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Will Valuation Segue to Growth?

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University of the West of England, 27th November 2013











Scenario analysis – 2013 Base Case

Scenario analysis – 2013 Base Case (60% probability)

- Global growth environment to remain weak but pace revives towards 2014.
- Emerging market growth to exceed developed markets.
- Monetary policy to remain supportive across all geographies.
- ECB activates its OMT programme.
- Western developed ERPs to decline even despite limited policy progress on structural reform. Austerity continues.
- Triggers partial re-rating to 12x 12-month forward earnings (from 11x).
- European and UK margins bottom out in Q1 2013 results season.
- Earnings expectations revive with stronger 2014 in mind.

Scenario analysis – 2013 Bull Case

Scenario analysis – 2013 Bull Case (20% probability)

- The bullish case is predicated on aggressive (and decisive) policy response driving accelerated GDP growth
- US policy-makers arrive at a "Grand Bargain" over the fiscal cliff and debt ceiling
- Eurozone authorities lay out decisive steps towards banking and fiscal union
- ECB launches OMT programme
- Chinese growth surprises to the upside
- Corporate M&A revives as business confidence is restored
- Peripheral European bonds and equities outperform the core
- Stronger global growth drives strong EPS rebound
- Structural reforms drive strong equity market re-rating to 13x 12m forward earnings

Scenario analysis – 2013 Bear Case

Scenario analysis – Bear Case (20% probability)

- Continued policy paralysis and global growth disappoints
- US falls over the fiscal cliff and debt ceiling requires urgent remedial policy
- Asian growth disappoints expectations as the eurozone remains unfixed
- Eurozone recession becomes a depression as the periphery continues to underperform, infecting the core
- No progress on Western structural reform or economic direction change in China
- Rolling currency devaluation continues
- Credit rating agency downgrades begin to gain some traction and core bond yields start to rise
- Macroeconomic weakness prompts additional margin pressure, impacting negatively on earnings growth which disappoints throughout 2013
- 12m-forward PE slips from 11x to 10x, the bottom of its recent range

Investment themes 2013

- Prefer equities to corporate and sovereign bonds
- Prefer UK and European equities to US. Emerging markets a beta play on Western economic revival
- Stronger Asian growth augurs in favour of maintaining portfolio orientation towards internationally exposed businesses
- Investing for income likely to remain a core determinant in 2013
- Looking to upgrade cyclicals over defensives but waiting for a Q1 2013 equity market trough to take the plunge
- Sectorally we look for areas of high valuation dispersion and low relative valuation...but value investing requires stronger growth environment
- Remain wary on the Banks, but Miners should recover in blended outlook

Welcome to the Hotel California



Source: Reuters Ecowin Pro, US Federal Reserve, BNP Paribas

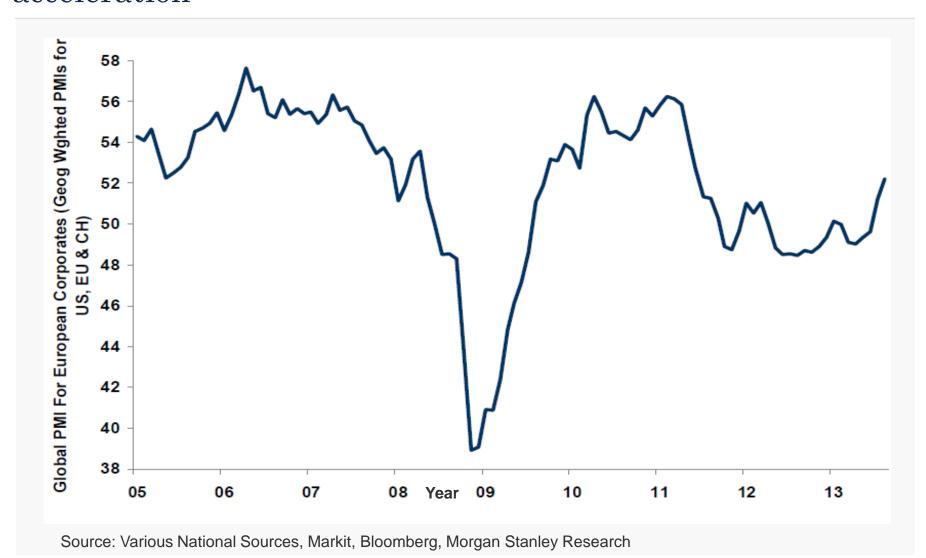
Global macroeconomic outlook: struggling back to trend

New, old and consensus GDP growth forecasts (% y/y)

		New Fored	casts		Old Fored	asts	Consens	us
	2012	2013e	2014e	2015e	2013e	2014e	2013e	2014e
World	2.7	2.5	3.3	3.4	2.5	3.3	2.4	3.1
Eurozone	-0.6	-0.4	0.8	1.4	-0.4	1.1	-0.3	0.9
USA	2.8	1.7	2.5	2.7	1.7	2.7	1.6	2.6
UK	0.1	1.4	2.3	2.5	1.5	2.3	1.4	2.2

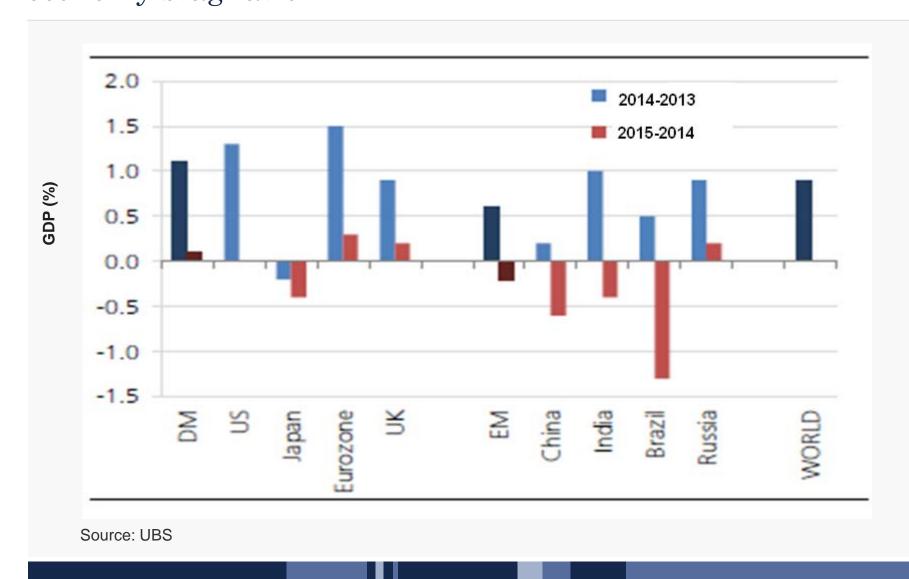
Source: CS and consensus estimates

Hope-fuelled global PMIs signal economic acceleration

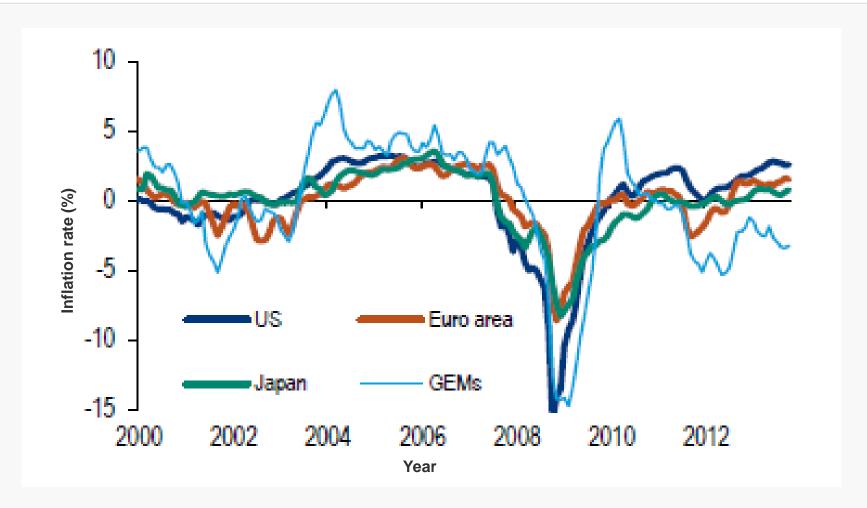


Global GDP growth forecasts vs. trend



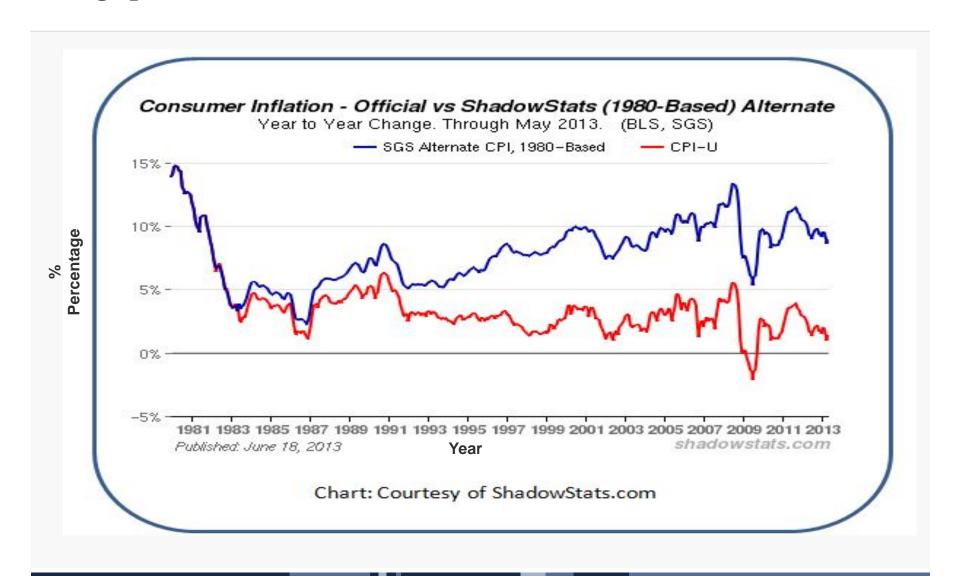


Official inflation very becalmed

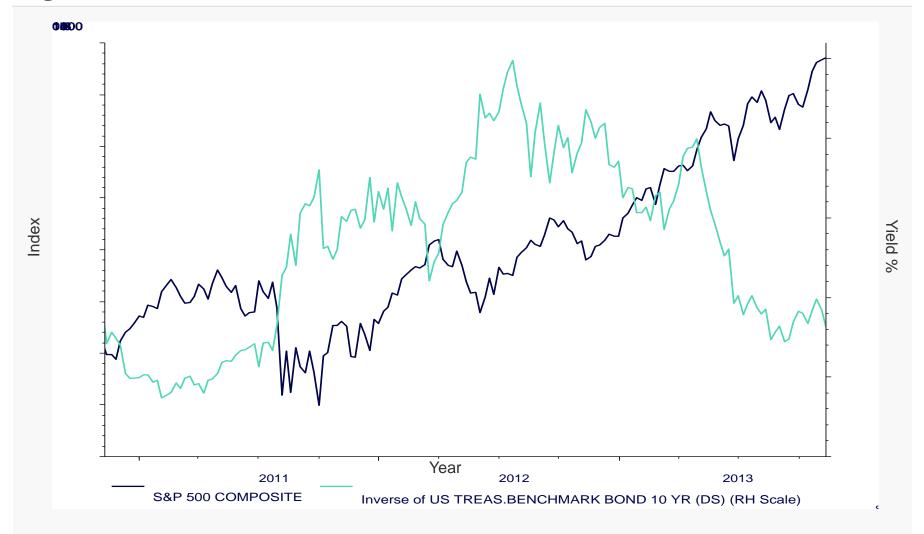


Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research

The gap between official and real inflation



In the US, as in Europe, equities decouple from higher market rates



Global asset allocation: do you believe?

- Asset allocation depends on your belief in global recovery
- Consensus growth forecasts show only a reversion to long-term average
- No acceleration in 2015
- Normalising growth = normalised sovereign bond yield curves
- Developed world base rates to remain anchored near zero in 2014
- Equities the only game in town with regional disparity

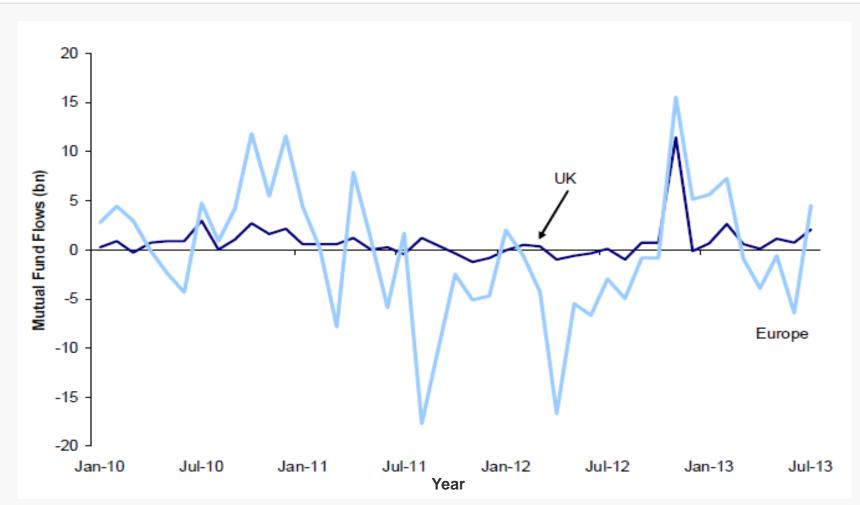
Fixed income performance this year



Acceleration, stabilisation, accommodation

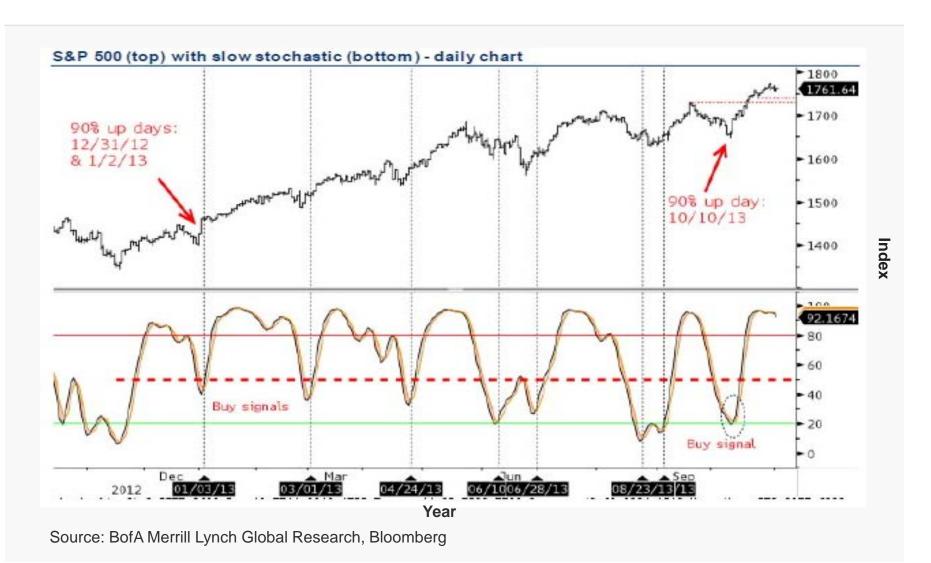


Equity inflows are picking up

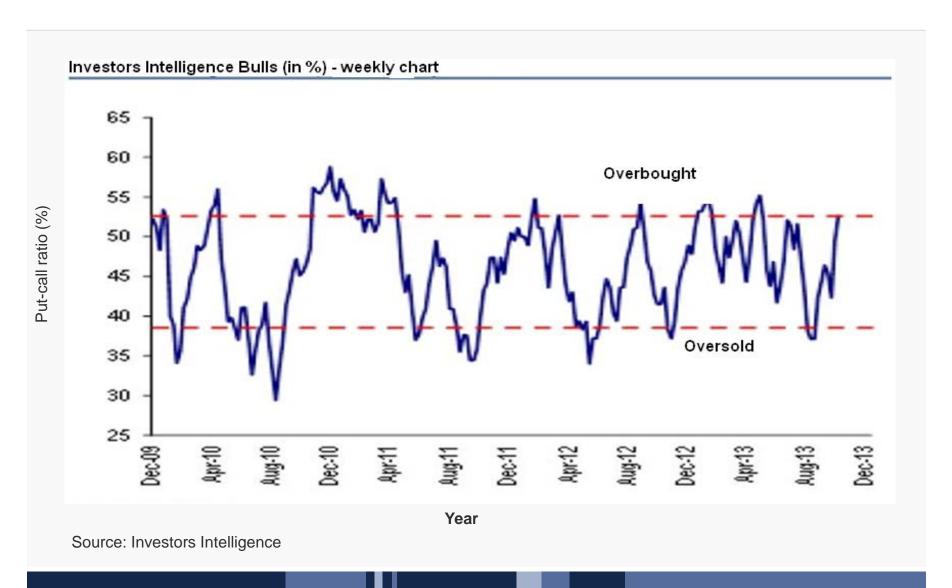


Source: Various National Sources, Markit, Bloomberg, Morgan Stanley Research

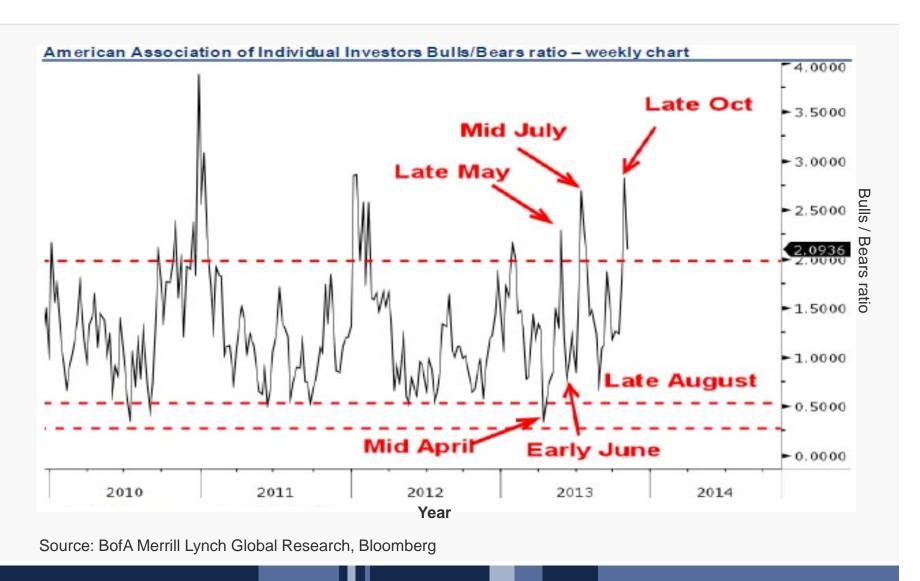
"It's frothy man!" Equities appear overbought



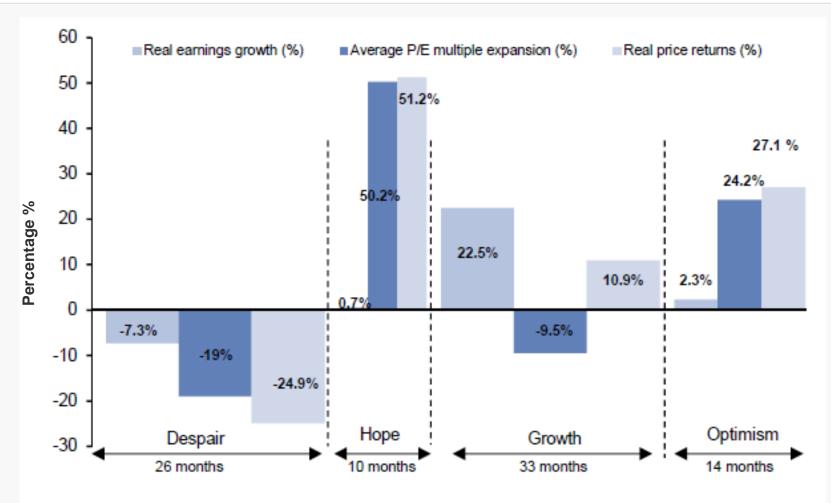
Investors are bullish on equity risk



Is consensus optimism complacency?

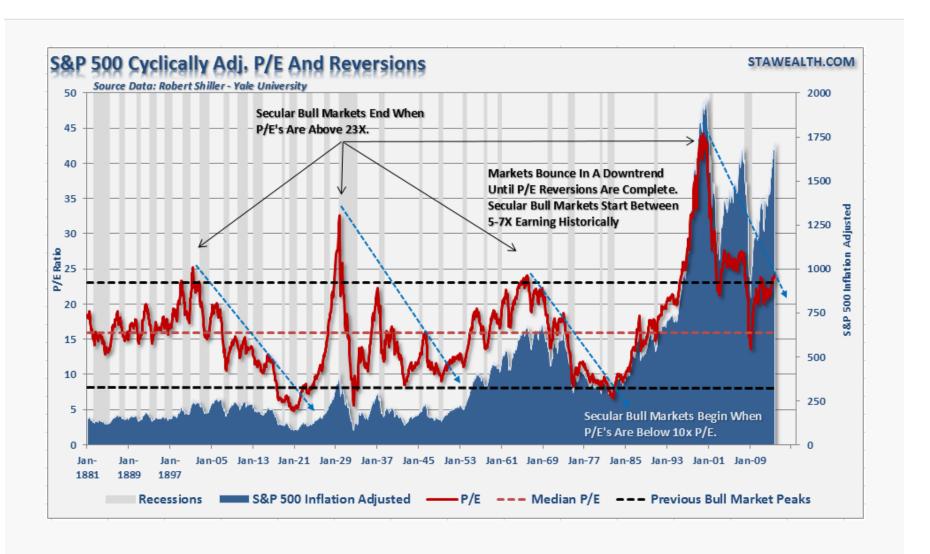


Phases of a 'typical' equity cycle

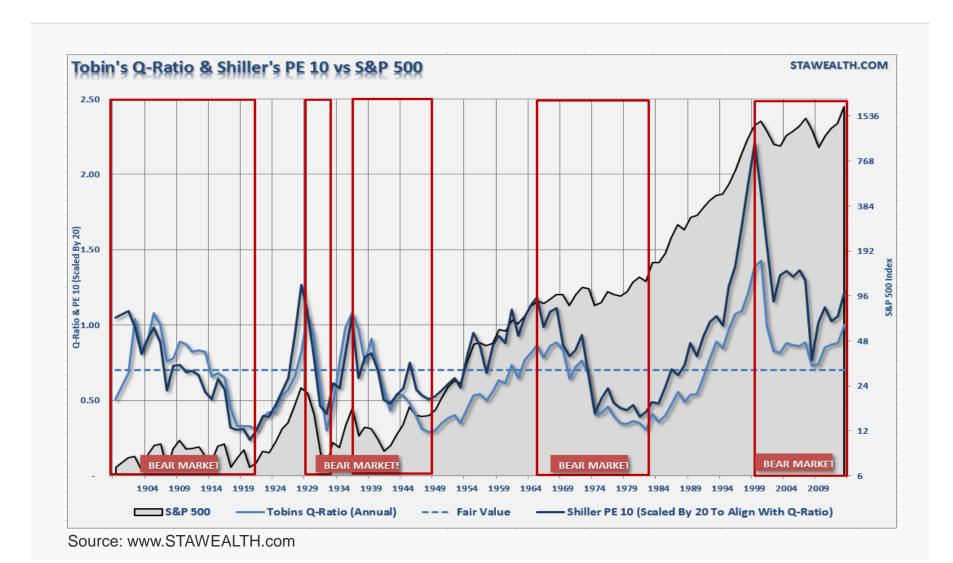


Source: Datastream, Goldman Sachs, Global Investment Research

Time for a pause in the equity re-rating story



Other valuation measures flash warning signals



Will earnings deliver?

Central Scenario and upside / downside risks. MSCI World

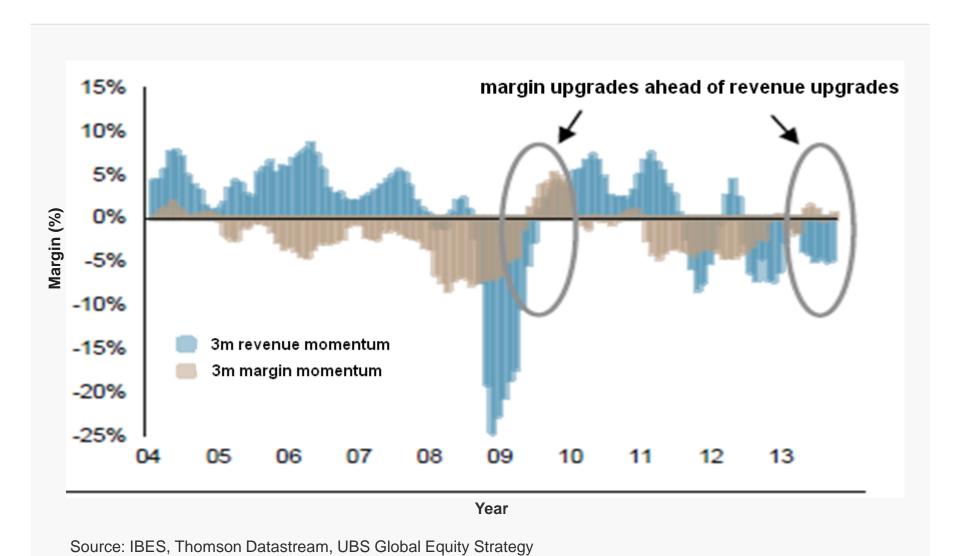
	2014 EPS est	2015 EPS est	P/E	Index Target	Current Value	% upside/ downside
Central Scena	rio 14%	9%	14.0	460	393	17%
Bull Case	19%	12%	15.0	525	393	33%
Bear Case	0%	5%	12.3	341	393	-13%

- Will there be a revenue revival
- What about capex?
- Further margin expansion?

Will margins expand again in 2014?

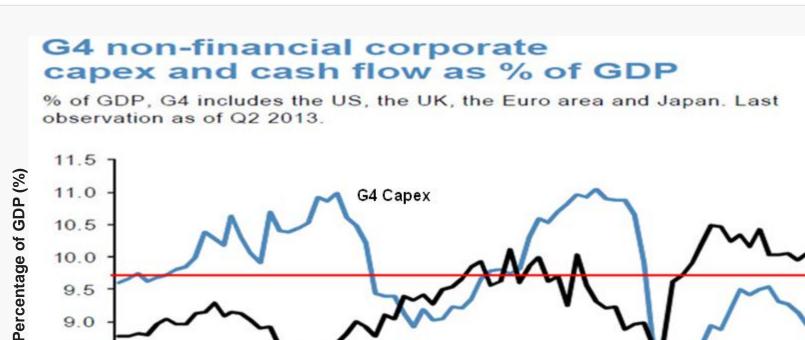
Region By reve	weight enues	EBIT Margin 2013e 2014e	What if?
30%	USA	12.5% 13.4%	13.1% EBIT margins return to peak levels
26%	Europe ex-UK	10.4% 11.1%	11.2% EBIT margins expand half way back to peak (12.1%)
18%	GEM	9.6% 10.0%	10.3% 75bp margin expansion (2007-12 avg 13.0%)
16%	UK	11.9% 13.3%	13.4% 150bp EBIT margin expansion (2007-12 avg 14.2%)
7%	Japan	6.5% 7.1%	7.1% EBIT margin to expand half way back to peak (7.7%)
4%	RoW	9.6% 11,7%	11.6% 200bp EBIT margin expansion
100% margin	World expansion	10.8% 11.7%	11.7% = 90bp global

Global revenue vs. market momentum



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"Show me the (lack of) money"



O3 Year

Source: ECB, BOJ, BOE, Federal Reserve flow of funds

97

G4 Cash flow

01

99

95

9.0

8.5

8.0

7.5

7.0

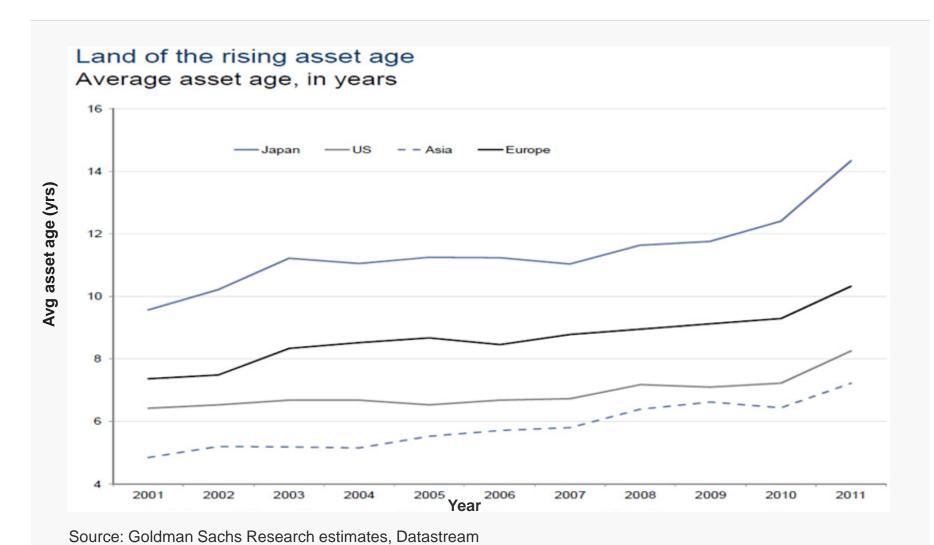
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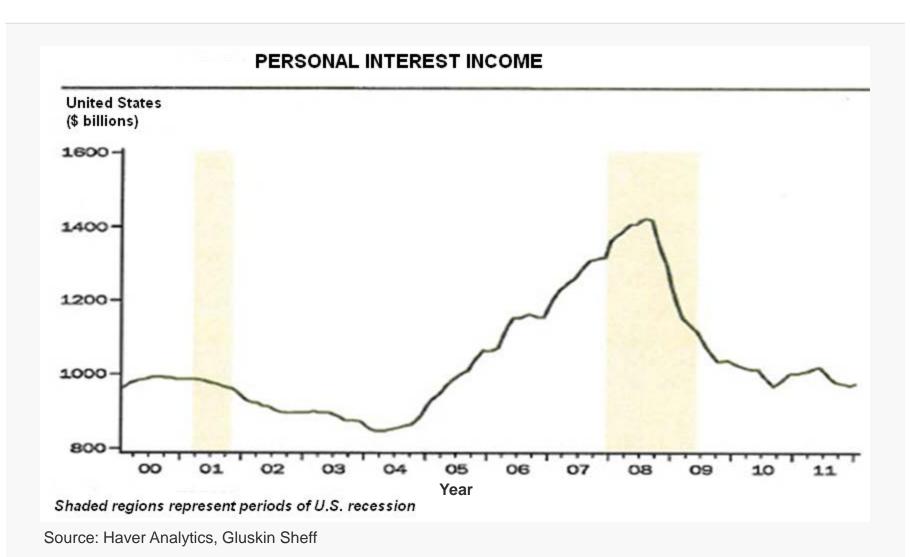
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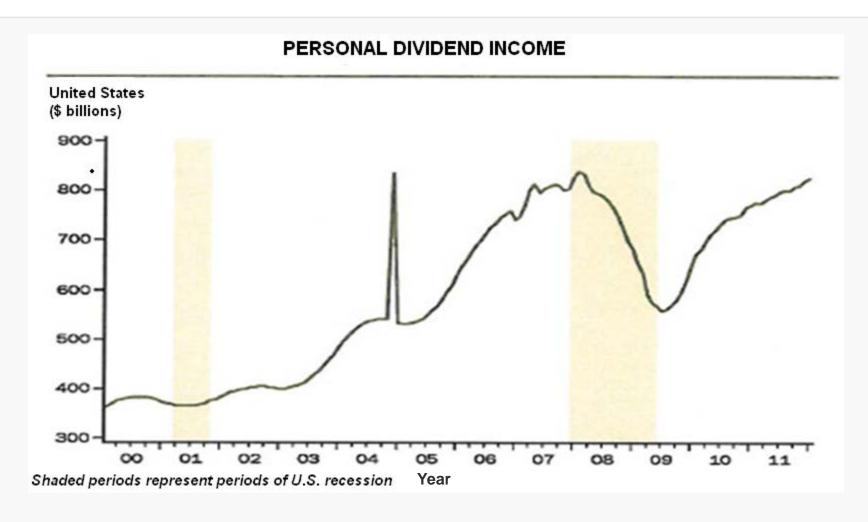
Land of the rising asset age



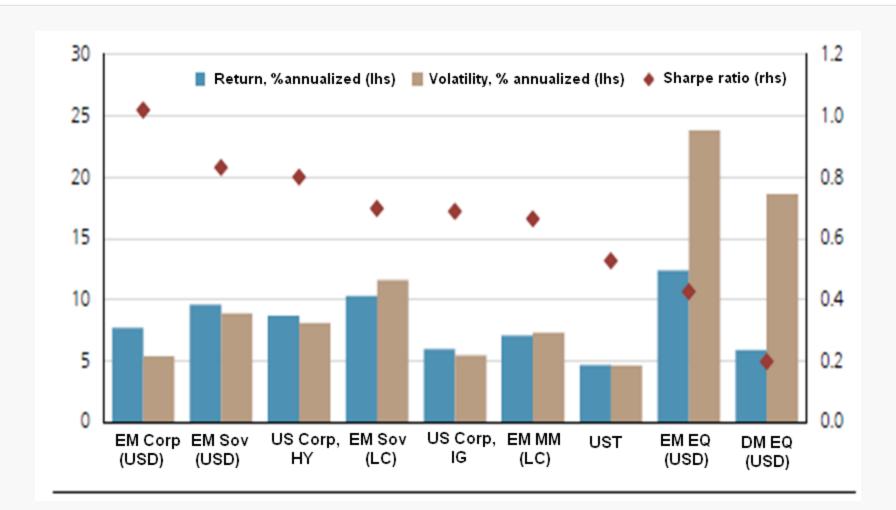
Personal interest income is falling



Personal dividend income



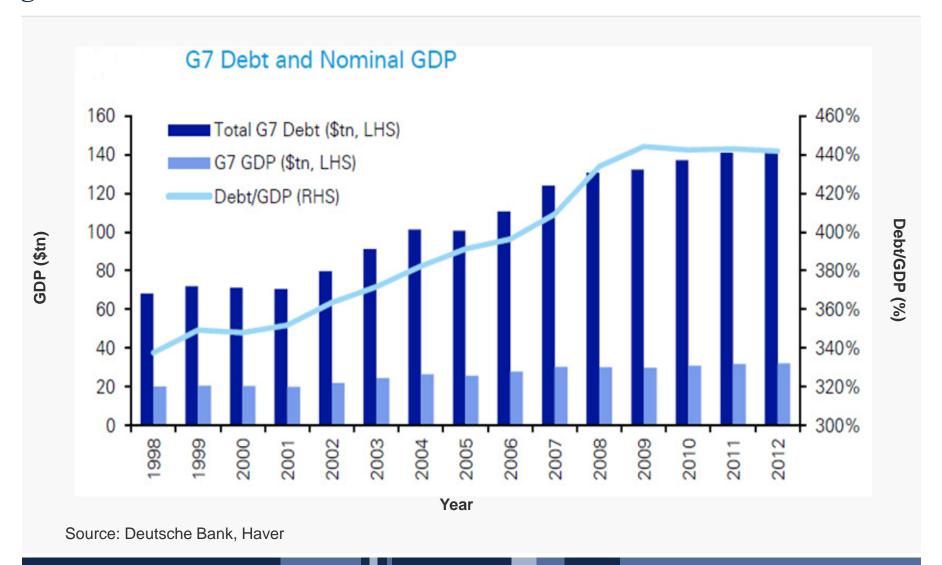
Source: Haver Analytics, Gluskin Sheff



Source: Datastream, Bloomberg, UBS estimates

Global FX forecasts

	Latest	Dec 2014	Dec 2015
EUR/USD	1.35	1.25	1.20
USD/JPY	98.5	110	115
USD/RMB	6.09	6.10	6.10
EUR/JPY	133	137.5	138
GBP/USD	1.61	1.55	1.60
EUR/GBP	0.84	0.81	0.75
Brent Crude	\$107pb	\$100pb	\$95pb
Gold	\$1280oz	\$1200oz	\$1150oz



What could surprise in 2014?

- Treasury market collapse
- Market accident in EM debt
- ECB Asset Quality Review proves disruptive
- Chinese credit burst
- Japanese yen plunge
- Delayed surge in M&A
- Pension funds pressured by losses on bond holdings
- Gold price down to three-digits
- EM equity surge
- Geopolitical risk

Conclusion

- Base Case foresees a slow return to macroeconomic normality (60% probability)
- Sub trend growth and sub trend inflation
- Monetary policy to remain highly accommodative
- Corporate margins can grow, underpinning an earnings improvement
- Muted fixed interest returns at best
- Positive returns from equities, but not as good as 2013
- Core focus remains on DM equities over EM
- Bull Case: Growth emerges stronger than expected (10% probability)
- Bear Case: Growth is weaker than expected / Fed exits (tapers) QE (30% probability)

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