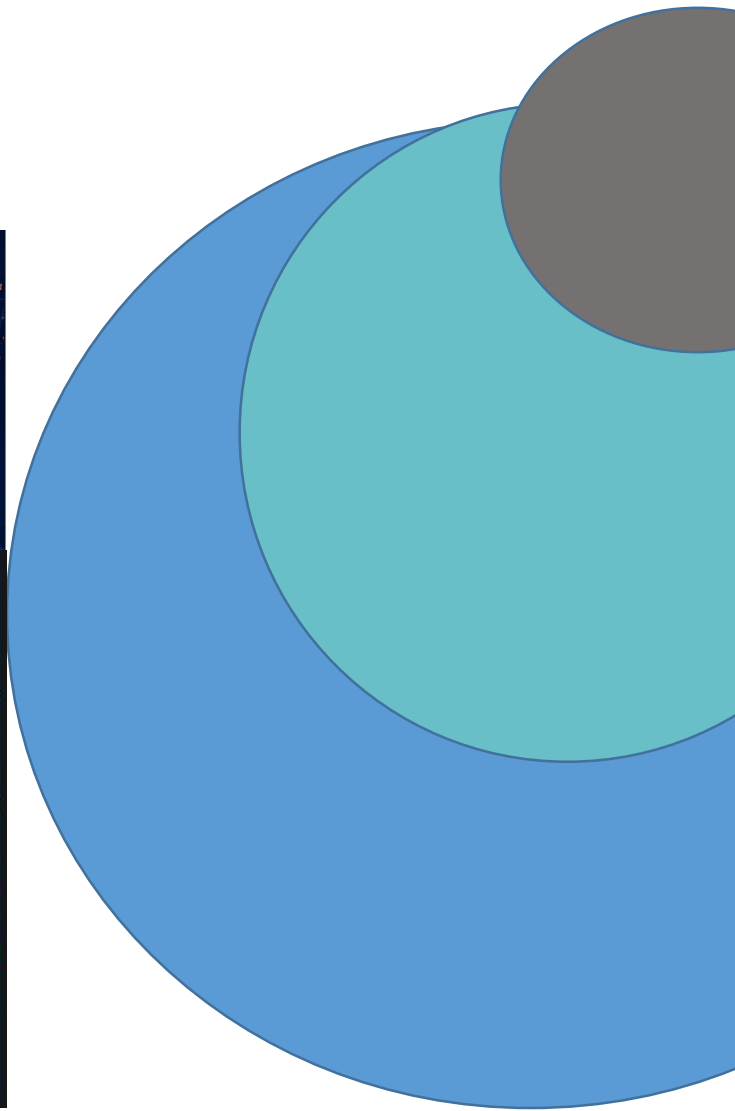


# Financial Services Morning Report

*Digital News*



| Indicator                   | Price Momentum |              |            | T12M Price to Earnings |                     | T12M Price to Book |                     | Dividend Yield % |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|                             | Last price     | % Chg, 1 Day | % chg, YTD | Last                   | 5 Year Avg T12M P/E | TTM P/B            | 5 Year Avg T12M P/B |                  |
| MSCI World Index            | 3,720.41       | (2.4)        | 17.4       | 22.6                   | 21.1                | 3.6                | 3.0                 | 1.74%            |
| MSCI Emerging Markets Index | 1,095.31       | 0.2          | 7.0        | 14.0                   | 15.2                | 1.7                | 1.7                 | 2.65%            |
| MSCI FM FRONTIER MARKETS    | 534.97         | (0.8)        | 5.5        | #N/A N/A               | 12.3                | 1.0                | 1.7                 | 4.29%            |

| GCC  | Price Momentum |              |            | T12M Price to Earnings |                    | T12M Price to Book |                    | Dividend Yield % |
|--|----------------|--------------|------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
|  | Last price     | % Chg, 1 Day | % chg, YTD | Last                   | 5 Year Avg TTM P/E | TTM P/B            | 5 Year Avg TTM P/B |                  |
| MSCI GCC Countries ex Saudi Arabia Index   | 560.23         | (0.3)        | 5.5        | 10.5                   | 14.0               | 1.6                | 1.7                | 4.16%            |
| Muscat Stock Exchange MSX 30 Index         | 4,470.39       | (1.4)        | (0.3)      |                        | 12.3               | 0.9                | 0.8                | 6.01%            |
| Tadawul All Share Index                    | 11,961.05      | 0.1          | 0.2        | 19.3                   | 22.3               | 2.3                | 2.3                | 3.75%            |
| Dubai Financial Market General Index       | 5,037.07       | (0.8)        | 24.1       | 9.7                    | 10.37              | 1.5                | 1.1                | 4.80%            |
| FTSE ADX GENERAL INDEX                     | 9,293.15       | 0.3          | (3.0)      | 16.6                   | 21.4               | 2.5                | 2.3                | 2.18%            |
| Qatar Exchange Index                       | 10,458.74      | (1.1)        | (1.2)      | 11.3                   | 14.3               | 1.3                | 1.5                | 4.09%            |
| Bahrain Bourse All Share Index             | 2,005.32       | (0.1)        | 2.2        | 16.2                   | 11.0               | 1.3                | 0.9                | 3.64%            |
| Boursa Kuwait All Share Price Return Index | 7,282.96       | 0.0          | 6.8        | 18.7                   | 20.6               | 1.7                | 1.5                | 4.08%            |

| Asia                                       | Price Momentum |              |            | T12M Price to Earnings |                    | T12M Price to Book |                    | Dividend Yield % |
|--|----------------|--------------|------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
|  | Last price     | % Chg, 1 Day | % chg, YTD | Last                   | 5 Year Avg TTM P/E | TTM P/B            | 5 Year Avg TTM P/B |                  |
| MSCI AC Asia Pacific Excluding Japan Index | 581.06         | 0.2          | 9.9        | 15.5                   | 17.1               | 1.8                | 1.7                | 2.54%            |
| Nikkei 225                                 | 38,881.71      | (0.5)        | 16.2       | 19.1                   | 25.6               | 2.1                | 1.9                | 1.82%            |
| S&P/ASX 200                                | 8,168.20       | (1.7)        | 7.6        | 21.3                   | 19.2               | 2.4                | 2.2                | 3.56%            |
| Hang Seng Index                            | 19,728.18      | (0.7)        | 15.7       | 9.9                    | 10.9               | 1.1                | 1.1                | 3.98%            |
| NSE Nifty 50 Index                         | 23,948.05      | (1.0)        | 10.2       | 22.6                   | 24.1               | 3.7                | 3.4                | 1.27%            |

| Europe                                    | Price Momentum |              |            | T12M Price to Earnings |                    | T12M Price to Book |                    | Dividend Yield % |
|---|----------------|--------------|------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
|   | Last price     | % Chg, 1 Day | % chg, YTD | Last                   | 5 Year Avg TTM P/E | TTM P/B            | 5 Year Avg TTM P/B |                  |
| MSCI Europe Index                         | 172.16         | 0.1          | 7.2        | 15.0                   | 16.3               | 2.1                | 1.9                | 3.33%            |
| MSCI Emerging Markets Europe Index        | 120.54         | (0.1)        | 2.7        | 7.0                    | 7.2                | 1.1                | 1.0                | 4.27%            |
| FTSE 100 Index                            | 8,199.11       | 0.0          | 6.0        | 13.1                   | 13.7               | 1.9                | 1.7                | 3.84%            |
| Deutsche Boerse AG German Stock Index DAX | 20,242.57      | (0.0)        | 20.8       | 16.9                   | 15.5               | 1.8                | 1.6                | 2.74%            |
| CAC 40                                    | 7,384.62       | 0.3          | (2.1)      | 14.1                   | 16.2               | 1.8                | 1.8                | 3.34%            |

| America's                    | Price Momentum |              |            | T12M Price to Earnings |                    | T12M Price to Book |                    | Dividend Yield % |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
|                              | Last price     | % Chg, 1 Day | % chg, YTD | Last                   | 5 Year Avg TTM P/E | TTM P/B            | 5 Year Avg TTM P/B |                  |
| MSCI North America Index     | 5,820.30       | (3.0)        | 22.7       | 27.3                   | 23.6               | 5.0                | 4.1                | 1.32%            |
| S&P 500 INDEX                | 5,872.16       | (2.9)        | 23.1       | 26.4                   | 23.5               | 5.1                | 4.3                | 1.28%            |
| Dow Jones Industrial Average | 42,326.87      | (2.6)        | 12.3       | 23.1                   | 20.8               | 5.1                | 4.6                | 1.67%            |
| NASDAQ Composite Index       | 19,392.69      | (3.6)        | 29.2       | 40.1                   | 38.3               | 7.1                | 5.9                | 0.72%            |

| Commodities             | Last price | % Chg, 1 Day | % chg, YTD | % chg from 10 year high | % chg from 10 year Low |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| S&P GSCI Index Spot     | 539.9      | 0.2          | 0.8        | -34%                    | 137%                   |
| Gold Spot \$/Oz         | 2,608.5    | 0.9          | 26.4       | -6%                     | 148%                   |
| BRENT CRUDE FUTR Feb25  | 72.9       | -0.6         | -2.0       | -16%                    | 58%                    |
| Generic 1st'OQA' Future | 73.4       | 0.3          | -3.8       | -42%                    | 298%                   |
| LME COPPER 3MO (\$)     | 9,028.5    | 0.4          | 5.5        | -17%                    | 108%                   |
| SILVER SPOT \$/OZ       | 29.5       | 0.4          | 23.8       | -15%                    | 146%                   |

| SPOT Currencies Indices | Last price | % Chg, 1 Day | % chg, YTD | % chg from 10 year high | % chg from 10 year Low |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| DOLLAR INDEX SPOT       | 108.1      | 0.03         | 6.64       | -5%                     | 22%                    |
| Euro Spot               | 1.0381     | 0.27         | -5.96      | -17%                    | 8%                     |
| British Pound Spot      | 1.2588     | 0.11         | -1.12      | -21%                    | 18%                    |
| Swiss Franc Spot        | 0.8998     | 0.14         | -6.49      | -13%                    | 7%                     |
| China Renminbi Spot     | 7.2978     | -0.17        | -2.71      | -1%                     | 18%                    |
| Japanese Yen Spot       | 155.3      | -0.34        | -9.20      | -4%                     | 56%                    |
| Australian Dollar Spot  | 0.6219     | 0.02         | -8.71      | -24%                    | 8%                     |
| USD-OMR X-RATE          | 0.3850     | 0.00         | 0.00       | 0%                      | 0%                     |
| AED-USD X-RATE          | 0.2723     | 0.00         | 0.01       | 0%                      | 0%                     |
| USD-EGP X-RATE          | 50.8646    | -0.12        | -39.24     | 0%                      | 612%                   |
| USD-TRY X-RATE          | 35.0426    | -0.02        | -15.74     | 0%                      | 1436%                  |

| GCC Government Bond Yields | Maturity date | YTM, % |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Oman                       | 01/08/2029    | 5.46   |
| Abu Dhabi                  | 16/04/2030    | 4.78   |
| Qatar                      | 16/04/2030    | 4.68   |
| Saudi Arabia               | 22/10/2030    | 5.14   |
| Kuwait                     | 20/03/2027    | 5.31   |
| Bahrain                    | 14/05/2030    | 6.33   |

| Bond Indices                   | Close  | D/D   | YTD  |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------|------|
|                                | Index  | %     | %    |
| S&P MENA Sukuk TR Index        | 143.48 | 0.0%  | 4.1% |
| S&P MENA Bond TR Index         | 140.73 | -0.1% | 1.5% |
| S&P MENA Bond & Sukuk TR Index | 141.11 | -0.1% | 2.2% |

| 3m Interbank Rates | Current Rate % | As on 31 Dec 2021 |
|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| GLOBAL             |                |                   |
| US                 | 4.35           | 0.09              |
| UK                 | -              | -                 |
| EURO               | 2.87           | (0.57)            |
| GCC                |                |                   |
| Oman               | 4.80           | 2.13              |
| Saudi Arabia       | 5.80           | 0.91              |
| Kuwait             | 4.00           | 1.50              |
| UAE                | 4.38           | 0.36              |
| Qatar              | 4.90           | 1.13              |
| Bahrain            | 5.81           | 1.52              |

## Oman Economic and Corporate News

### **Oman Investment Authority announces stake in Elon Musk's AI company in US**

Oman Investment Authority (OIA) announced its latest investment in "xAI" company, a leading artificial intelligence American company. The move comes as part of OIA's ongoing efforts to diversify its international portfolio and support growth across various sectors. Abdulsalam Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority, emphasized that this investment supports Oman's broader goals under Oman Vision 2040, which enables the Sultanate of Oman to adopt world-class technologies and drive future progress.

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

### **Oman, Belarus issue joint communique**

The Sultanate of Oman and Republic of Belarus have affirmed their determination to boost bilateral relations and develop partnership in economic, political and cultural fields. The two leaders stressed their determination to work together to achieve common goals and establish relations based on mutual respect and understanding, while underscoring the importance of promoting partnership in economic, political and cultural fields. A number of sectors were also identified to deepen partnership, including clean energy, tourism, education, healthcare, technology, transportation and logistics services.

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)

### **Nama begins OMR235mn water distribution project**

Nama Water Services company recently embarked on implementing a project worth OMR235 million to establish water distribution networks in the Wilayats of Ibri, Yanqul and Dhank in Al Dhahirah Governorate. Al Makhmari explained that the project seeks to provide safe and sustainable drinking water to all residents in the Wilayats of Al Dhahirah Governorate. He pointed out that the project aims to expand the system of water distribution networks to meet the growing population in Al Dhahirah governorate, besides enhancing the strategic storage of water in the Wilayats of Ibri, Yanqul and Dhank to cater to future demand until the year 2050, based on population growth and urban expansion data. The project, designed to provide 22,000 water metre connections, will benefit more than 270,000 people in the governorate's three wilayats, said Al Makhmari, adding that the total number of water metre connections is envisaged to reach about 500,000 connections by 2050.

[Source: Times of Oman](#)

### **Sayyid Badr urges global cooperation on security, climate, and food security**

Sayyid Badr bin Hamad al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, emphasised the significance of collective efforts and global cooperation during the annual meeting with ambassadors from the European Union, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland held in Muscat.

[Source: Muscat Daily](#)



## Middle east Economic and Corporate News

### **GCC central banks trim interest rates in lockstep with US Fed move**

Most central banks in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) trimmed their interest rates within hours after the US Federal Reserve voted to lower the benchmark rate for the third consecutive time on Wednesday. In a widely expected move, the US Federal Open Market Committee voted near unanimously to cut the federal funds rate to a range between 4.25% and 4.50%. The Central Bank of the UAE cut its base rate on overnight deposits by 25 basis points (bps) to 4.40% while maintaining the short-term borrowing rate at 50 bps above the base rate. Saudi Arabia's SAMA reduced its repo and reverse repo rates by 25 bps each to 5% and 4.50%, respectively. Qatar's central bank implemented a 30 bps reduction across its deposit, lending, and repo rates, lowering them to 4.60%, 5.10%, and 4.85%, respectively. The Central Bank of Bahrain cut its overnight deposit rate by 25 bps from 5.25% to 5.00%, effective 19 December 2024. In Oman, the monetary authority cut its repo rate by 25 bps to 5%.

[Source: Zawya](#)

### **Morgan Stanley picks Al-Abdulla to head Qatar business**

Morgan Stanley MS.N has hired fund manager Abdulrahman Al-Abdulla as head of its business in Qatar, as the Wall Street bank continues its expansion in the region and tries to tap into a predicted rise in deal volumes in the wealthy Gulf state.

[Source: Zawya](#)

## International Economic and Corporate News

### **US current account deficit hits record high in the third quarter**

The current account gap represented 4.2% of gross domestic product, the highest since the first quarter of 2022, up from 3.7% in the April-June quarter. The U.S. current account deficit widened to a record high in the third quarter on strong growth in imports and lower income receipts, with some economists warning of a potential threat to a country already saddled with a large government budget deficit. The Commerce Department's Bureau of Economic Analysis said on Wednesday the current account deficit, which measures the flow of goods, services and investments into and out of the country, increased \$35.9 billion, or 13.1%, to an all-time high of \$310.9 billion last quarter. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast the current account deficit would be \$284.0 billion. The current account gap represented 4.2% of gross domestic product, the highest since the first quarter of 2022, up from 3.7% in the April-June quarter.

[Source: Zawya](#)

### **Hong Kong central bank cuts interest rate tracking Fed move, banks follow**

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) on Thursday cut its base interest rate charged via the overnight discount window by 25 basis points to 4.75%, tracking a move by the U.S. Federal Reserve. Major Hong Kong banks followed with reductions, but some at a smaller magnitude. HSBC cut its Hong Kong dollar best lending rate by 12.5 basis points to 5.25% and Bank of China (Hong Kong) lowered its Hong Kong dollar prime rate to 5.25% from 5.375%.

[Source: Investing](#)

## Oil and Metal News

### Gold slips on expectations of a cautious Fed next year

Gold eased on Tuesday, pressured by a firmer U.S. dollar and Treasury yields, as investors looked ahead to the Federal Reserve's interest rate decision amid expectations it will adopt a cautious approach to monetary policy easing next year. Spot gold was down 0.4% at \$2,642.72 per ounce, as of 1228 GMT. U.S. gold futures shed 0.5% to \$2,658.00. The dollar and benchmark U.S. 10-year Treasury yields rose ahead of the Fed's final policy meeting of the year starting later in the day. While a widely anticipated quarter point interest rate cut is expected on Wednesday, traders are increasingly convinced the central bank will lower borrowing rates only gradually next year. According to CME's FedWatch tool, the odds of a 25 bps cut this week stand at 97%, but the chances of a reduction in January are just around 17%.

[Source: Zawya](#)

### Oil prices tread water with Fed in focus; mixed inventory data weighs

Oil prices moved little in Asian trade on Wednesday as traders kept away from big bets in anticipation of more cues on interest rates, while industry data on U.S. inventories offered middling cues. Crude prices turned largely rangebound this week after marking some gains in the prior week on the prospect of more U.S. sanctions on Russian oil supplies. But this momentum did not hold amid renewed concerns over weakening demand in China, as well as fears of a supply glut in the coming year. Oil markets were also pressured by a firmer dollar, as traders remained biased towards the greenback before the conclusion of a Federal Reserve meeting on Wednesday. Brent oil futures expiring in February steadied at \$73.20 a barrel, while West Texas Intermediate crude futures were flat at \$69.66 a barrel by 20:11 ET (01:11 GMT).

[Source: Investing](#)

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