Financial Condition Index = 100



- Economic regime is often expressed in terms of GDP vs CPI relationship. How far the current state deviates from its equilibrium (SAA) is where we shall exercise MTAA.
- A relationship between PMI and FCI was also explored to determine whether the economy is advancing or slowing, thus indicates what assets shall perform.



## Economic scenarios - Growth/rates matrix

Uncertainty with regards to the possibility of a recession and where inflation will bottom out remain high, but the probability of a prolonged recession has fallen

- Despite higher interest rates, growth of around 3% over the next 5 years as healthy household and corporate balance sheets allow to overcome any slow down
- Inflation remains well above target despite further Fed tightening.
- Equity better than fixed income
- Inflation remains very high at around 6% on average as a wage-price spiral pushes up costs for corporates that are forced to increase prices to maintain profitability.
- Stock-bond correlation turns positive impacting diversified portfolios negatively

Higher rates

### Growth & Inflation: High growth and high inflation

**US Inflation:** 6.0% in 5 years  
**Cash Rate:** 7.5% in 5 years  
**US 10-yr Yield:** 7.7 % in 5 years  
**US EPS Growth:** 2.7% (5-yr average)

### Stagflation: Low growth and high Inflation

**US Inflation:** 6.0% in 5 years  
**Cash Rate:** 7.2% in 5 years  
**US 10-yr Yield:** 6.7% in 5 years  
**US EPS Growth:** -2.8% (5-yr average)

## Higher growth

### Soft(ish) landing & return to moderate growth

**US Inflation:** 2.3% in 5 years  
**Cash Rate:** 3.7% in 5 years  
**US 10-yr Yield:** 4.2% in 5 years  
**US EPS Growth:** 2.9% (5-yr average)

### Recession: Extended period of low growth and low rates

**US Inflation:** 1.5% in 5 years  
**Cash Rate:** 2.0% in 5 years  
**US 10-yr Yield:** 1.5% in 5 years  
**US EPS Growth:** -4.9% (5-yr average)

## Lower growth

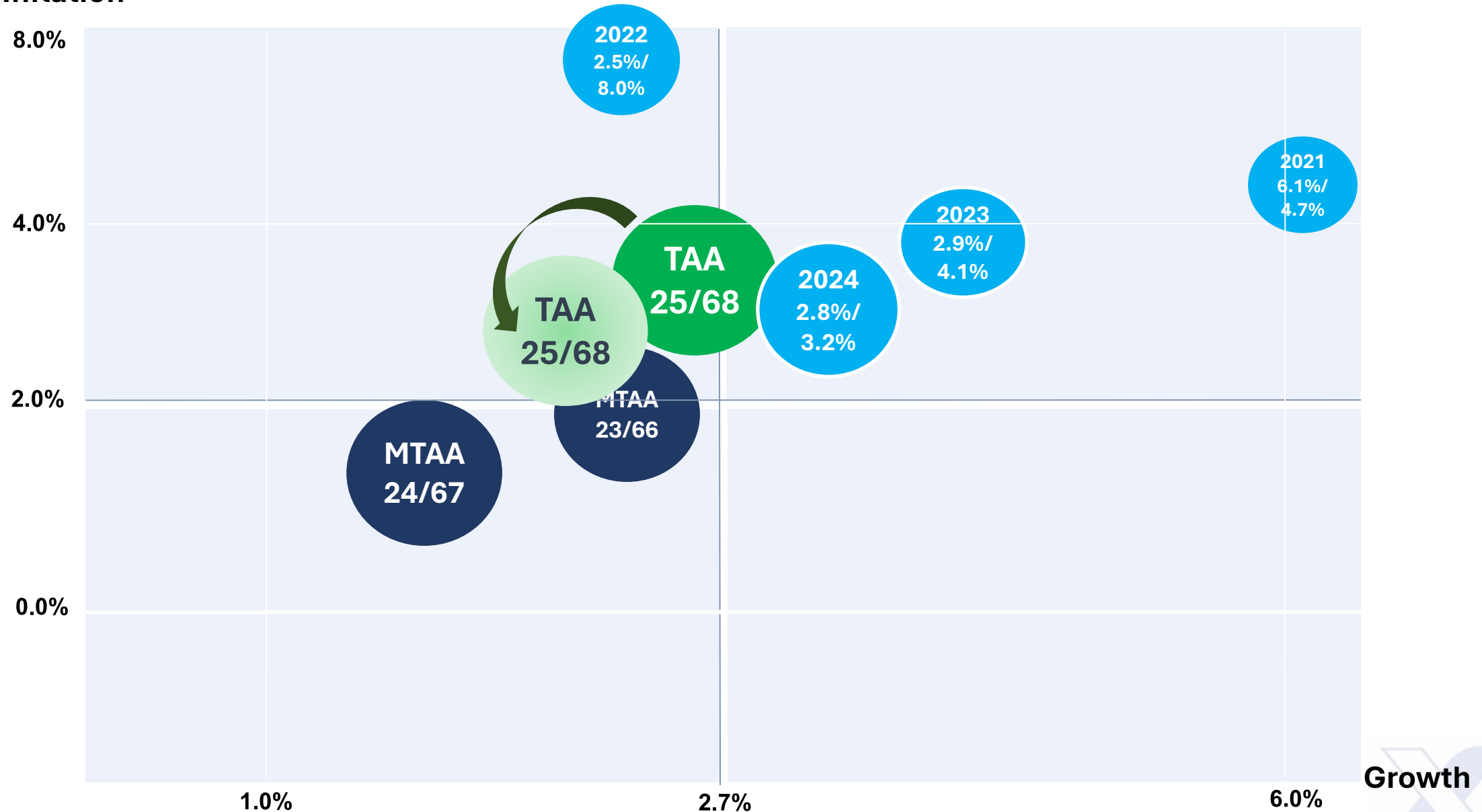
Lower rates

- The FED is able to achieve a soft landing and growth trends towards 2.5%, below the long-term average growth rate
- Inflation continues falling in 2024 but will remain slightly above target
- Real rates stay positive
- The Fed is forced to push the US into recession to put inflation under control. Unemployment rate rises significantly from historical lows. Growth remains well below potential in this scenario.
- High volatility for risky assets
- Negative stock-bond correlation protects diversified portfolios



# Uncertainties from monetary policies & Geo-politics → The needs for TAA

## Inflation

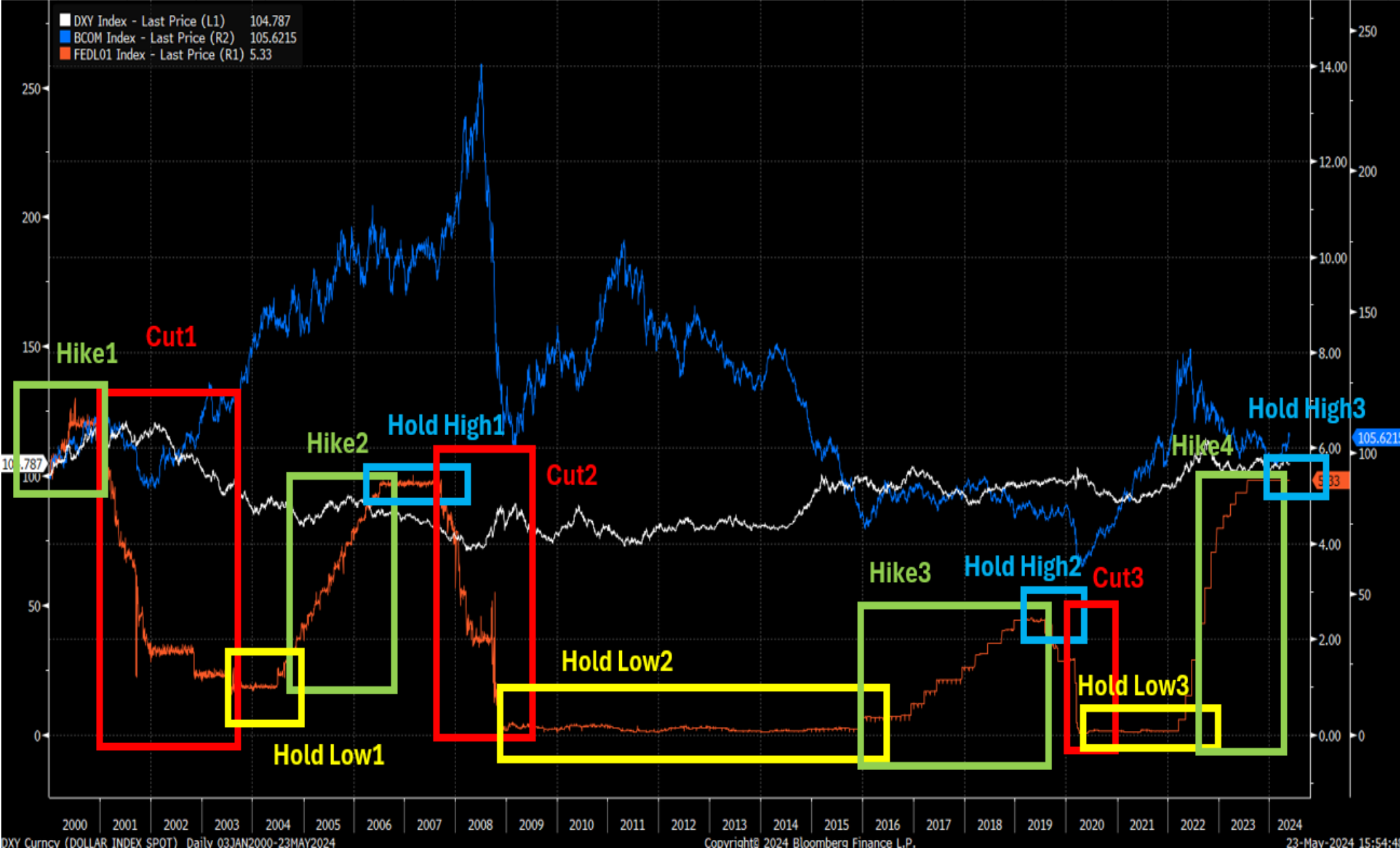


# Correlation of US Dollar and Commodity

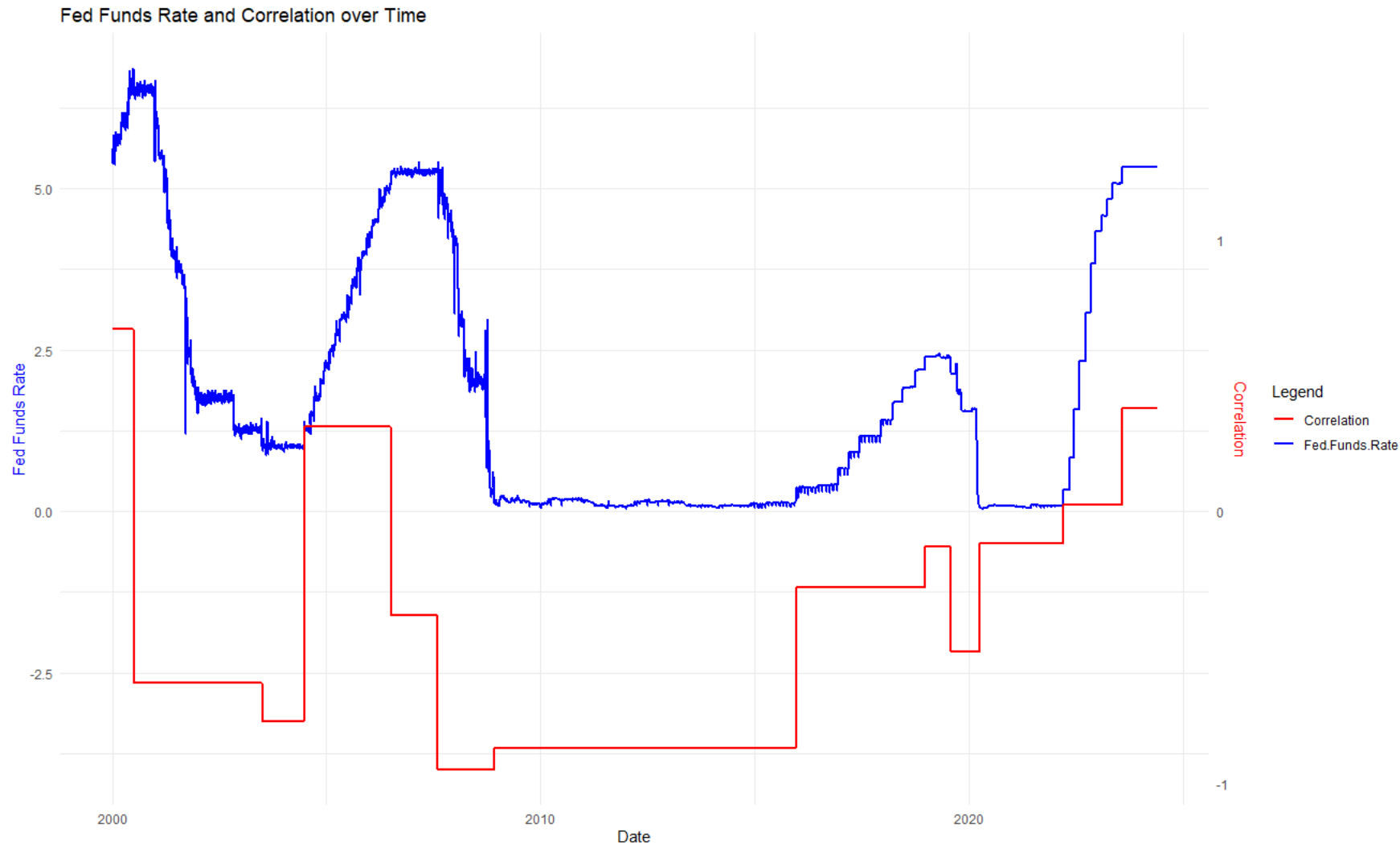


Timeframe	Correlation
Pre-Covid	-0.822
Post-Covid	+0.560

# Correlation Breakdown by Regime

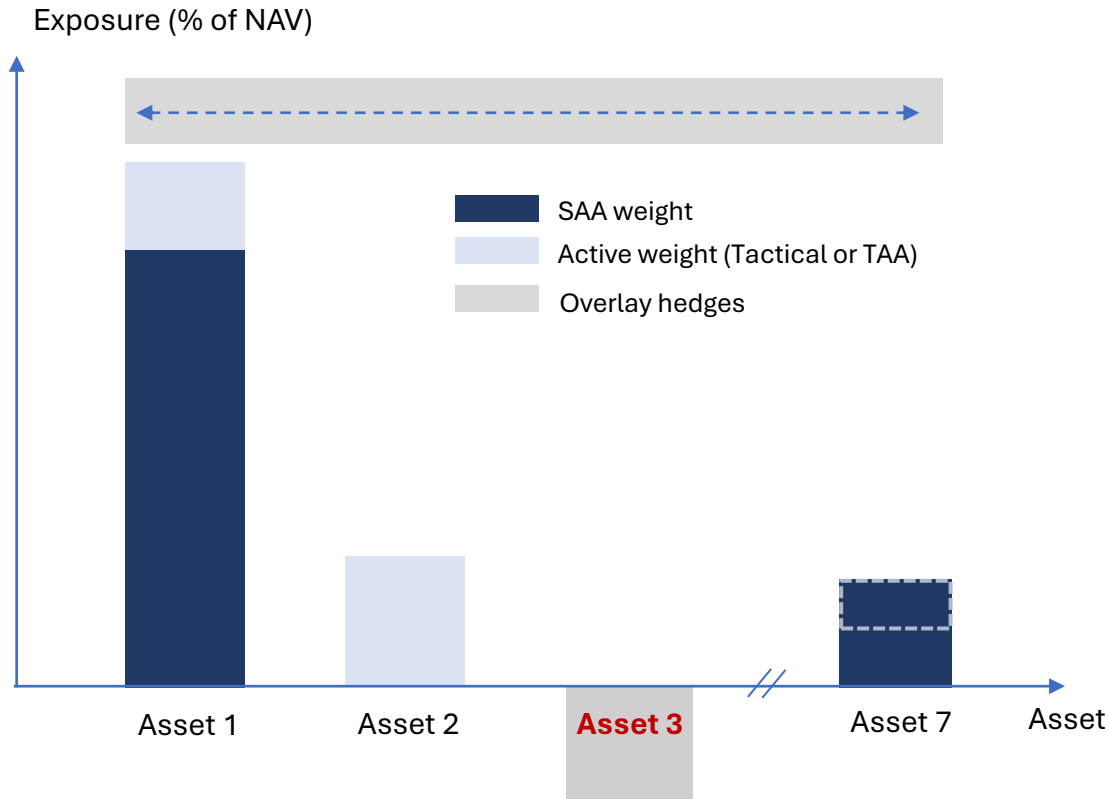


# Correlation by Regime Dynamics



Regime	DXY-BCOM Correlation
Hike 1	+0.670
Cut 1	-0.633
Hold Low 1	-0.771
Hike 2	+0.312
Hold High 1	-0.381
Cut 2	-0.951
Hold Low 2	-0.873
Hike 3	-0.278
Hold High 2	-0.131
Cut 3	-0.518
Hold Low 3	-0.117
Hike 4	+0.02
Hold High 3	+0.380

# Portfolio structure : SAA vs MTAA / TAA



## Strategies & Portfolio structure

Strategies	Book	Target weight	Timeframe	Strategies	Benchmark
Core holdings	CORE	MTAA	1 year	Alpha	Asset class's
Tactical call	TAA	TAA	< 1 year	Beta	MTAA
Overlay hedges	Overlay	~	< 3 months	Beta	MTAA

## Rationales

- Each asset has its own benchmark. Active weight (+/- from actual weight or SAA) reflects views and/or events intra-year.
- In 2022, stocks & bonds highly correlated, due to monetary policy divergence, rising rates affected every asset class. Overlay hedges i.e. shorting UST aims to reduce such repricing risk of overall portfolio.

# CrAM : Cross Asset Model

## Assessing Score (-5 to +5) from each factor

Normalized residuals of valuation by macro variables including growth, price and policy variables

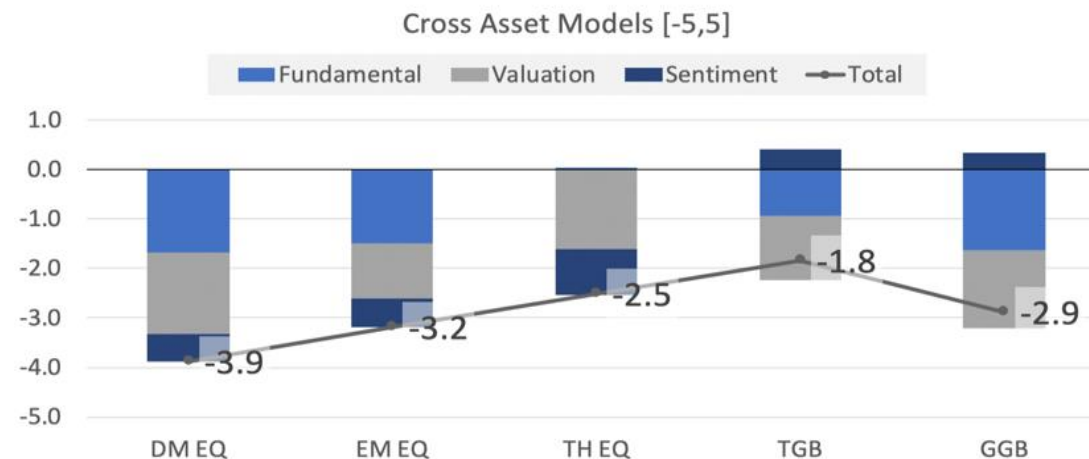
Fundamental

Normalized historical data (1 year rolling)

Valuation

Normalized Greed & Fear of Bond/Equity

Risk Sentiment



[-5, 5]		DMEQ	EMEQ	THEQ	GGB	TGB	THB
Fundamental (20%)	Current						
Valuation (20%)	Last week						
	Current						
Sentiment (60%)	Last week						
	Current						
Total (100%)	Last week	-0.95	-1.43	-0.08	1.19	0.76	-1.25
	Current	-0.68	-1.21	0.23	2.13	0.91	0.09
		Neutral	Slightly Negative	Neutral	Slightly Positive	Slightly Positive	Neutral

Adjusted with

AA Committee Survey

Assets	Very Negative	Negative	Slightly Negative	Neutral	Slightly Positive	Positive	Very Positive
DMEQ	X		X				
EMEQ		X			X		
THEQ		X		X			
TGOV			X	X			
GGB		X					

## Takeaways:

- **Equity valuation:** DMEQ Negative ; EMEQ : Neutral ; THEQ : Positive
- **Equity sentiment:** DMEQ and EMEQ : Neutral ; THEQ : Slightly Negative
- **Bond sentiment:** GGB : Slightly Positive ; TGB : Neutral
- **THB technical composite:** THB : Neutral

# CrAM : Equities

## Emerging Market Equities (EMEQ)

**EMEQ overall: -1.21 [-5, +5] – Slightly Negative**

**Fundamental: -3.66 [-5, +5] –Negative**

- Close to fair value (fair level = 967 actual level = 1076).
- Stronger EM FX

**Valuation: -0.54 [-5, +5] –Neutral**

Data range (for standardization)		9.5 years	8 years	10 years	10 years	9 years	3.5 years	4.5 years	
EMEQ		Shiller's CAPE	fwd PE	Price/Sales	EV/EBITDA	Price/FCF	EYG	rEYG	
Current data		7.86	13.17	1.41	9.34	21.02	3.90	6.60	
Data as of	14/06/2024	7.85	13.05	1.39	9.30	20.67	3.96	6.64	
SD		1.22	2.08	0.18	1.28	3.41	0.74	0.85	
Z-Score		1.734	-0.140	0.800	0.939	-0.134	-0.244	0.199	
Prob		83.6%	42.1%	73.5%	75.9%	38.1%	49.7%	75.5%	Composite
Prob Normal		95.9%	44.4%	78.8%	82.6%	44.7%	40.4%	57.9%	
Score [-5, +5] as of	14/06/2024	-3.36	1.02	-2.11	-2.73	1.45	0.48	2.77	-0.35
Score [-5, +5] as of	21/06/2024	-3.36	0.79	-2.35	-2.59	1.19	-0.03	2.55	-0.54

Shiller's CAPE and EV/BITDA indicated strong overvaluation. rEYG indicated slightly undervaluation.

## Thai Equities (THEQ)

**THEQ overall: 0.23 [-5, +5] – Neutral**

**Fundamental: : 1.82 [-5, +5] – Positive**

- Fundamentally at fair value(fair level = 1500; actual level = 1370).
- Worsen tourism

**Valuation: 3.60 [-5, +5] – Positive**

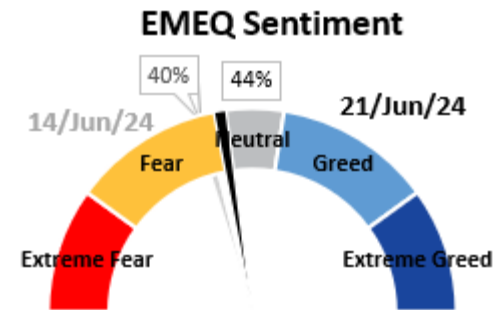
Data range (for standardization)		6 years	1.5 years	3.5 years	1 years	3.5 years	7 years	10 years	
THEQ		Shiller's CAPE	fwd PE	Price/Sales	EV/EBITDA	Price/FCF	EYG	rEYG	
Current data		15.35	14.03	0.90	8.41	17.28	4.42	5.86	
Data as of	14/06/2024	15.54	14.01	0.91	8.35	16.69	4.37	5.87	
SD		1.67	0.97	0.19	0.65	24.45	0.61	2.14	
Z-Score		-1.072	-1.878	-1.632	-1.076	-0.989	1.413	0.557	
Prob		31.1%	2.6%	10.1%	22.0%	7.3%	96.2%	79.3%	Composite
Prob Normal		14.2%	3.0%	5.1%	14.1%	16.1%	92.1%	71.1%	
Score [-5, +5] as of	14/06/2024	1.78	4.82	3.99	3.23	4.27	4.49	2.95	3.65
Score [-5, +5] as of	21/06/2024	1.89	4.74	3.99	2.80	4.27	4.62	2.93	3.60

- Thai equities undervalue as fwd PE, Price/Sales, EV/EBITDA, Price/FCF and EYG

**Sentiment: -0.61 [-5, +5] – Neutral**

Components	14/Jun/24	21/Jun/24	Last 6 months
Momentum	80%	84%	
Safe Haven Demand	14%	49%	
PutCall	46%	40%	
Stock Strength	61%	25%	
FX	38%	37%	
Volatility	3%	29%	
<b>Composite</b>			
<b>EM Equity Sentiment</b>	40%	44%	
<b>[-5, +5]</b>	-0.98	-0.61	

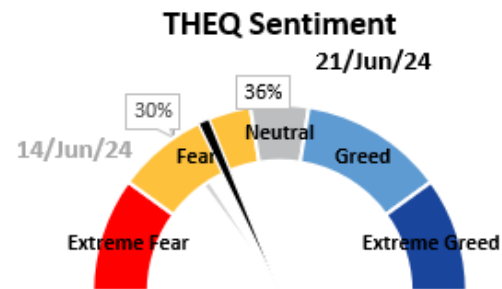
- Turn less negative compared to last week due to lower safe haven demand and lower volatility



**Sentiment: -1.43 [-5, +5] –Slightly Negative**

Components	14/Jun/24	21/Jun/24	Last 6 months
Momentum	21%	25%	
Safe Haven Demand	8%	9%	
PutCall	15%	38%	
Stock Strength	5%	9%	
USDTHB	42%	41%	
Volatility	68%	71%	
US Composite	49%	57%	
<b>Composite</b>			
<b>TH Equity Sentiment</b>	30%	36%	
<b>[-5, +5]</b>	-2.04	-1.43	

- Turn less negative compared to last week due to lower PutCall



# CrAM : Bonds

## Global Government Bonds (GGB)

GGB overall 2.13 [-5, +5] – Slightly Positive

Fundamental: 1.92 [-5, +5] – Slightly Positive

- 10-yr UST fundamentally over-valued (fair level = 4.274%; actual level = 4.481%)
- Lower forward real yield

Valuation: 4.12 [-5, +5] – Very Positive

GGB	UST Slope 10y3m	GGB10y2y	GGB2yfedfun	GGB real yield
Current data	-1.10	-0.48	-1.07	2.02
Mean	1.33	1.02	1.26	0.79
SD	1.25	0.97	1.25	0.99
Z-Score	-1.94	-1.55	-1.87	1.24
score	4.74	4.39	4.69	3.92
Score [-5, +5] as of	14/06/2024	3.23		
Score [-5, +5] as of	21/06/2024	4.12		



- The 10y3m, 10y-2y, and 2y-fedfund are positive for valuation

## Thai Government Bonds (TGB)

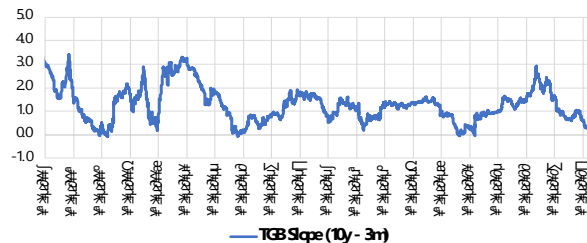
TGB overall 1.90 [-5, +5] – Slightly Positive

Fundamental: 2.29 [-5, +5] – Positive

- Fundamentally under-valued (fair level = 2.68%, actual level = 2.78%).
- Better CPI

Valuation: 2.54 [-5, +5] – Positive

TGB	TGB Slope 10y3m	TGB10y2y	TGB real yield
Current data	0.39	0.35	1.27
Mean	1.24	0.94	1.32
SD	0.70	0.50	1.99
Z-Score	-1.21	-1.18	-0.02
score	3.86	3.81	-0.06
Score [-5, +5] as of	14/06/2024	2.40	
Score [-5, +5] as of	21/06/2024	2.54	



- The 10y3m, 10y2m, and TGB real yield are positive.

Sentiment: 1.54 [-5, +5] – Slightly Positive

[0, 100%]

Indicators	14/06/2024	21/06/2024	Description
US Yield Momentum	86%	79%	10y UST vs 30dMA
Credit Spread	70%	69%	Corporate BBB over 10Y UST
Over Bund	45%	48%	USGG10y Over 10y Bund
MOVE - VIX	18%	66%	10y Treasury Note Vol Index - VIX
Average	55%	65%	
[-5, +5]	0.48	1.54	

- GGB Sentiment upgraded from the previous week due to higher MOVE-VIX

Sentiment: -0.10 [-5, +5] – Neutral

	14/06/2024	21/06/2024		
10 Year Yield			[-5, 5]	Previous 6 months
TGB10Y Momentum	1.76	2.04		10y TGB yield relative to 30-day MA
UST10Y Momentum	3.86	3.66		10y UST yield relative to 30-day MA
TGB10Y - USG10Y Momentum	-4.44	-3.89		Difference b/w the first two indicators
Foreign Flows	-3.94	-3.31		Foreign flows relative to 30-day MA
USDTHB1M IV	1.96	1.01		USDTHB implied volatility vs 30-day MA
Composite	-0.16	-0.10		Equally-weighted score

- TGB Sentiment turned slightly less negative, primarily as higher TGB10Y Momentum



# Currency management



# FX Hedging rationale

## I) To Hedge or not to Hedge?

- Objective: Risk reduction of portfolio or source of portfolio return
- Investment horizon: Strategic horizon, medium-term horizon or tactical horizon
- Asset class: Risky assets or safety assets

## II) Approaches

### Risky Assets

- Unhedged benchmark (0% Hedge Ratio – Long USD)
- Some currencies provide diversification benefit to the portfolio due to low or negative correlation between risky assets and currency

### Safety Assets

- Fully hedged benchmark (100% Hedge Ratio)
- Safety assets volatility < currency volatility; we should consider to close out FX exposure

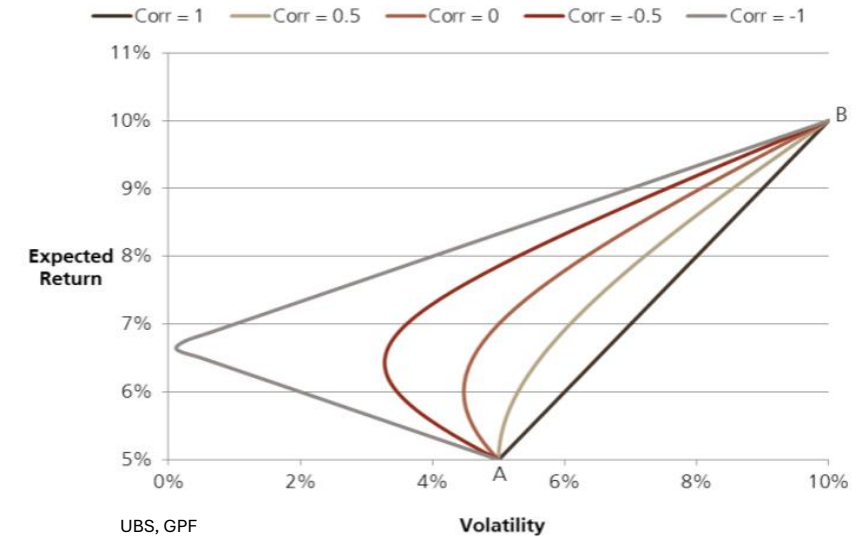
### SAA

- Set hedging range (Risky assets: 0%, Safety assets: 100%)
- To be active management over the medium-term horizon
- Incorporate the analysis on macroeconomic and long-term valuation model (PPP, REER)

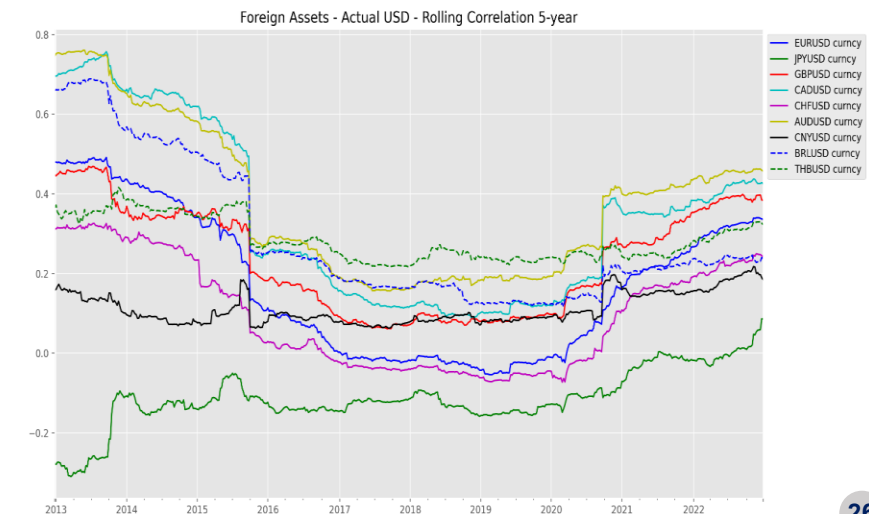
### TAA

- Tactically tilt around the hedge ratio Asset allocation committee has set
- Objective is to seek additional return from short-term market movement due to sentiment and flows

The expected return and volatility of the portfolio A and B under different assumption about the correlation



Correlation of CCY and GPF's foreign assets



# FX Philosophy & Frameworks



SWF

Mutual Fund

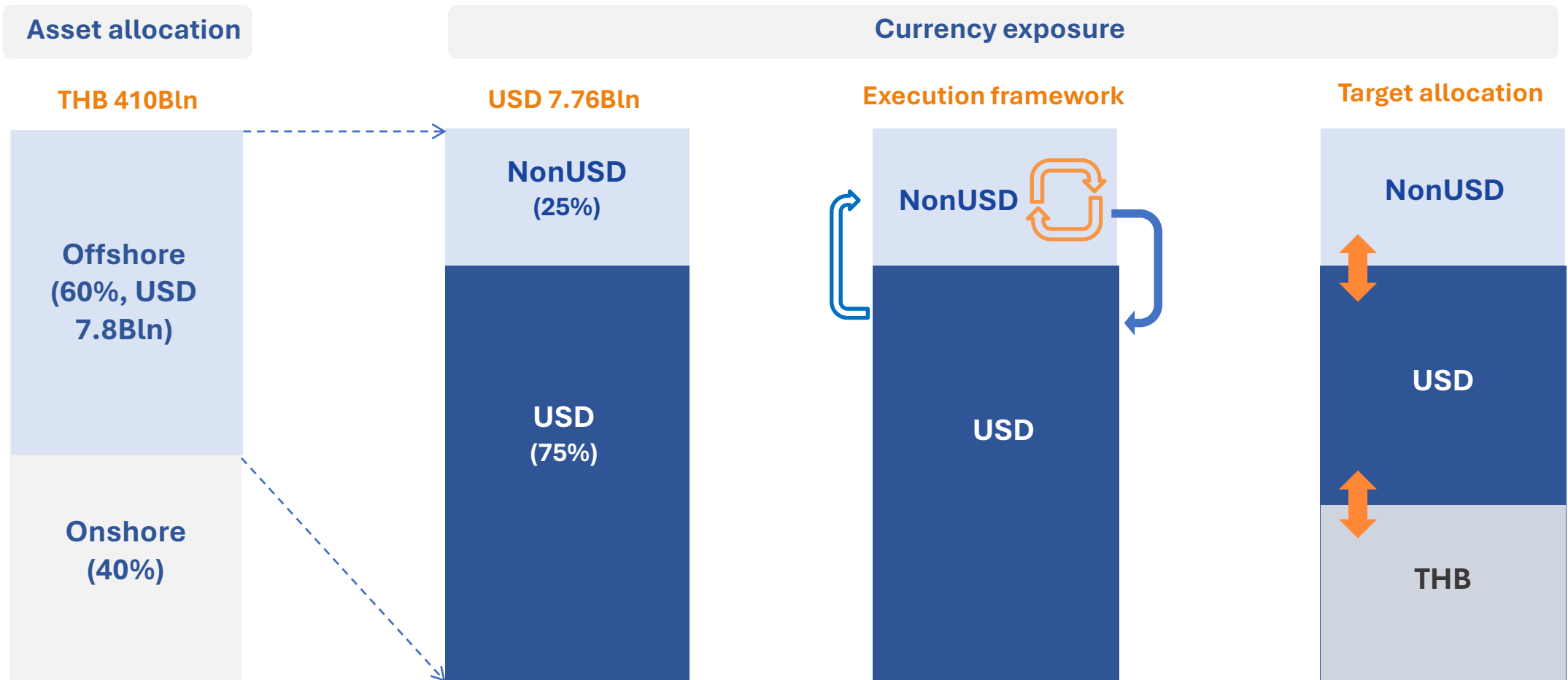
Manager I

Manager II

Manager III

<b>FX Philosophy</b>	Semi-active	Looking at FX as a holistic view of LTSAA	Depending on mandates			
<b>FX Frameworks</b>	<b>Two-layer concept:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD/THB (By asset group)</li> <li>• Non-USD/USD (Active management under T/E)</li> </ul>	<b>Top-down approach</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Medium- to Long- term based on Fundamental of CCY (Overvalue / Undervalue)</li> </ul>	<b>Long-term Target Portfolio (SAA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having an 11% of currency risk from unhedged foreign bonds and foreign equities</li> </ul>	<b>FX framework over SAA, MTAA &amp; TAA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FX in overall strategy of the portfolio (SAA)</li> <li>• Reducing MTAA &amp; TAA hedge ratios leeways</li> <li>• Two-layer concept: USD/Local &amp; Non-USD/USD</li> </ul>	<b>Strategic view: Optimal hedge ratio and Tactical view: Downside risk protection &amp; cyclical alpha</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two-layer concept: USD/local and Non-USD/USD</li> </ul>	<b>FX framework over L/T SAA, MTAA &amp; TAA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LTSAA: Hedged to USD and unhedged to THB</li> <li>• MTAA: 0-100% Hedged to THB</li> <li>• TAA: Alternative absolute return</li> </ul>
<b>Investment Style</b> (Active vs Passive)	<b>Semi-Active</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD/THB: Hedge ratio</li> <li>• Non-USD/USD: Tracking Error (TE)</li> </ul>	<b>Passive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No active risk on FX</li> <li>• Fully hedged benchmark</li> </ul>	<b>Semi-Active</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dynamic hedging policy from 0 to 100%</li> <li>• 15% FX loss in income statement</li> <li>• Enhancing returns on non-USD/USD</li> </ul>	<b>Semi-Active</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD/THB: Hedge ratio</li> <li>• Non-USD/USD: Risk budget limits for alpha (dedicated FX resources)</li> </ul>	<b>Semi-Active</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD/THB: Hedge ratio</li> <li>• Non-USD/USD: More active for alpha seeking (Managed either internally or outsourced)</li> </ul>	<b>Active</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FX as an alternative absolute return allocation</li> <li>• Benchmarked against USD cash and subject to risk budget(Managed either internally or outsourced)</li> </ul>
<b>Investment Goal</b> (Reduce Risk vs Enhance Returns)	<b>Both</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USD/THB: Reduced risk</li> <li>• Non-USD/USD: Enhanced returns</li> </ul>	<b>Reduced Risk</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>Both</b>	<b>Enhanced Returns</b>
<b>FX as a standalone asset class</b>	Only Non-USD/USD via asset pooling	No	No	Partially yes	Partially yes	Yes
<b>Case Studies</b>	-	-	-	<b>HK MPF</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dynamic hedging policies</li> <li>• At least 30% HKD in all funds (regulation)</li> </ul>	<b>Australian Industry Superannuation Funds</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benchmark hedging policy vs Active hedging policy</li> </ul>	NPS Korea, Swiss Pension Funds & Sovereign Wealth Funds

# GPF's offshore allocation & currency exposure

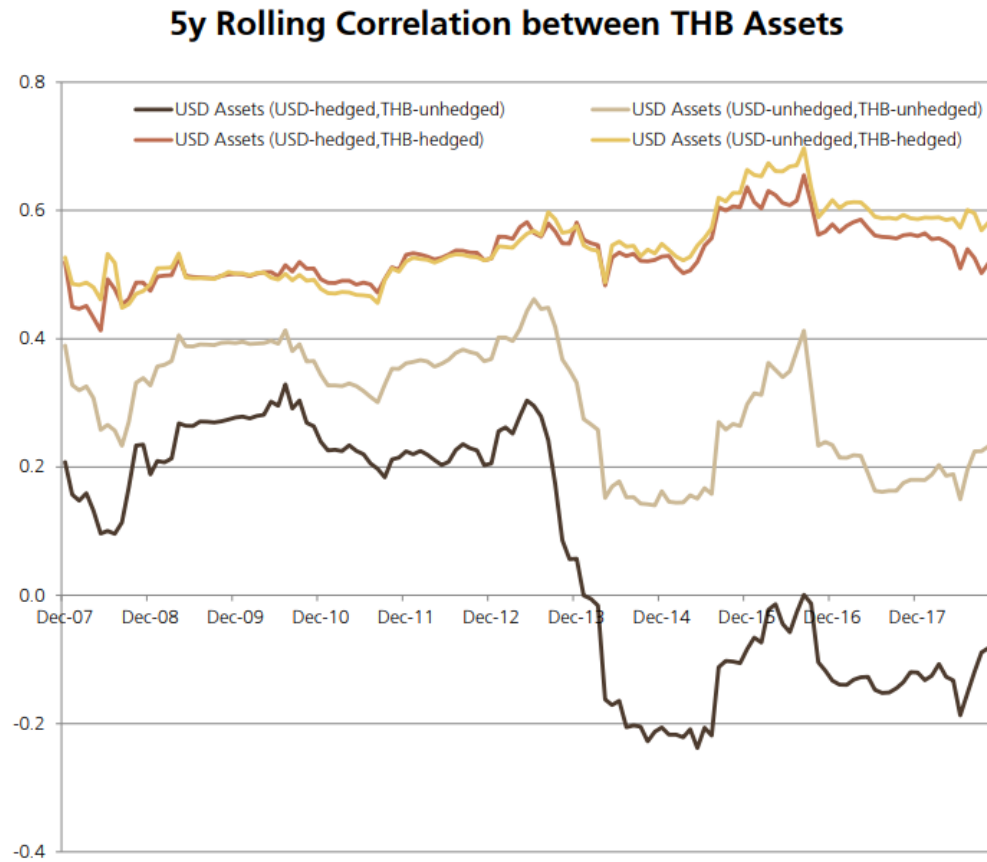


## Objective of currency management

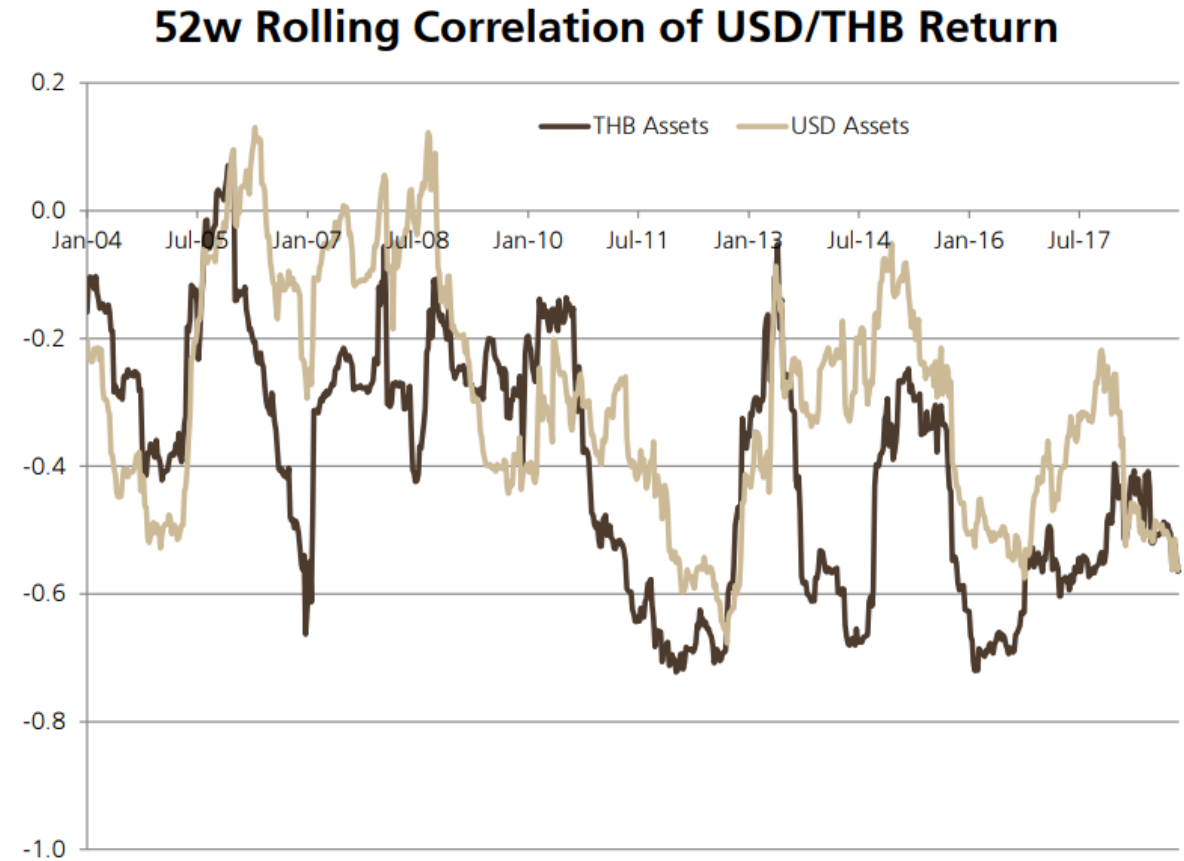
- Risk reduction in the long run. Longing certain currencies helps reduce portfolio volatilities
- In tactical view, alpha can be sought from NonUSD and high-beta currencies

## Some studies by currency advisor

Correlation between THB and USD assets under different hedging arrangement

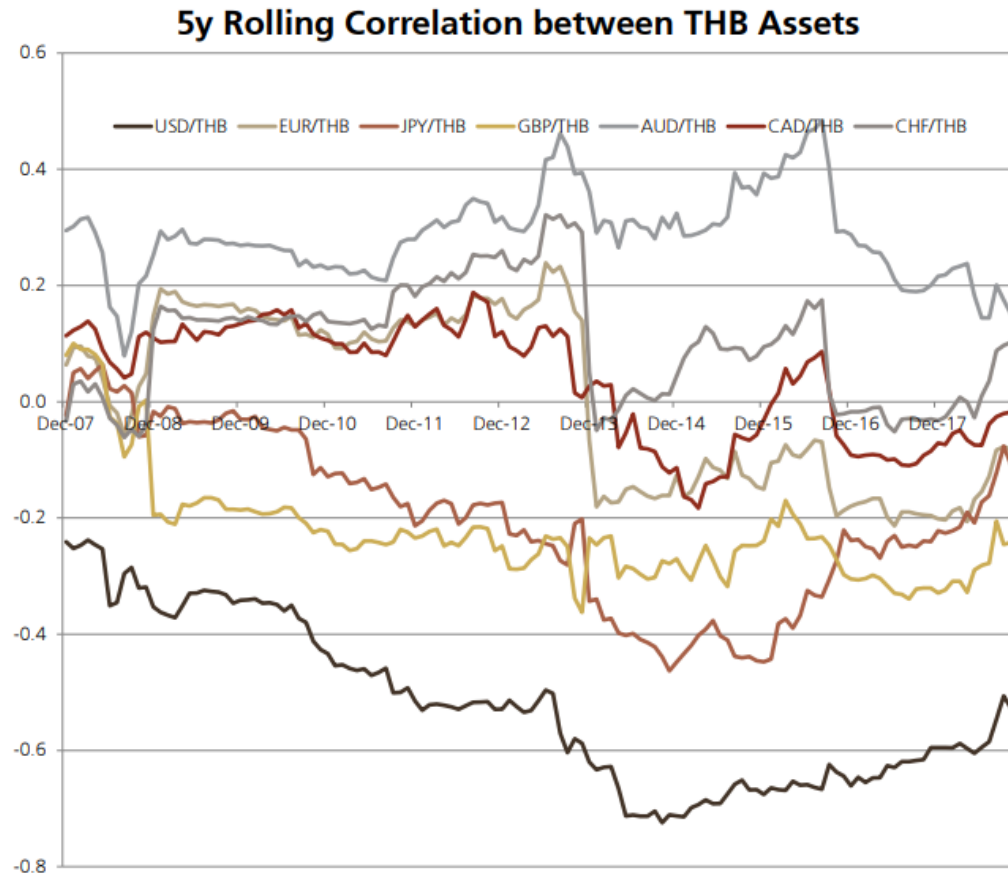


The 52-week rolling correlation between the returns of USDTHB and THB & USD denominated assets. Foreign assets are hedged to USD but not THB

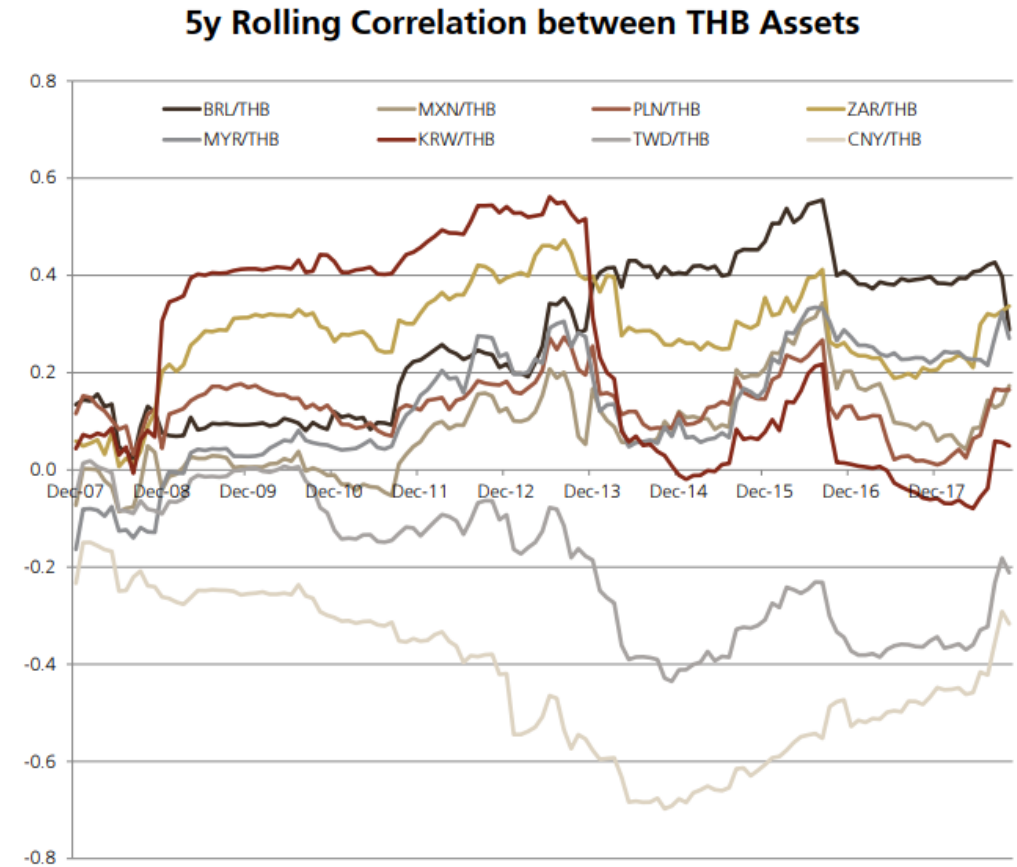


## Some studies by currency advisor

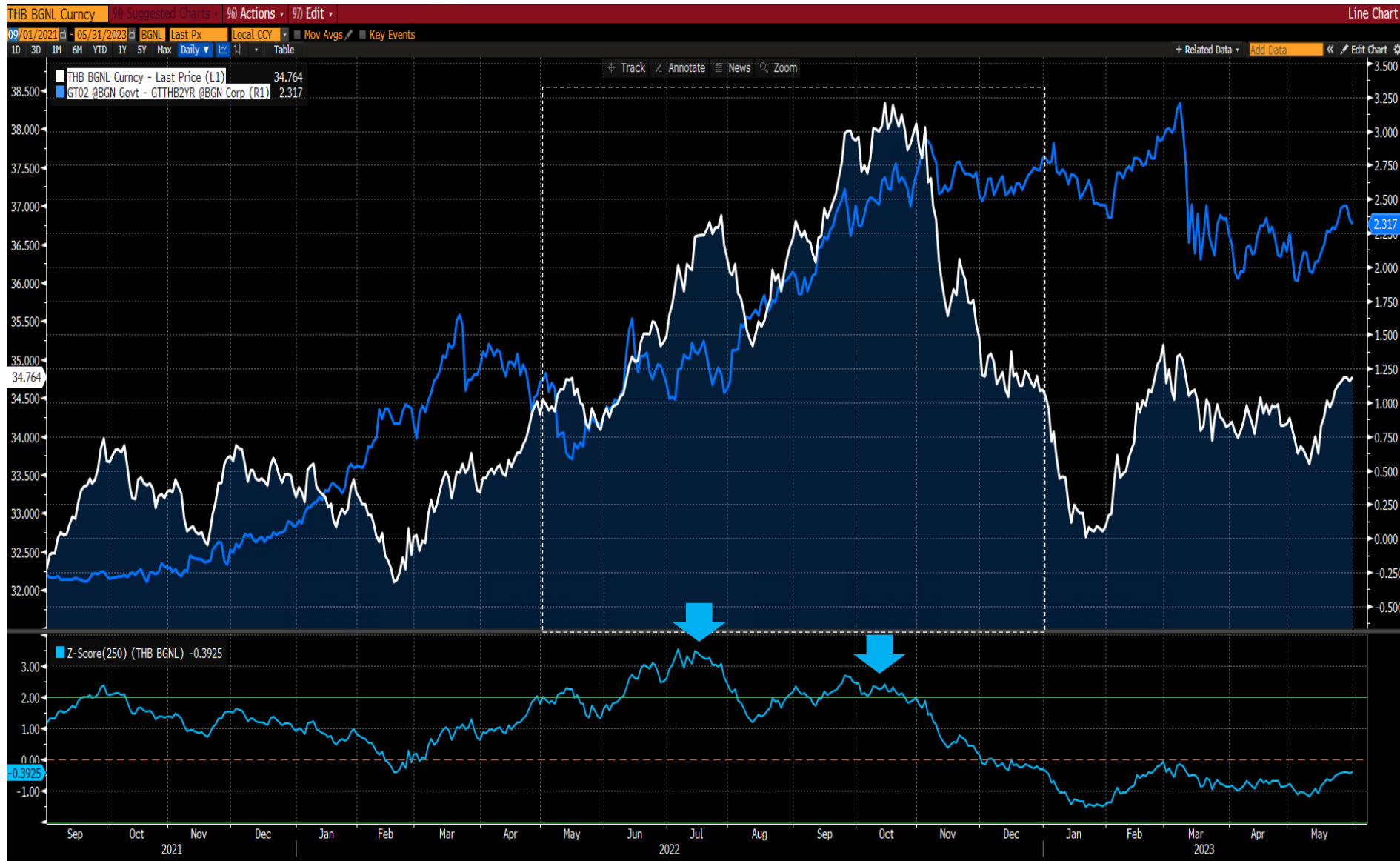
5y rolling correlation between THB-denominated assets and selected G10 currencies



5y rolling correlation between THB-denominated assets and selected EM currencies



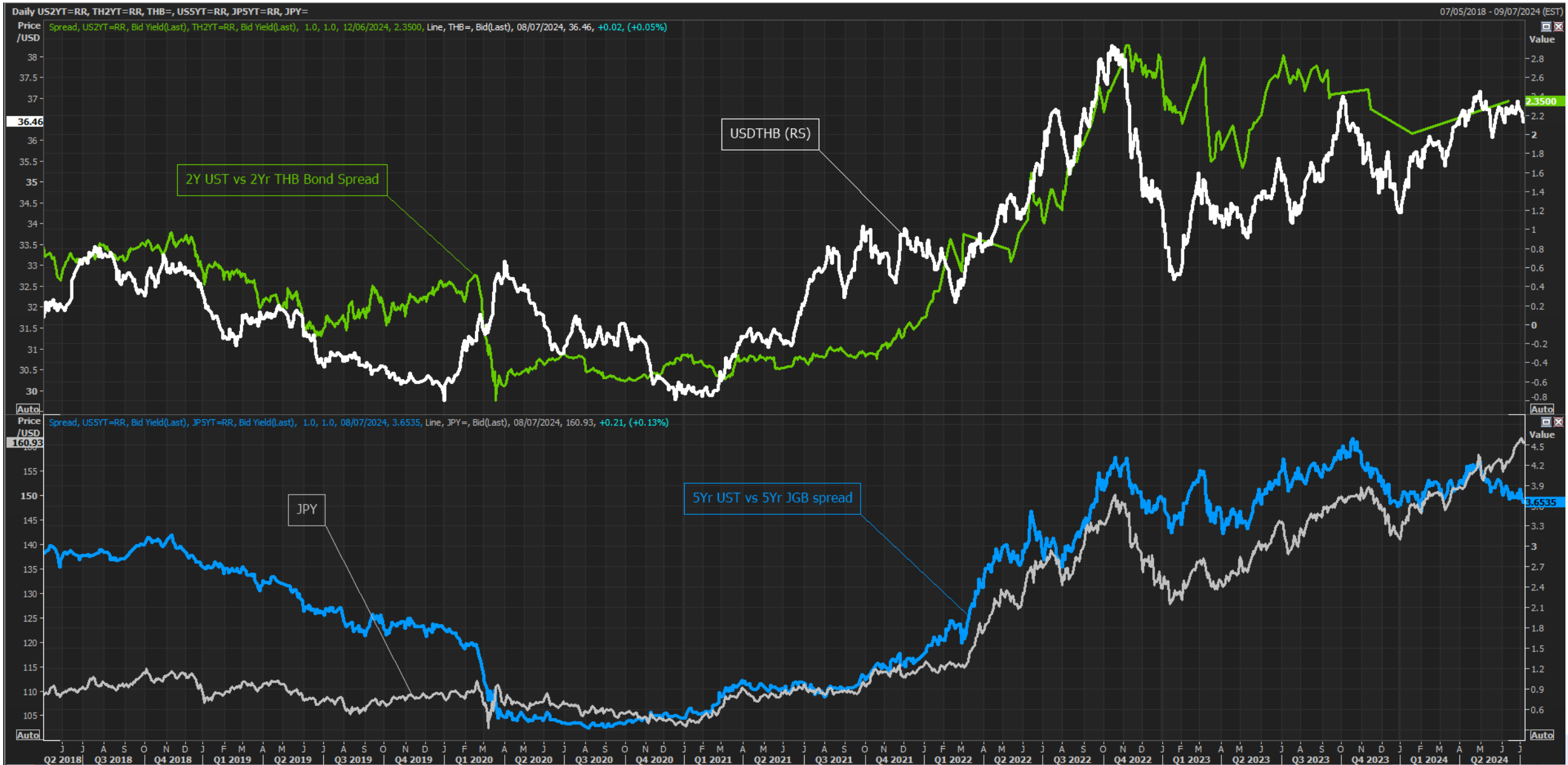
# FX Hedging Strategies – a case study



## USDTHB Hedging

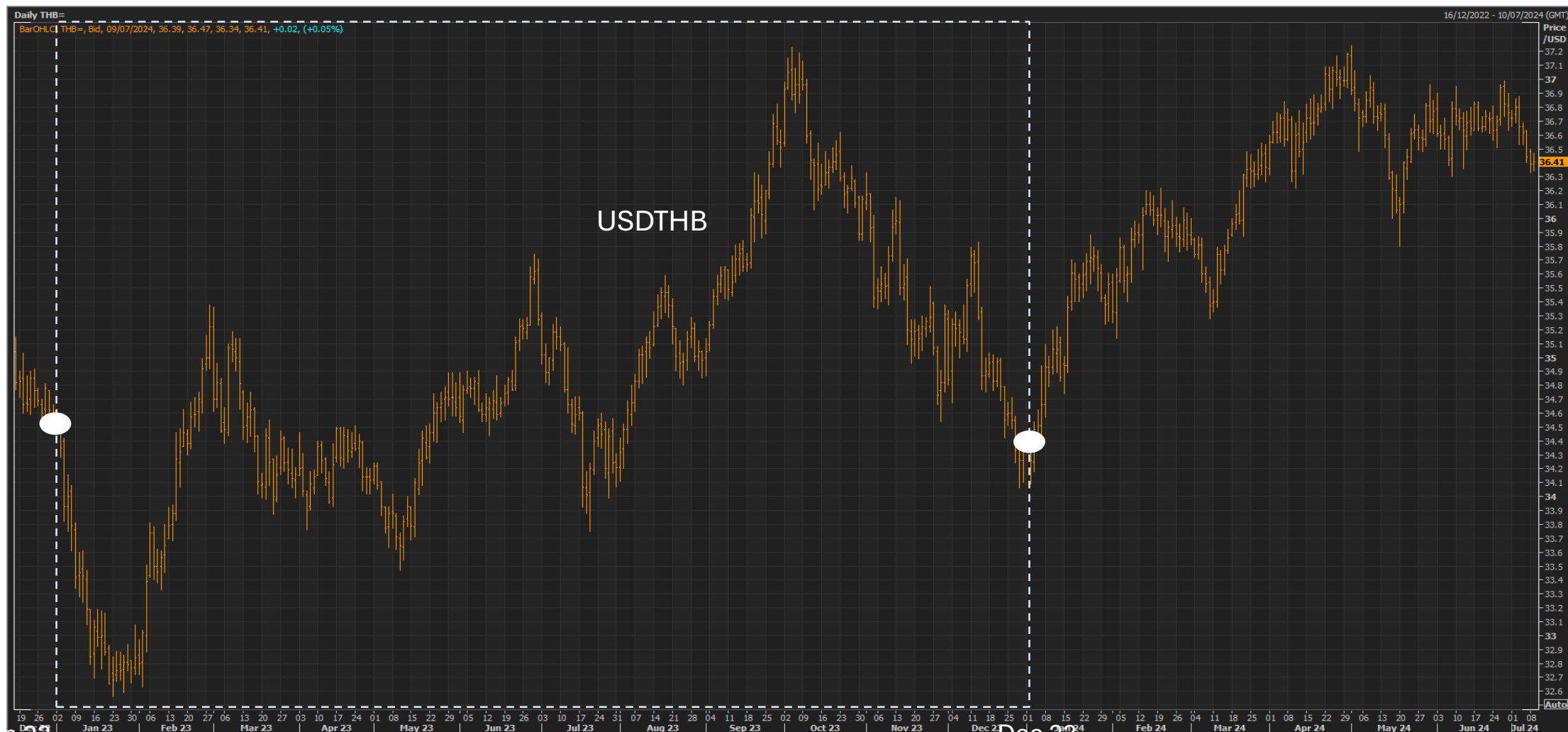
- After market had realized that inflation in US was not “Transitory” market was pricing **more rate hike** by the FED.
- In this chart, widening interest rate differentials, 2Y-UST and 2Y-THB bond yields, directly affects **USDTHB “Hedging cost”**.
- Depending on whether we view this as a structural or cyclical trend, widening 2Y-Bond spreads are likely to result in strong USD.
- Offshore allocations are with FX risk that could wipe out 3-6% of the capital invested. FX framework is key to portfolio return and shall be driven by a Philosophy and asset allocation.

# Interest rate differentials vs FX spot





# Currency management : Tactical vs Strategic



- Unless treated as an asset class, currency's performance shall be looked in conjunction with that of underlying assets.
- There are cases where USDTHB hedge ratio is actively managed, but USDTHB spot ended flat for the year.

# 2025 Investment Outlook

A decorative white line graphic consisting of a horizontal line that starts on the left, extends across the width of the slide, and then turns 90 degrees upwards to form a vertical line on the right side, ending with a rounded top.

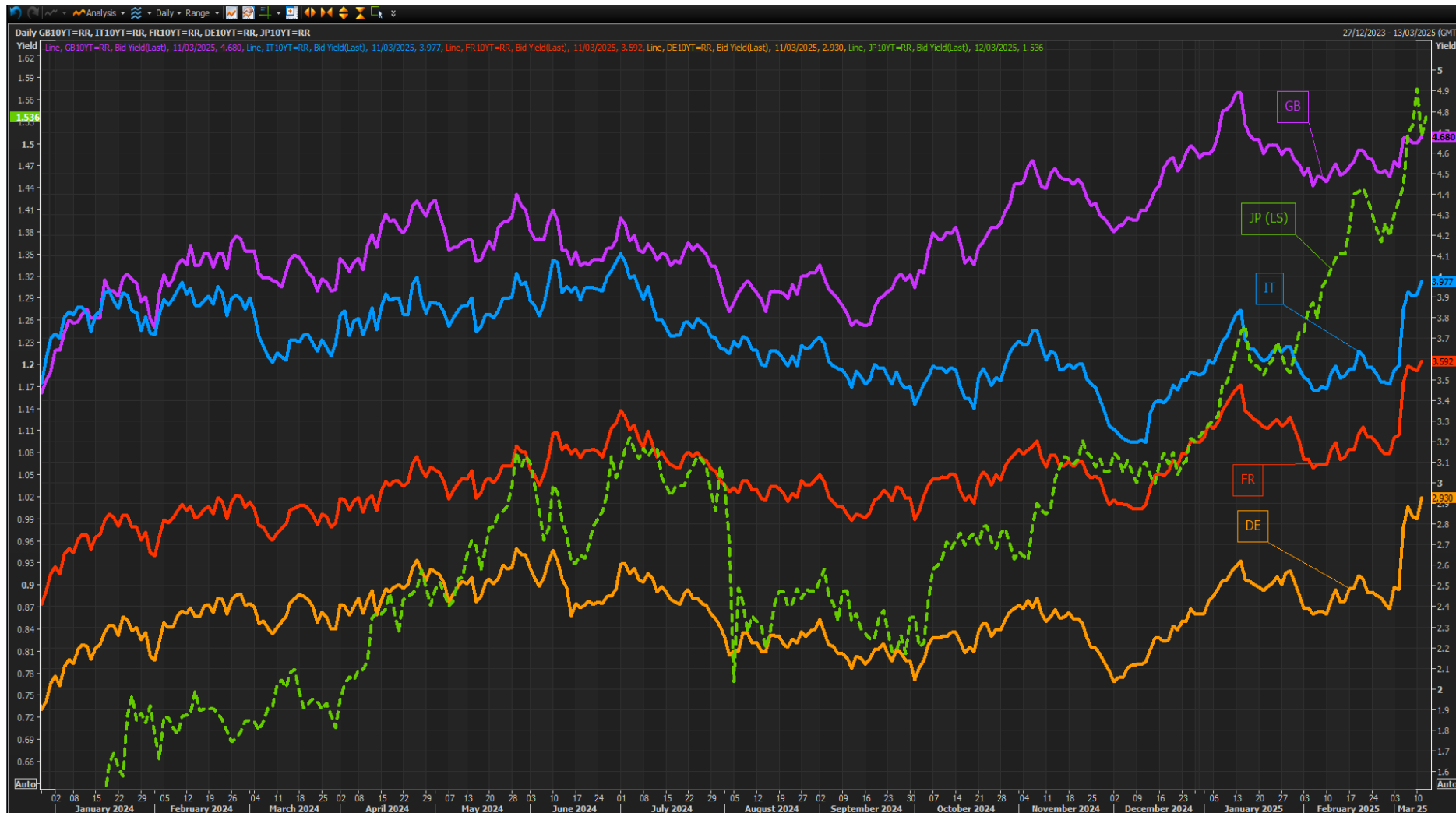
# Definition of each landing scenario

Scenarios	Definition
<b>1. No Landing</b> <b>(Economy Keeps Growing, Inflation Stays High)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The economy continues to grow without a significant slowdown, despite high interest rates or inflationary pressures.</li><li>• Central banks may struggle to bring inflation under control because demand remains strong.</li><li>• This scenario can lead to prolonged inflation and the risk of aggressive future rate hikes.</li></ul>
<b>2. Soft Landing</b> <b>(Growth Slows Without a Recession)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Economic growth slows down just enough to reduce inflation without causing a recession.</li><li>• Central banks successfully manage to cool inflation while avoiding a sharp rise in unemployment or a major downturn.</li><li>• This is the ideal outcome for policymakers aiming for sustainable growth.</li></ul>
<b>3. Hard Landing</b> <b>(Recession, Job Losses, Economic Decline)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The economy slows down too much, leading to a recession.</li><li>• Higher interest rates or policy tightening cause a sharp drop in consumer spending and business investment.</li><li>• Unemployment rises, and economic activity contracts significantly.</li></ul>

# 2025 Key Themes : Growth divergence shifted to other economies

Theme	Thesis	Implications	Scenario prob.	Landing scenarios		
				No	Soft	Hard
10Y USD yield scenario				4.5-5.2%	3.5-4.2%	2.8-3.5%
1. US Policy uncertainties	• Trump's tariff policies impact global trades & competitiveness	• Policy rates to remain high, one potential cut	25%	25%	60%	15%
	• Inflation and sentiments to swing	• Credit spreads could still hold up	35%	5%	65%	30%
2. Desynchronized growth	• US growth is still strong from spendings & rising CAPEX cycle	• Corporate margins & earnings growth still high	15%	30%	40%	30%
	• Inflations though with sign of slowing, still higher than target	• USD to remain strong. EUR and JPY under pressure. EMs vary				
	• Reforms in China, Germany & Japan	• Growth divergence to other Economies	15%	5%	70%	25%
3. US Exceptionalism	• Leverage its economic dominance.	• AI adoptions will support long-term growth	20%	30%	40%	30%
	• It could delay fiscal responses as ability to absorb shocks is higher. High investor confidence leads to asset price stable.	• Trump's policies favor onshoring and reshoring	10%	15%	50%	35%
4. Policy mistake	• Fed fails to curbs rising inflation	• Series of cuts	20%	-	20%	80%
5. Stagflation	• High interest rates for long slows down growth	• Rising input cost lowers margin.	20%	-	70%	25%
		• Wages do not keep up with inflation				
		• Policy dilemma				
			100%	--%	--%	--%

# Growth divergence seen in other economies



## China

### Long-term reforms

- 15<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan : Tech advancement  
Econ stability
- SOE reform alongside private sector support
- Fiscal & tax reforms : from -3% to -4% of GDP
- Local Govt Debt swap with central Govt

## Germany & EU

- Increased Govt spending : €500Bln Infra investment & 1% of GDP on Defense
- Reforms of Fiscal constraints : Removal of obstacles to allow for borrowing to boost outputs to end stagnations.

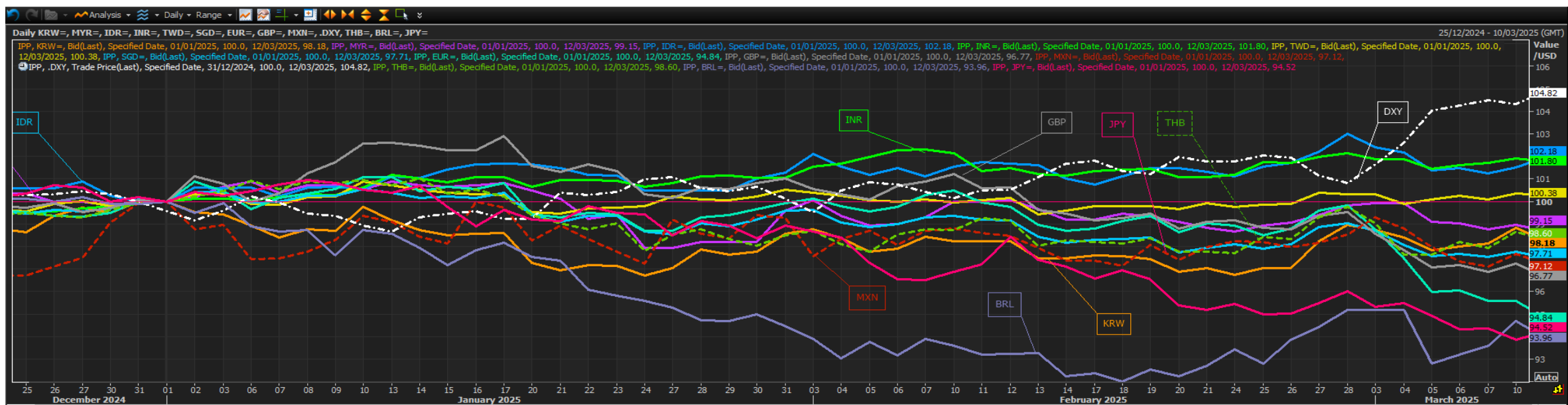
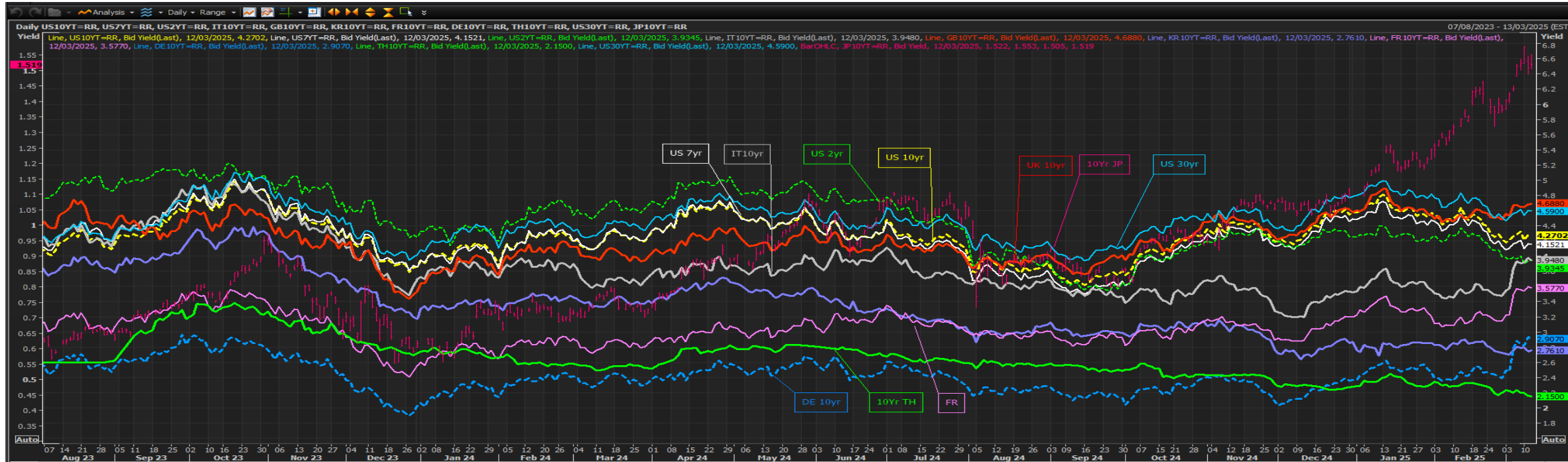
## Japan

- Monetary policy adjustments, Inflation targeting
- Wage increase
- Capital markets & listed companies

# Stock performance & Bond yield



# Changing econ policy, growth & inflation affects Ccy and asset prices





# Key indicators & characteristics in each scenario

Scenarios	GDP	Inflation	Labor Market	Spending	Business sentiment	Interest Rates & Yield Curve	Stock market	Bond market
<b>1. No Landing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stubbornly high</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong job growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High on discretionary</li> <li>Household borrowing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMI &gt;&gt; 50</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rates don't slow growth</li> <li>Hawkish stance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued rally</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steepening</li> </ul>
<b>2. Soft Landing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moderate slowdown</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gradual decline</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight slowdown in hiring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spending slows moderately</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMI +/-50</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rates stabilize or decline gradually</li> <li>Dovish stance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volatile but stable growth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Normalizing</li> <li>Fed cuts progress gradually</li> </ul>
<b>3. Hard Landing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contraction (negative GDP)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sharp drop (esp. if demand collapses)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rising unemployment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cut back on discretionary items</li> <li>Lower CAPEX</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PMI &lt;&lt; 50</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aggressively cut rates</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant declines</li> <li>-20% from Top</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2/10 (-) then (+) after cut</li> <li>(-) Real yield</li> </ul>
<b>Indicators</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GDPNow</li> <li>Weekly econ. index</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inflation Nowcasting</li> <li>Inflation swap</li> <li>Breakeven inflation</li> <li>PriceStat</li> <li>5Y/5Y Fwd inflation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NFP</li> <li>JOLTS</li> <li>ADP employment</li> <li>Initial jobless claim</li> <li>Unemployment rate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retail sales</li> <li>U. Mich consumer sentiment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Industrial production</li> <li>Service &amp; Manu. PMI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fed member comments</li> <li>Hawk-Dove ratio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CFTC S&amp;P sentiment</li> <li>AAll bullish</li> <li>Greed Fear Index</li> <li>ETF flow to US markets</li> <li>2Y/10Y, 3m/10Y</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CFTC 10Y UST</li> <li>2-10 spread</li> <li>Real yield</li> <li>Prob of recession from Term structure</li> </ul>



# Indicator ballparks

Indicators	No landing	Soft landing	Hard landing
<b>GDP Growth</b>	Annual growth > 2.8%	1% - 2.8%	< 1% or negative
<b>Weekly Economic Index (WEI)</b>	> 3%	1% to 3%	< 1% or negative
<b>Inflation (CPI)</b>	> 3.5%	1% to 3.5%	< 1% or deflation
<b>Nonfarm Payrolls MoM</b>	Monthly increase > 250,000	100,000 to 250,000	< 100,000 or negative
<b>JOLTS Job Openings</b>	> 7 million	5 to 7 million	< 5 million
<b>ADP Employment Change</b>	Monthly increase > 250,000	50,000 to 250,000	< 50,000 or negative
<b>Initial Jobless Claims</b>	< 200,000	200,000 to 325,000	> 325,000
<b>Unemployment Rate</b>	< 3.7%	3.7% to 4.5%	> 4.5%
<b>Retail Sales Growth MoM</b>	Monthly increase > 1%	0.2% to 1%	< 0.2% or negative
<b>U of Mich. Consumer Sentiment</b>	Index > 90	70 to 90	< 70
<b>Industrial Production</b>	Monthly increase > 0.5%	0% to 0.5%	Negative growth
<b>Manufacturing PMI</b>	> 54	46 to 54	< 46
<b>Services PMI</b>	> 54	46 to 54	< 46

Thank you

