



Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Eurozone banks face further rise in soured loans – ECB

Eurozone banks are set to face a further deterioration of their loan book and many lenders have failed to adjust their credit control norms to acknowledge the unique nature of the pandemic, ECB supervisory chief Andrea Enria says. (www.reuters.com 08/09/21)

Eurozone GDP growth exceeds initial estimate in Q2

The euro area recovered at a faster-than-estimated pace in the second quarter from the Covid-driven downturn. GDP grew 2.2% sequentially in the second quarter, bigger than the initial estimate of 2.0%. The growth reversed the 0.3% fall in the first quarter and the 0.4% drop in the fourth quarter of 2020. Year-on-year, GDP expanded 14.3% instead of the prior estimate of 13.6%. This follows a 1.2% decline in the first quarter. (www.rttnews.com 07/09/21)

EU commission to issue €250bn in green bonds

The European Commission has said that it would issue up to €250bn in green bonds this fall as part of its plans to finance the 27-nation bloc’s recovery from the coronavirus crisis. “The framework provides investors in these bonds with confidence that the funds mobilized will be allocated to green projects and that the Commission will report on its environmental impact,” the Commission said. (www.apnews.com 07/09/21)

Fed's Bullard says stimulus tapering should begin this year – FT

The US Federal Reserve should move forward with a plan to trim its massive pandemic stimulus programme despite a slowdown in job growth last month, St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank President James Bullard has said in an interview with the Financial Times. (www.reuters.com 08/09/21)

US workers changing jobs more often and demanding better wages – NY Fed survey

More US workers are switching jobs and asking for higher wages as the labour market continues to heal from the crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic, according to a survey released by the New York Federal Reserve. (www.reuters.com 07/09/21)

Expectations for near-term easing cool after China c. bank comments

Expectations for near-term easing cooled and the yuan strengthened after comments by central bank officials the day before that China will maintain prudent monetary policy and that there is no shortfall in base money. (www.reuters.com 08/09/21)

China's forex reserves fell in Aug

China's foreign-exchange reserves fell to \$3.2321tr at the end of Aug., down \$3.8bn from a month earlier. The volume went down 0.12% from the end of July, said the State Administration of Foreign Exchange. The country's forex reserves remained generally stable, with the total amount standing above \$3.2tr for four consecutive months. (www.xinhuanet.com 07/09/21)

BoE's Saunders says interest rates may rise next year

The Bank of England (BoE) may need to raise interest rates next year if growth continues and inflation becomes stickier, Bank of England policymaker Michael Saunders has said. (www.reuters.com 07/09/21)

UK house prices jump as market strength persists: Halifax

British house prices rose sharply last month in a further sign of strong momentum in the market even after the partial withdrawal of tax breaks on property purchases, a survey from mortgage lender Halifax shows. (www.reuters.com 07/09/21)

CURRENCY	BUYING		SELLING	
+USD/GBP	1.3779	(1.3823)	1.3781	(1.3824)
+USD/EUR	1.1840	(1.1861)	1.1840	(1.1862)
*GHS/USD	5.8535	(5.8535)	5.8593	(5.8593)
*GHS/GBP	8.0655	(8.0913)	8.0747	(8.0999)
*GHS/EUR	6.9309	(6.9435)	6.9377	(6.9503)

+SOURCE: BOG INTERNAL TRANSACTION RATES: 08/09/21 (Rates for 07/09/21 in brackets)

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Japan has ¥1.910tr current account surplus
Japan had a current account surplus of ¥1.910tr in July, the Ministry of Finance has said. That was shy of expectations for a surplus of ¥2.30tr, following ¥905.1bn surplus in June. (www.rttnews.com 07/09/21)

German ZEW economic confidence continues to fall

German economic confidence weakened for the fourth consecutive month in Sept. as the global chip shortage as well as short supply of construction materials weighed on profit expectations, survey results from the ZEW - Leibniz Centre for European Economic Research show. The ZEW Indicator of Economic Sentiment for Germany fell to 26.5 in Sept. from 40.4 in Aug. The expected level was 30.0. (www.rttnews.com 07/09/21)

France payroll employment increased sharply in Q2

French payroll employment increased sharply in the second quarter. Payroll employment increased sharply by 289,400 in the second quarter after rising 148,500 in the first quarter. At the end of June 2021, payroll employment was 0.6% above its end of 2019 level. (www.rttnews.com 08/09/21)

Denmark trade surplus decreased in July
Denmark's trade surplus decreased in July. The total trade surplus rose to DKK 12.6bn in July from DKK 16.3bn in June. Exports decreased 2.6% monthly in July and imports grew 0.6%. (www.rttnews.com 08/09/21)

Australia holds rate, extends bond purchases 3 months

Australia's central bank has left its main interest rate steady but extended its current pace of purchases of government bonds by another three months, saying this "reflects the delay in the economic recovery and the increased uncertainty associated with the Delta outbreak." The Reserve Bank of Australia left its target for the cash rate at 0.10%, unchanged since Nov. 2020 when it was lowered for the third time last year during the Covid-19 pandemic. (www.centralbanknews.info 07/09/21)

Oil climbs amid slow supply return after Hurricane Ida

Oil prices rose on Wednesday, paring overnight losses, with producers in the US Gulf of Mexico struggling to restart operations nine days after Hurricane Ida swept through. US WTI crude futures rose 27 cents, or 0.4%, to \$68.62 a barrel at 0204 GMT, after sliding 1.4% on Tuesday following the Labour Day holiday. Brent crude futures inched up 14 cents, or 0.2%, to \$71.83 a barrel, after falling 0.7% on Tuesday. (www.reuters.com 08/09/21)

Dollar marks one-week top amid higher US yields, ECB caution

The dollar rose to a one-week peak against major peers on Wednesday, buoyed by higher Treasury yields and a weaker euro ahead of the ECB's policy decision. The dollar index, which measures the currency against six rivals, ticked up 0.05% to 92.580, after earlier touching 92.590, a level not seen since Sept. 1. The euro slipped 0.05% to \$1.1836 for the first time since Sept. 2. (www.reuters.com 08/09/21)

SA rand drifts lower, tracking dollar moves

The South African rand drifted lower early on Wednesday, tracking the dollar. At 0649 GMT, the rand traded at 14.3350 against the dollar, about 0.2% weaker than its Tuesday close. (www.reuters.com 08/09/21)

SA's economy grows quicker in Q2

South Africa's economy grew 1.2% in the second quarter (Q2) compared to the previous three months, statistics agency data show, a better-than-expected outcome driven by sectors like communications, agriculture and mining. (www.reuters.com 07/09/21)

Ghana's international reserves to go up 16.8% to \$9.5bn in 2021 – Report

Ghana's international reserves excluding gold is expected to grow by 16.8% this year to \$9.5bn. This is a revision of an earlier forecast by Fitch Solutions, which pegged the end-year reserves at \$8.8bn. However, the reserves is lower than the Bank of Ghana's gross reserves estimate of \$11.02bn in the first half of the year. (www.myjoyonline.com 07/09/21)

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