

# RMB CURRENCY OPTIONS – USD/CNH OPTIONS



January 2017

#### **OVERVIEW**

The introduction of the USD/CNH options is driven by growing demand from market participants for diversified tools for trading and hedging the offshore RMB\* (CNH). Since the CNH trading was first introduced in Hong Kong in 2004, its market size has expanded exponentially on the back of China's fast transformation into a leading trading country. The growth of the dim sum bond market, expansion of foreign capital participation in the Chinese securities markets, and RMB internationalisation have created demand for products, which could help market participants hedge their CNH exposure. Responding to such market requirements, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEX) introduced USD/CNH futures in 2012 and following their success and anticipating growing needs for more flexible hedging tools, HKEX is now introducing the exchange traded USD/CNH options as part of its strategy to build up a full range of foreign exchange derivatives products.

#### TRADING BENEFITS<sup>1</sup>

- Flexibility of trading and hedging strategies for various market conditions
- Limited counterparty risks
- Transparency and efficiency of standardised exchange-traded contracts
- · Cost effectiveness of trading on a margin basis
- Block trade facilities supported by the HKATS
- Variety of eight contract months tenors, the longest being 16 months

### **KEY PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS**

HKATS Code: CUS

Contract Size: USD 100,000

Price Quotation: Amount of RMB per USD
Options Premium: 4 decimal places (eg. 0.0001)

Tick Value: RMB 10

Strike Prices: Strike intervals shall be set at intervals of

0.05

±10% from the at-the-money Strike Price

Exercise Style: European style

Settlement on Exercise: Physical delivery on Exercise

	Holder	Writer
Call Options	Payment of the Final Settlement Value* in RMB	,
Put Options	Delivery of US dollars	Payment of the Final Settlement Value in RMB

\*Final Settlement Value is the Strike Price multiplied by the Contract Size; applies to both Call and Put Options

Official Settlement

Price:

USD/CNY (HK) Spot Rate published by Hong Kong Treasury Markets Association

(TMA) at or around 11:30am on the

**Expiry Day** 

Contract Months: Spot month, the next 3 calendar months

and the next 4 calendar quarter months

Final Settlement Day: Generally the third Wednesday of the

Contract Month

Trading Hours (Hong Kong time):

Expiry Day:

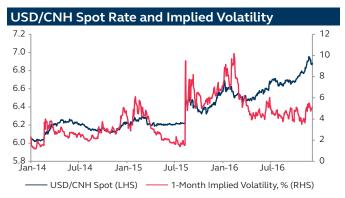
9:00am – 4:30pm on a normal trading day & 9:00am – 11:00am on the Expiry Day Two Hong Kong business days prior to

the Final Settlement Day

Large Open positions: 500 open contracts in any one series

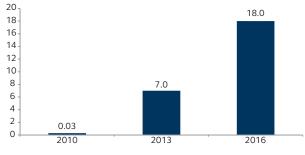
For more details, please refer to the US Dollar vs Renminbi (Hong Kong) ("USD/CNH") Options Contract Specifications on the HKEX website.

#### MARKET INFORMATION



USD/CNH options aim to provide more sophisticated financial instruments to help market participants hedge currency risk more efficiently against the backdrop of increased volatility of the CNH.

## Development of Global OTC USD/CNH Options Market



■ Average daily turnover (USD bn)

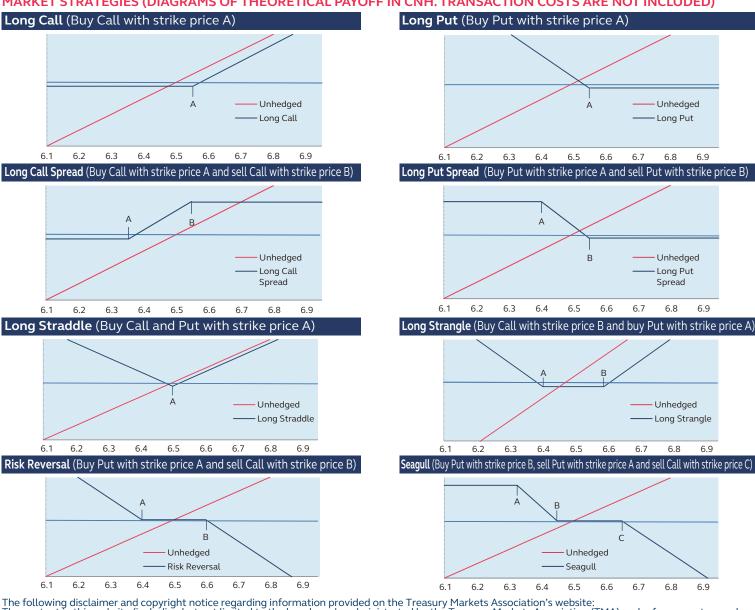
The usage of Over-the-Counter USD/CNH options has increased exponentially since early 2010, paving the way for the introduction of exchanged-traded peers.

\*Renminbi

Note 1: Currency Options are of high risk and not suitable for inexperienced investors or people who are less risk tolerant Source: Bloomberg, Bank of International Settlement



#### MARKET STRATEGIES (DIAGRAMS OF THEORETICAL PAYOFF IN CNH. TRANSACTION COSTS ARE NOT INCLUDED)



The following disclaimer and copyright notice regarding information provided on the Treasury Markets Association's website:
The content in this website (including but not limited to the benchmarks administrated by the Treasury Markets Association (TMA) and reference rates made available by the TMA (collectively the "Rates")) are provided with delays for general information purposes only. No person should act or refrain from acting on the basis of any information contained in this website and the Rates. The TMA and other data providers (including but not limited to TMA-authorised contributors and affiliates to the Rates) do not accept any responsibility whatsoever for any harm or loss arising from accessing or relying on information contained in this website and the Rates.

While the TMA will make all reasonable efforts to ensure the accuracy of the Rates and the content on this website, the TMA and other data providers make no warranty, representation or undertaking, expressed or implied by law or otherwise, in relation to the Rates and the content in this website, and expressly disclaim, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, all liability in any form whatsoever with respect to any errors or omissions, or losses caused by disruptions in the service or late publication of the Rates or inaccuracy of the Rates or otherwise arising from the use of or reliance on the Rates and content in this website. The TMA may engage third party contributors to provide information for the determination of the Rates. Such third party contributors and affiliates provide information on an "as is" basis, and expressly disclaim all liability for any loss or damage whatsoever incurred by any person arising out of or in connection with its use of the Rates.

In using the content of this website and the Rates, you must not reproduce, redistribute, modify, disseminate, decompile, disassemble or reverse-engineer any information on this website and/or the Rates without the prior written consent of the TMA. This Agreement is governed by, and construed in accordance with, Hong Kong law.

Save for the TMA-authorised contributors of the Rates, no other party has a right to enforce the terms herein under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Ordinance.

By using any content of this website and the Rates, you fully accept and agree to comply with all of the terms and conditions set out herein. If you do not accept these terms and conditions, you should immediately stop using this website and the Rates. It is your responsibility to review these terms and conditions periodically. The TMA reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions from time to time without notice. After you have agreed to these terms and conditions, your continued usage of the Rates and this website shall constitute your acceptance of the prevailing version of terms and conditions set out by the

RISKS OF TRADING OPTIONS

Options can involve a high degree of risk. Losses from options trading can exceed your initial margin funds and you may be required to pay additional margin funds on short notice. Failure to do so may result in your position being liquidated and you being liable for any resulting deficit. You must therefore understand the risks of trading in options and should assess whether they are right for you. You are encouraged to consult a broker or financial advisers on your suitability for options trading in light of your financial positions and investment objectives before trading.

The information contained in this document is for general informational purposes only and does not constitute an offer, solicitation, invitation or recommendation to buy or sell any options contracts or other products or to provide any investment advice or service of any kind. This document is not intended for distribution to or use by individual investors. This document is not directed at, and is not intended for distribution to or use by, any person or entity in any jurisdiction or country where such distribution or use would be contrary to law or regulation or which would subject Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ("HKEX"), Hong Kong Futures Exchange Limited ("HKE") (together, the "Entities", each an "Entity"), or any of their affiliates, or any of the companies that they operate, to any registration requirement within such jurisdiction or country.

No section or clause in this document may be regarded as creating any obligation on the part of any of the Entities. Rights and obligations with regard to the trading, clearing and settlement of any futures contracts effected on HKFE shall depend solely on the applicable rules of HKFE and the relevant clearing house, as well as the applicable laws, rules and regulations of Hong Kong.

Although the information contained in this document is obtained or complete from sources believed to be reliable, neither of the Entities guarantees the amended or changed. It is

