FOORD

FOREWORD

Issue 71 – Q3 2024

With US elections just around the corner it's no surprise that our feature article tackles the issue. In *The US Presidential Election: What Investors Need to Know*, Foord Singapore portfolio manager Brian Arcese looks at key investment themes facing the presidential candidates and how the election outcome could move markets.

On the home front, portfolio manager Rashaad Tayob unpacks the SARB's recent rate cut and looks ahead at future rate adjustments in *Will South Africa's Cautious Rate Cut Cut It?* In *Local is Lekker for the Foord Equity Fund*, I explain the fund's ASISA sector change, revisit the fund's objectives and share its accomplishments. Linda Eedes writes about the financial implications of the new 'two-pot' retirement system in *Potluck Win for the South African Fiscus*. Arlene Herbert takes us through Foord's processes and protocols to protect investors against fraud in *Protocols to Safeguard Against Fraudulent Activity*. And we round off with a market summary of the quarter in *Markets in a Nutshell*.

Enjoy the read and the rush towards the end of the year.

Paul Cluer
Managing Director

THE US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION: WHAT INVESTORS NEED TO KNOW

As the US approaches its presidential election, the stakes extend far beyond political leadership — the economic ramifications are substantial and global in reach. With Vice President Kamala Harris leading former President Donald Trump in national polls — albeit with razor-thin margins in key swing states — the potential policy shifts could significantly impact markets, taxes, regulations, and investment strategies. Foord Singapore portfolio manager BRIAN ARCESE looks at key investment themes facing the presidential candidates and how the election outcome could move markets.

INFLATION

A key election theme has been the level of US inflation, which is also a central focus for investors. Recent data suggests a continuation of disinflationary trends, primarily driven by a slowdown in shelter inflation, which accounts for nearly one-third of the US Consumer Price Index. Forward-looking indicators suggest continued deflationary pressures from shelter inflation in the coming months.

However, looming risks could disrupt this trajectory. The recent strike by dockworkers on the US East and Gulf coasts — which handle 50% of incoming ocean-going cargo — threatens supply chains. While the immediate inflationary impact may be minimal, a prolonged disruption could exacerbate inflation, underscoring the need for interest rates to stay higher for longer. High inflation and higher interest rates are an anathema to presidents and investors.

INTEREST RATES AND THE FED'S BALANCING ACT

The US central bank has started its easing cycle, implementing a sizable 0.5% rate cut while maintaining a balanced outlook. The US economy certainly looks to be moving towards a 'Goldilocks' scenario — neither too hot, nor too cold — recording a 3% annualised GDP growth in the last quarter with inflation moderating to 2.7% year-on-year. Yet, despite robust growth, the labour market is showing signs of cooling.

Historical precedents from 2001 and 2007 suggest that rate-cutting cycles starting off with half percentage-point rate cuts (as is the case today) were followed by significant increases in unemployment and subsequent recessions. As the Fed shifts its focus to employment metrics, upcoming labour market data will be critical in determining the pace and extent of future rate cuts. The candidates — and investors — may unexpectedly face a US recession early in their term.

EARNINGS OUTLOOK: GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Corporate earnings remain a cornerstone of investment valuations. While earnings expectations have moderated, they are still optimistic. Consensus estimates predict 11% earnings growth next year for US markets. This optimism persists despite cautionary signals from leading economic indicators, such as rising auto loan delinquencies, slowing housing starts, and a softening labour market.

US markets are currently trading at valuations approximately 20% above their long-term averages. This premium suggests that investors are pricing in high growth expectations, which may be challenging to achieve. The combination of lofty valuations and potential economic headwinds suggests the need for caution.

THE CHINA PERSPECTIVE

In contrast to the US, Chinese equities are trading at historically low valuations. Chinese policymakers have launched a series of monetary, fiscal, and regulatory measures to address economic pressures. These include cutting reserve requirement ratios, reducing policy rates, and introducing new monetary tools to stabilise equity markets.

While these initiatives may not reverse China's economic slowdown entirely, they aim to prevent further deterioration. Investment portfolios with significant exposure to Chinese equities have reaped the benefits. However, China's trade policy is in the crosshairs of both presidential candidates.

DIVERGENT POLICY PATHS: HARRIS VS TRUMP

In general, US presidential elections do not materially drive markets. However, there are four areas of divergent policy that will affect corporate profitability and investor returns: taxation, regulation, tariffs/trade and energy.

TAX POLICIES

Two major pieces of US tax legislation are in focus: the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) of 2017 from the Trump presidency and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022 during the Biden term. The TCJA — which reduced the corporate tax rate from 35% to 21% — is set to expire at the end of 2025. A Trump presidency will prioritise extending the TCJA, maintaining current tax rates and providing continuity for businesses.

Conversely, a Harris administration might allow the TCJA provisions to expire, leading to higher corporate and individual tax rates. This shift could result in a 66% increase in corporate tax rates, significantly impacting after-tax earnings and investment capacity. If Democrats wrest control of Congress, more aggressive tax reforms could include higher capital gains taxes and increased taxation on share buybacks and executive compensation.

The IRA focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2030 by offering substantial tax credits for clean energy initiatives. A Harris victory would likely preserve these incentives, fostering investment in renewable energy sectors. In contrast, a Trump administration might scale back these provisions, potentially slowing the growth of domestic clean energy projects.

REGULATORY LANDSCAPE

Regulation is another area where the presidential candidates diverge, particularly concerning financial institutions and technology companies. In the financial sector, a Harris presidency might reinforce the adoption of Basel III capital requirements, compelling large banks to increase capital reserves, and potentially lowering returns — a win for regulators. A Trump administration would likely favour deregulation, easing capital requirements and possibly enhancing profitability for financial institutions — a win for shareholders.

Both candidates are critical of big tech. A Trump victory would probably maintain the current administration's efforts to limit the dominance of big tech companies — seen as overly woke — through antitrust actions. While a Harris administration might continue scrutinising these firms, analysts anticipate a more balanced approach — potentially leading to settlements in less substantiated cases involving industry giants like Apple and Amazon.

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Both presidential candidates are advocating for aggressive trade measures against China, signalling a bipartisan shift toward protectionism. The Biden administration — and Harris by extension — has proposed a 100% tax on Chinese electric vehicles and restricted semiconductor exports, while Trump suggests a 60% tariff on all Chinese goods and a 10% tariff on all imports.

These policies aim to counter China's rapid industrialisation and dominance in manufacturing clean energy products. However, such tariffs may not achieve the intended goal of revitalising domestic industries, as China's vast scale and significant domestic market enable it to remain a leading global manufacturer despite trade barriers.

Imposing high tariffs could also lead to unintended consequences, such as making domestic industries complacent and less competitive globally. They could also be inflationary for the US.

ENERGY POLICY

The presidential election will significantly impact global energy markets due to the candidates' differing energy policies. A Harris administration is expected to continue President Biden's focus on renewable energy and initiatives like the IRA, accelerating the transition to clean energy. Conversely, a Trump presidency might revert to pro-drilling and less environmentally focused policies, potentially increasing domestic oil production. This could alter oil price dynamics over the next five years, benefiting oil service companies in the near term, but potentially hindering global efforts toward net-zero emissions.

Regardless of who wins, larger global forces will influence energy markets. Europe's attempt to reduce reliance on Russian energy has tightened supplies, and OPEC is cutting production to maintain high prices. Meanwhile, non-OPEC producers like US shale oil are experiencing flattening output. The shift toward green energy introduces new geopolitical challenges, as China controls much of the supply chain for critical raw materials needed for renewable technologies. This control could complicate the transition to clean energy, especially if trade tensions escalate. Therefore, the election outcome will not only shape US energy policy, but also have far-reaching implications for global energy markets and resource geopolitics.

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WILL SOUTH AFRICA'S CAUTIOUS RATE CUT CUT IT?

The South African Reserve Bank's recent decision to cut interest rates by just 0.25% signals a measured approach as the global rate-cutting cycle gathers momentum. As central banks around the world react to easing inflationary pressures and slowing economies, South Africa is navigating its own unique set of challenges. Portfolio manager RASHAAD TAYOB examines the implications of the SARB's decision and what investors can expect from future rate adjustments.

South Africa has arguably been behind the central bank rate-cutting curve. Even the European Central Bank has made two 0.25% interest rate cuts, while the US Federal Reserve recently cut rates by a hefty 0.5%. SARB's 25 basis point rate cut — as well as the tone of its statement and the Governor's delivery — stood out as mildly hawkish (see 'Did You Know?').

While the rate cut itself was welcomed, SARB's message was clear: it aims to move towards a neutral rate above 7%, with the focus on inflation stability. This contrasts with the market's pricing, which predicts interest rates falling below 7% by mid-2025. SARB's press conference and statement also appeared to push back against expectations of aggressive rate cuts, indicating that the central bank remains cautious about overstimulating the economy.

The decision underscores SARB's traditionally conservative approach. While some observers, including me, expected a split decision with some voting members favouring a 0.5% rate cut — especially in the context of the US Fed's larger reduction — the SARB committee's unanimous vote for a smaller cut was surprising.

Looking ahead, we believe that SARB will continue its prudent approach to rate cuts. We are likely to see another 0.25% cut in November, which will take place after the Fed's next decision. Heading into 2025, we anticipate two or three further cuts, but the bar to cut rates aggressively towards — or below — the 7% level will remain high.

SARB is mindful that the spread between US and South African rates is historically narrow. The US central bank is also unlikely to repeat the extreme monetary easing seen in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis, when US interest rates were slashed to near zero. In my view, investors expecting steep cuts of 2.5% or more in either market in the next year will likely be disappointed.

The rating cutting cycle is well underway across the developed and emerging markets. South Africa is now belatedly following suit. The strong rand and lower oil prices mean the inflation outlook is benign, giving SARB the space to make cuts. We nevertheless expect SARB to remain conservative, balancing the need for economic stimulus with the risk of inflationary pressure.

South Africa's economic challenges — particularly its ballooning debt burden — remain a pressing concern. The country's debt has skyrocketed from R1 trillion in 2011 to approximately R5.5 trillion today, driven by persistent budget deficits and weak growth, which has averaged less than 1% over the past decade. The country must boost growth to around 3% and curtail bailouts to state-owned enterprises if it hopes to stabilise its debt trajectory. The new Government of National Unity offers us a chance to change the country's economic course. However, this will depend on stability within the coalition government and the continuation of structural reforms.

On the currency front, the rand has performed well — buoyed by improved political and economic prospects. Foreigners are again net buyers of South African bonds and shares, boosting the rand compared to its emerging market peers. However, further currency gains will depend on continued dollar weakness and the sustainability of South Africa's economic recovery.

While rate cuts will help ease funding costs for consumers and businesses, SARB's cautious stance means that rates are unlikely to dip below 7%, unless inflation moves firmly towards the lower end of the 3-6% target range. Even then, SARB would be reluctant to cut rates sharply unless the US central bank makes an equally aggressive move. Investors should therefore manage their expectations — sharp, deep cuts in interest rates are unlikely, and the path forward will most probably be slow and steady.

In conclusion, SARB's recent rate cut reflects a cautious optimism about the future. While there is capacity for further reductions, the central bank is keenly focused on long-term inflation management and ensuring economic stability. Investors should anticipate a gradual pace of rate cuts as South Africa balances its domestic challenges with the realities of the global economic environment. Despite the rate cut, monetary policy remains restrictive.

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LOCAL IS LEKKER FOR THE FOORD EQUITY FUND

The Foord Equity Fund has been a stalwart of South Africa's Equity—General unit trust category for 22 years. On 1 October 2024 the fund changed sectors to the newly introduced SA—Equity—SA General sector, which is for general equity funds investing solely into South African equities. Director PAUL CLUER looks at the reason for the move and revisits the Foord Equity Fund's investment objectives and accomplishments.

FUND CLASSIFICATION

The Foord Equity Fund was launched in 2002 into the broad and popular Domestic—Equity—General unit trust category as it was called at the time. Exchange controls had then only been newly relaxed and JSE-listed equity funds were in favour with investors. Almost all funds focused on share investments listed on the local bourse to the exclusion of share investments listed abroad.

Government has slowly relaxed exchange controls for institutional investors, such as unit trust portfolios. Today, unit trust schemes can invest up to 45% of their assets abroad. Unit trust managers can decide which portfolios invest only in South Africa, which can invest abroad up to 45%, which might invest more than 45% abroad and which invest fully abroad — provided the total offshore allocation falls within the 45% limit.

Over time, about half of the equity funds in the Equity—General sector incrementally added global stocks to their portfolios. The sector then became a hodgepodge of funds without foreign exposure and those with up to 45% invested abroad. Comparisons understandably became meaningless. The splitting of the Equity—General sector — into a sector for funds that invest abroad and another for those that do not — is long overdue.

Despite all our big peers moving towards hybrid SA-foreign equity funds, Foord chose to retain the SA-only strategy for several reasons. Firstly, we wanted a dedicated, single-asset class fund that could be used as a building block by investors. We already have a global equity product for investors who wish to construct their own hybrid strategy. Secondly, we already have products that invest heavily offshore — the Foord Balanced Fund can invest up to 45% abroad, while the Foord Flexible Fund is our preferred product for investors who wish to invest in a fund that gives us wide geographical discretion. And, finally, we wished to retain the stellar track record.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Foord Equity Fund has a wide investment mandate to invest in shares and listed property counters on South African share exchanges. Its benchmark is the FTSE/JSE Capped All Share Index — a market value-weighted index that caps constituents at a maximum weight of 10% to avoid excessive concentration. The Foord Equity Fund's investment objective is to outperform this benchmark after fees over long periods. If we do this, we are also likely to produce meaningful, inflation-beating returns for investors. To outperform the benchmark after fees, the fund must be different from the benchmark. For us, this is not difficult — there are many companies we discard for quality reasons. We might also favour small or mid-cap stocks at higher weights than the index where we feel growth prospects and valuations are good.

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STRATEGY

Beating the benchmark requires us to be cognisant of the benchmark. However, we are not beholden to it — which in industry parlance is known as 'benchmark hugging'. Instead, the fund managers forecast prospective returns over the medium term based on past returns, prevailing valuations as well as forward-looking economic data points.

They then aim to significantly exceed this forecast, rather than being overly concerned about share-level over- or underweights relative to the benchmark. This will inform the portfolio construction along with the overarching requirement to manage inherent risks of permanent loss of capital — by focusing on the quality of underlying companies as well as diversifying risks across economic drivers.

The starting point and largest contributor in the portfolio will be shares that meet our top-down (macro views) and bottom-up (fundamental analysis) criteria. Portfolio managers also look for discrete opportunities that can do well despite a tough economy.

The Foord Equity Fund is currently around R4 billion in size. Accordingly, any listed share with a market cap exceeding R2 billion can make a material difference to the overall portfolio result. This means that our fund can be much more different to the benchmark than our larger peers can hope to achieve. We believe that it can be many times larger before returns may become constrained.

PERFORMANCE

Because we are not benchmark huggers, the fund's performance will usually differ from the benchmark. This is natural and to be expected. In the main, the fund is likely to lag when hot themes or trends, such as a resources frenzy, drive the benchmark into extreme lopsidedness; or when the market is roaring and even low-quality names are surging.

However, it usually outperforms when markets draw down or trend sideways for extended periods — known as stock-pickers markets — when quality comes to the fore. Statistics endorse this view: the Foord Equity Fund has outperformed its benchmark in 71% of months when the benchmark was negative. In aggregate, we expect to outperform the lopsided benchmark over rolling 3-5 year periods — with lower volatility and greater downside protection.

Over 22 years, the fund has achieved an annualised 14.3% return after fees and fund expenses, compared to the benchmark's return of 14.0% per annum. Over this period, inflation averaged just 5.3% and accordingly long-term investors were rewarded with attractive real returns. A R100,000 investment at the inception of the fund would have grown to R1.9 million today. Over the last three years the fund has delivered 15.2% for investors annually against a benchmark return of 14.5%, and the fund has a 6.5% lead over the benchmark in the last 12 months.

We continue to believe that the benchmark is beatable over time. Our investment team dedicates much of their energy to this specific endeavour. Our investment process is well defined, well resourced, and, we believe, repeatable. From investors we ask for enough time and patience to reap the rewards that accrue to long-term investing.

POTLUCK WIN FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN FISCUS

South Africa has finally overhauled its pension system to mandate the preservation of retirement savings until retirement age. The so-called 'two-pot' retirement system — introduced via the Revenue Laws Amendment Bill — came into force on 1 September 2024. Investment professional LINDA EEDES highlights the implications for the fiscus, corporate earnings and the broader economy.

The two-pot retirement system is a hybrid solution for competing needs: it preserves most future savings until retirement age, while still allowing retirement fund members to make annual withdrawals from a dedicated savings pot. This reform aims to enhance long-term financial stability while giving workers flexibility to access cash in emergencies.

Historically, pension withdrawals in South Africa have ranged between R100 billion and R160 billion annually, often driven by individuals resigning from their jobs to access their retirement savings. The two-pot system seeks to curb this trend by offering only partial access to savings without the need for resignation. However, access comes at a price — withdrawals are taxed at marginal income tax rates and not at the lower rates afforded to retirees.

The law will be applied prospectively from 1 September 2024. Existing retirement benefits at 31 August 2024 are subject to the old rules. On the go-live date, retirement funds would cede 10% of each member's benefit to their savings pot — capped at R30,000 — which would be available for immediate withdrawal. Industry pundits estimate that members may withdraw between R60 billion and R80 billion from their savings pots in the first year.

Early data released by leading retirement administrators suggests that these estimates may not be far off. Momentum received 79,000 withdrawal requests in the first seven days of September — approaching R1 billion in aggregate — mostly from low-income groups. Meanwhile, Sanlam reported 20,000 withdrawal claims in the first two days of September, and the Government Employees Pension Fund processed over 17,000 claims and counting after the first week. By the time of writing, Old Mutual reported 170,000 claims worth R2.2 billion and Alexander Forbes had received more than 250,000 claims estimated at over R4.5 billion.

Although this represents a relatively small fraction of the country's R6 trillion retirement savings industry, the economic implications of where this liquidity is directed could be meaningful. First up, National Treasury stands to benefit from the withdrawals — potentially generating around R10 billion in additional tax revenue. This would ease the government's fiscal deficit, providing support to government bonds. The additional tax revenue will help to shore up public finances, offering some relief to the country's strained budget.

Economists project that the two-pot system will lead to a consumer windfall, stimulating household consumption. The boost to spending, coupled with anticipated interest rate cuts as inflation moderates by late 2024, may lift economic growth rates by up to 0.7% in 2025.

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The two-pot system's impact on corporate earnings will vary by sector. Retailers could benefit from increased spending on essentials like clothing and groceries, or on furniture. Investments in the Foord unit trust portfolios such as Pepkor, which has a significant portion of sales linked to school clothing, and Lewis, the furniture retailer, may stand to benefit. The banking sector may also see improvements in asset quality and lower impairments if consumers use their withdrawals to pay off debt — despite lower net interest income margins. Retirement administrators and life insurers are likely to be net losers in the short term.

While any erosion of retirement savings is concerning, the two-pot system aims to secure more long-term financial stability by preserving two-thirds of savings for retirement, even in the event of resignations. Although not without risk, these near-term withdrawals could at least boost consumer spending and economic growth, offering some welcome short-term relief to retailers in what has been a challenging economic environment for all South Africans over the past decade.

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PROTOCOLS TO SAFEGUARD AGAINST FRAUDULENT ACTIVITY

In today's fast-changing financial world, fraud is an unfortunate reality we all face. As sophisticated criminals increasingly use advanced technologies like artificial intelligence and deep fakes, financial institutions are having to step up their defences to protect their clients. These developments can feel overwhelming, but your security is our top priority. ARLENE HERBERT explains Foord's key processes and protocols to protect against fraud.

As fraudsters become more sophisticated, we need to change how we operate. You might notice some adjustments in how we handle your account instructions. While these changes may feel a bit unusual or even impersonal, they're essential for keeping your investments safe. When you request a redemption, change your bank account or access your online investment portal, you can expect a few extra steps.

Redemption requests: When you instruct for a redemption from your unit trust investment, expect a call or a video meeting request from us. This is a crucial step to confirm your request. We'll also ask you some security questions to verify your identity, even if we know you well. Please make sure to whitelist calls from our dedicated number — 021 532 6969 — so you don't miss this important communication. To protect your investments, we'll hold off on processing payments until we can confirm your instruction, which may take a bit longer if we cannot reach you immediately.

Bank account changes: If you want to change your bank account details, we'll also reach out via phone or video call for confirmation. We'll ask security questions and may even request that you hold up your ID during the call for further verification. We only process payments to bank accounts in your name. This means that we will not transfer redemption proceeds to third parties — even if they're family members. To avoid any delays, please keep us updated on any changes to your bank account info, contact details, and home address.

Investor Online: To enhance your security, we have introduced a One-Time PIN (OTP) sent via SMS when you log into Foord's Investor Online portal. This added layer of protection helps to keep your account and investments safe.

Deceased estates: Unfortunately, the Master's Offices have become porous to fraud syndicates operating on deceased estates. The risks of fraudulent access to estate late accounts are sky high. We have accordingly dramatically tightened up controls around the appointment of executors and the payments of monies from deceased estates on the instruction of the executors. The natural consequence is that it now takes longer to finalise deceased estates with investments with Foord. This is for the protection of all parties acting in good faith for the benefit of the estates of our investors.

Your investments are our top priority. We ask for your patience and partnership as we work through the added controls. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us directly.

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DID YOU KNOW? HAWKS AND DOVES

The terms 'hawkish' and 'dovish' in finance stem from the contrasting behaviours of hawks and doves. Hawkish policymakers focus on controlling inflation — often by raising interest rates — symbolising aggression and vigilance. In contrast, dovish officials aim to stimulate economic growth and reduce unemployment by keeping interest rates low — reflecting peace and gentleness.

A hawkish central bank tightens monetary policy to curb inflation, leading to higher borrowing costs and a stronger currency, but often at the expense of slowing economic growth. A dovish stance lowers interest rates to boost economic activity, encouraging borrowing and investing, even if it risks higher inflation.

Analysts monitor central bank communications for hawkish or dovish cues to make informed decisions, such as adjusting portfolios to hedge against inflation or capitalise on growth opportunities. So, when you hear about a hawkish Federal Reserve or a dovish European Central Bank, it's about more than avian metaphors — it's insight into strategies shaping global markets.

	WORLD	SOUTH AFRICA
Equities	Global equities overcame intra-quarter tech wobbles and US indices hit all-time highs on hopes that the US Federal Reserve would execute a soft economic landing after its first rate cut this cycle — while Chinese stocks surged on overdue Chinese stimulus to outperform US markets in 2024	The FTSE/JSE Capped All Share Index gained almost 10% as the global risk-on environment took hold — led by industrial and financial shares as the first 100 days of the GNU concluded with reasonable success, although resources fell
Bonds	Developed market bond yields traded sharply lower and bond markets advanced to recoup year-to-date losses — on improving inflation data, lower policy rates and some caution about slowing growth	SA bonds advanced by double digits as SARB cautiously started its rate-cutting cycle and inflation metrics improved — the All Bond Index has jumped 26% in the last year
Currencies	The dollar was weaker against the euro and pound after the Fed cut interest rates by an aggressive 0.5% — while the yen rallied strongly from multidecade lows on policy adjustments, triggering panic over the yen carry trade and igniting a mini tech selloff	The rand has been amongst the best performing emerging market currencies this year, advancing 5% against the US dollar last quarter — on improved political stability and better terms of trade
Commodities	Commodities advanced latterly on hopes that Chinese stimulus would buoy demand, while gold again set record highs as the global rate-cutting cycle became assured amid conflict in the Middle East — but oil nevertheless fell sharply on expectations of waning global demand and OPEC 'leader' Saudi Arabia planning to boost production	
Economy	The US economy is still growing at a 3% annualised pace, but the labour market is undoubtedly slowing — while the Eurozone is still growing, but much more slowly, and China has at last started meaningful stimulus to restore market and consumer confidence	South Africa's economic growth rate recovered from 0.0% to 0.4% (quarter-on-quarter) in the second quarter on political goodwill and Eskom's loadshedding wins — the country might even achieve a 1.0% growth rate this year on rate cuts and 'two-pot' spending boost
Monetary and fiscal policy	The US Federal Reserve surprised the market by cutting interest rates 50bps, while otherwise maintaining a balanced outlook on the economy and inflation — while the ECB cut rates for the second time this cycle as Eurozone inflation moderated sharply	The SA Reserve Bank has been behind the rate-cutting curve, but made a cautious 0.25% cut to the repo rate — while the SA fiscus stands to achieve a windfall gain of up to R10 billion on early withdrawals from the 'two-pot' retirement system implemented on 1 September 2024

DISCLOSURE

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