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#### From February 8 to February 19

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## **CCXI & CCXAP**

## **Cross-border Bonds Weekly Report**

# Italy's political crisis alleviated; new issuance dropped amid Chinese New Year holidays

### Headline: Italy's political crisis alleviated; ECB was concerned about the negative impacts of the euro strength

Mario Draghi won confidence votes in both Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Republic, which marked the alleviation of Italy's political crisis. The new government led by Draghi started to perform its duties. On February 15, Japan announced that its GDP shrank by 4.8% last year, in which the quarter-on-quarter growth in Q4 rebounded to 3%. Europe's Q4 GDP, consumer confidence index and the manufacturing PMI beat expectations. On February 18, the ECB emphasized the need of coordinated and ambitious fiscal policy to boost economic recovery, according to the January policy meeting minutes. Meanwhile, the committees were also concerned with the existing overvalue of euro.

#### **Exchange Rate:** RMB exchange rate fluctuated slightly

RMB exchange rate continued to fluctuate slightly. As of February 19, the intermediate price of RMB exchange rate closed at 6.4624.

## Interest Rate: China Government Bond yields showed mixed trend; US Treasury yield went upward

China Government Bond yields showed mixed trend. As the US Senate passed the USD1.9 trillion relief bill and economic data demonstrated improvement, the market set a rise in inflation. As a result, mid-term and long-term Treasury yields rose continuously. As of February 19, the yield spread between China and US 10-year note was 192bp, tightening by 12bp from last Friday and 34bp from the beginning of the year.

#### **Chinese Offshore Bond Market**

## Primary Market: New issuance dropped amid Chinese New Year holidays; China Ping An Overseas was the largest issuer

From February 8 to February 19, there were 5 new issues with a total issued volume of approximately USD730 million, decreased by 90.2% from the period between February 1 and February 5. China Ping An Insurance Overseas was the largest issuer that raised USD250 million

## Secondary Market: Chinese dollar bond yield diverged in performance; return on real estate climbed the most

As of February 19, the YTD return on Chinese USD corporate bond index increased by 30bp from last Friday to 0.11%. The return on investment-grade bond declined by 2bp to 0.27%, and the return on high-yield bond increased by 103bp to -0.25%. In terms of sector indices, the return on real estate index climbed the most, increasing by 105bp.

Rating Actions: CCXAP assigned first-time long-term credit rating of BBg+ to SIIG

#### Panda Bond Market: China Power issued SCP

On February 8, the 2021 China Power International Development Limited's Short-term Commercial Paper (Series I) was successfully issued in the China Interbank Market. It raised RMB500 million at the coupon rate of 3.20% and tenor of 179days.

## Headline: Italy's political crisis alleviated; ECB was concerned about the negative impacts of euro's strength

On February 13, the Mario Draghi-led cabinet sworn into office as the new Italian government. On February 17 and 18, Draghi won confidence votes in both Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Republic respectively, which marked the alleviation of Italy's political crisis. The new government led by Draghi started to perform its duties.

On February 15, Japan announced that its GDP shrank by 4.8% in 2020, in which the quarteron-quarter growth in Q4 rebounded to 3%. Europe's Q4 GDP, consumer confidence index and the manufacturing PMI beat expectations. In particular, Germany's manufacturing PMI recorded 60.6 in February, significantly better than the predicted value of 56.6 and 57.1 in the previous month. On February 18, the European Central Bank ("ECB") emphasized the need of coordinated and ambitious fiscal policy to boost economic recovery, according to the January policy meeting minutes. The committees agreed unanimously that it was still essential to put forth sufficient monetary policies to stimulate the economy. They believed that the more restrictive and extended lockdowns of the Eurozone were weighing on the short-term growth outlook. They were also concerned with the overvalue of euro as it might have negative implications for the financial conditions and the inflation expectation in the Eurozone.

### Exchange Rate: RMB exchange rate fluctuated slightly

RMB exchange rate continued to fluctuate slightly. As of February 19, the intermediate price of RMB exchange rate closed at 6.4624, decreasing by 86bp from 5 February; the onshore RMB exchange rate fell by 235 bp to 6.4575; the offshore RMB exchange rate rose by 4bp to 6.4594.

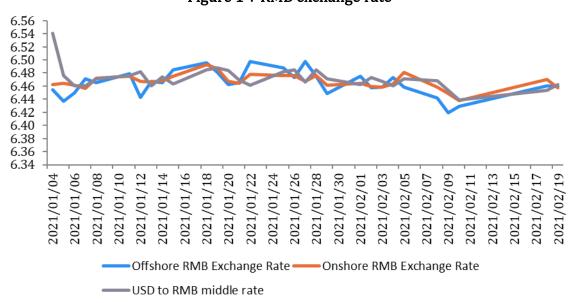


Figure 1: RMB exchange rate

Sources: Wind, CCX research

## Interest Rate: China Government Bond yields showed mixed trend

China Government Bond yields showed mixed trend. As of February 19, the 1-year and 3-year

Government Bond yields fluctuated downward from February 5, closing at 2.6512% and 2.8922% respectively. The 5-year, 7-year, and 10-year Government Bond yields increased from February 5, closing at 3.0790%, 3.2269% and 3.2578%, respectively.

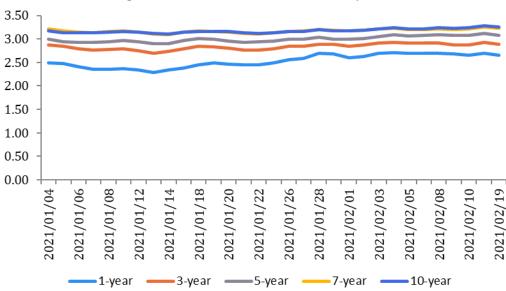


Figure 2: China Government Bond yields

Sources: ChinaBond.com.cn, CCX research

As the US Senate passed the USD1.9 trillion relief bill and economic data demonstrated improvement, the market set a rise in inflation and mid-term and long-term Treasury yields rose continuously. As of February 19, the 2-year Treasury yields closed at 0.11%, same as last Friday. The 5-year, 10-year and 30-year Treasury yields closed at 0.59%, 1.34% and 2.14%, increasing by 9bp, 14bp and 13bp over last Friday, respectively. In terms of Treasury yield spreads, the spread between the 2-year and 10-year widened by 14bp to 123bp, while the spread between the 5-year and 30-year widened by 4bp to 155bp from last Friday.

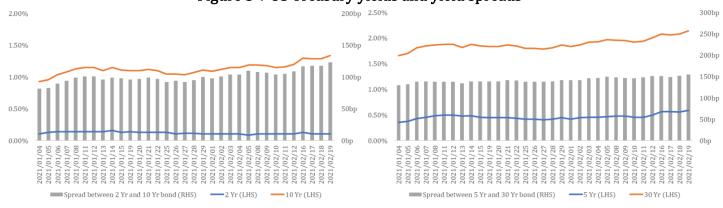


Figure 3: US Treasury yields and yield spreads

As of February 19, the yield spread between China and US 10-year note was 192bp, tightening by 12bp from last Friday and 34bp from the beginning of the year.

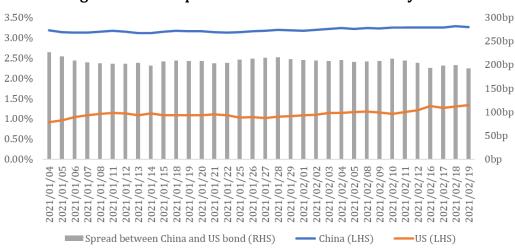


Figure 4: Yield spread between China and US 10-year note

Sources: Bloomberg, ChinaBond.com.cn, CCX research

#### **Chinese Offshore Bond Market**

Primary Market: New issuance dropped amid Chinese New Year holidays; China Ping An Overseas was the largest issuer

New Issuance dropped amid Chinese New Year Holidays. From February 8 to February 19, there were 5 new issues with a total issued volume of USD726 billion. China Ping An Insurance Overseas Holdings Ltd ("China Ping An Overseas") was the largest issuer that raised USD250 million.

Table 1: New issuance of Chinese offshore bonds (20210208-20210219)

| Pricing<br>Date | Obligor  | Currency | Amount (million) | Coupon<br>(%) | Maturity  | Tenor | Industry    | Issuer Rating<br>(Moody's/S&P/<br>Fitch) | Issue Rating<br>(Moody's/S&P/<br>Fitch) |
|-----------------|--|----------|------------------|---------------|-----------|-------|-------------|--|---|
| 2021/2/8        | Huatai International Financial<br>Holdings Co Ltd  | USD      | 20               | 1.23          | 2021/8/10 | 181D  | Financials  | -/BBB/-                                  | -/-/-                                   |
| 2021/2/9        | Zhuhai Huafa Industrial Co Ltd                     | USD      | 200              | 3.6           | 2022/2/18 | 364D  | Real Estate | -/-/-                                    | -/-/-                                   |
| 2021/2/9        | Sinic Holdings Group Co Ltd                        | USD      | 110              | 12            | 2022/11/9 | 1.75  | Real Estate | B2/B/B+                                  | -/-/-                                   |
| 2021/2/9        | Taizhou Huaxin Pharmaceutical<br>Investment Co Ltd | USD      | 146              | 5             | 2024/2/22 | 3     | Chengtou    | -/-/BB+                                  | -/-/BB+                                 |
| 2021/2/18       | China Ping An Insurance Overseas<br>Holdings Ltd   | USD      | 250              | 2.95          | 2031/2/25 | 10    | Financials  | Baa2/-/-                                 | Baa2/-/-                                |

Sources: Bloomberg, CCX research

On February 10, China Huarong Financial Leasing Co Ltd announced tap bond offering.

Table 2: Tap bond offering (20210208-20210219)

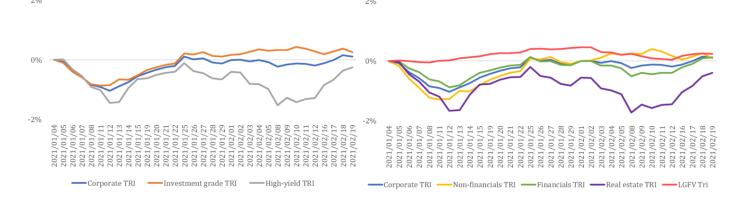
| Pricing<br>date | Obligor                                   | Currency | Amount (million)      | Coupon<br>(%) | Maturity  | Tenor | Industry   | Issuer Rating<br>(Moody's/S&P/<br>Fitch) | 9      |
|-----------------|---|----------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|-------|------------|--|--------|
| 2021/2/10       | China Huarong Financial Leasing Co<br>Ltd | USD      | 340<br>(reoffered 40) | 1.9           | 2022/1/12 | 363D  | Financials | Baa1/BBB+/A-                             | -/-/A- |

Sources: Bloomberg, CCX research

## Secondary Market: Chinese dollar bond yield diverged in performance; return on real estate climbed the most

As of February 19, the YTD return on Chinese USD corporate bond index increased by 30bp from last Friday to 0.11%. The return on investment-grade bond declined by 2bp to 0.27%, and the return on high-yield bond increased by 103bp to -0.25%. In terms of sector indices, the return on real estate index climbed the most, increasing by 105bp to -0.40%. Return on non-financial sector fell by 9bp from last Friday to 0.09%; while returns on financials and Chengtou sectors were 0.12% and 0.24%, increasing by 53bp and 19bp from last week, respectively.

Figure 5: YTD return on Markit IBoxx Chinese USD bond index



Sources: Bloomberg, CCX research

As of February 19, the yield-to-worst of Chinese dollar bonds decreased by 8bp to 3.06% from last Friday, of which investment grade bond index was 2.18%, same as last Friday. The highyield bond index decreased by 50bp to 7.58%.

 $<sup>^{1}\,</sup>$  Year-to-date return measures the return since January 4, 2021

8% 7% 6% 5% 4% 3% 2% 1% 0% 2021/01/06 2021/01/08 2021/01/12 2021/01/14 2021/01/19 2021/01/25 2021/01/29 2021/02/08 2021/02/12 2021/01/27 2021/01/21 3-yr US Treasury yield Overall = Investment grade

Figure 6: Yield-to-worst of Bloomberg Barclays Chinese USD bond index

Sources: Bloomberg, CCX research

## Rating Actions: CCXAP assigned first-time long-term credit rating of BBg+ to SIIG

On February 8, CCXAP assigned Shangrao Innovation Development Industry Investment Group Co., Ltd. ("SIIG")'s BB<sub>g</sub>+ long term credit rating.

**Table 3: Credit rating of CCXAP (20210208-20210219)** 

| Date                | Entity  |   | Rating Rationale  |
|---------------------|---|---|---|
|                     | The long-term credit rating of SIIG reflects the Company's (1) good track record of receiving |   |   |
|                     |   | ongoing  support; (2)  regional  monopoly  position  in  infrastructure  construction  and  public  utilities |   |
| 2024 /2 /0 CHC DD + | DD i  | of Shangrao Economic and Technological Development Zone ("Shangrao ETDZ"); and (3)                            |   |
| 2021/2/6            | 2021/2/8 SIIG BB <sub>g</sub> +   | DDg∓  | important position in industrial investment of Shangrao City. However, the rating is also |
|                     |   | constrained by the Company's (1) high concentration in industrial investments and uncertainties               |   |
|                     |   |   | over investment returns; and (2) high debt leverage and weak liquidity profile.           |

From February 8 to February 19, the rating agencies took positive rating actions on 11 Chinese issuers; and negative rating actions on 4 Chinese issuers.

Table 4: Credit rating changes of cross-border bond market (20210208-20210220)

|         |                            |                           | Current Rating              |        |          |                       | Previous Ra                 | ting         | Rating  | Reason of  |
|---------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------|--|
| Entity  |                            | Sector                    | Entity<br>Outlook<br>Rating |        | Date     | Date Entity<br>Rating |                             | Outlook Date |         | Change   |
| Inte    | rnational Rating:          |                           |                             |        |          |                       |                             |              |         |  |
|         | Fosun International<br>Ltd | Consumer<br>Discretionary | Ва3                         | STABLE | 2021/2/8 | Ва3                   | NEG                         | 2020/7/28    | Moody's | Stable financial profile                           |
| Upgrade | CNOOC Ltd                  | Energy                    | A+                          | STABLE | 2021/2/8 | A+                    | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26    | S&P     | Expectation of CNOOC's dominance in                |
| ם       | CNOOC Finance Corp<br>Ltd  | Financials                | A+                          | STABLE | 2021/2/8 | A+                    | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26    | S&P     | China's offshore<br>oil and gas<br>exploration and |

## **Cross-border Bonds Weekly Report**

|           | CNOOC Insurance Ltd                                     | Financials                | A+   | STABLE                      | 2021/2/8  | A+   | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26  | S&P     | production<br>industry  |
|-----------|---|---------------------------|------|-----------------------------|-----------|------|-----------------------------|------------|---------|---|
|           | China National<br>Offshore Oil Corp                     | Energy                    | A+   | STABLE                      | 2021/2/8  | A+   | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26  | S&P     |   |
|           | China Petroleum & Chemical Corp                         | Energy                    | A+   | STABLE                      | 2021/2/8  | A+   | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26  | S&P     |   |
|           | China Petrochemical<br>Corp                             | Energy                    | A+   | STABLE                      | 2021/2/8  | A+   | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26  | S&P     | Expectation of Sinopec Group 's dominance in  |
|           | Sinopec Century<br>Bright Capital<br>Investment Limited | Energy                    | Α    | STABLE                      | 2021/2/8  | A    | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26  | S&P     | China's oil refining<br>and marketing,<br>and chemical  |
|           | Sinopec Insurance<br>Ltd                                | Financials                | A+   | STABLE                      | 2021/2/8  | A+   | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/1/26  | S&P     | segments  |
|           | China Oil and Gas<br>Group Limited                      | Utilities                 | Ba2  | STABLE                      | 2021/2/10 | Ba2  | NEG                         | 2020/5/11  | Moody's | Expectation for a recovery in oil prices and stable gas sales growth.                         |
|           | CAR Inc   | Consumer<br>Discretionary | Caa1 | POS                         | 2021/2/19 | Caa1 | NEG                         | 2020/11/13 | Moody's | Improving funding access and reduce uncertainty after the emergence of a majority shareholder |
|           | SF Holding Co Ltd                                       | Industrials               | A-   | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/2/10 | A-   | STABLE                      | 2020/9/14  | Fitch   | Heightened debt<br>leverage due to<br>acquisition plan  |
| Downgrade | Zensun Group<br>Limited                                 | Consumer<br>Discretionary | В2   | STABLE                      | 2021/2/10 | В1   | NEG                         | 2020/2/10  | Moody's | Weak sales<br>performance and<br>cash collection  |
| Dow       | Red Star Macalline<br>Group Corp Ltd                    | Real Estate               | ВВ   | STABLE                      | 2021/2/11 | BB+  | NEG                         | 2020/3/24  | S&P     | Industry<br>slowdown and<br>lingering effects<br>from the COVID-<br>19 outbreak               |
| Dor       | nestic Rating:  |                           |      |                             |           |      |                             |            |         |   |
| Downgrade | China Fortune Land<br>Development Co., Ltd              | Real Estate               | В    | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/2/20 | A    | Rating<br>Watch<br>Negative | 2021/2/3   | CCXI    | High debt<br>repayment risk,<br>tight liquidity and<br>low level of cash                      |

Sources: Bloomberg, Wind, CCX research

#### Panda Bond Market: China Power issued SCP

On February 8, the 2021 China Power International Development Limited's Short-term Commercial Paper (Series I) was successfully issued in the China Interbank Market. It raised RMB500 million at the coupon rate of 3.20% and tenor of 179days.

As of February 19, there were 4 issuers that issued 5 panda bonds with a total issued amount of RMB4.2 billion and an average coupon rate of 3.67%, with tenor of mostly 3 years or above.

Issuance were mostly in the China Interbank Market.

Table 5: New issuance of Panda Bond in 2021 (20210101-20210219)

|  |                            |               |            |           | ,     |                   |                             |                                  |
|--|----------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|-------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Issuer   | Amount<br>(RMB<br>billion) | Coupon<br>(%) | Issue date | Maturity  | Tenor | Bond Type         | Issue Market                | Local Rating<br>Agency           |
| China Power International<br>Development Limited | 0.5                        | 3.20          | 2021/2/8   | 2021/8/6  | 0.5   | SCP               | China Interbank<br>Market   | Golden Credit<br>Rating          |
| Yuexiu Transport Infrastructure<br>Limited       | 1                          | 3.78          | 2021/1/28  | 2026/28   | 5     | MTN               | China Interbank<br>Market   | China<br>Chengxin                |
| Yuexiu Transport Infrastructure<br>Limited       | 1                          | 3.63          | 2021/1/25  | 2026/1/25 | 5     | Corporate<br>Bond | Shanghai<br>Exchange Market | China<br>Chengxin                |
| GLP China Holdings Limited                       | 0.7                        | 3.98          | 2021/1/25  | 2024/1/25 | 3     | Corporate<br>Bond | Shanghai<br>Exchange Market | China<br>Chengxin                |
| China Everbright Water Ltd                       | 1                          | 3.75          | 2021/1/15  | 2024/1/15 | 3     | MTN               | China Interbank<br>Market   | Shanghai<br>Brilliance<br>Rating |

Sources: Bloomberg, CCX research

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