# EQUITY RESEARCH - COMPANY REPORT

**MAKRO TB** 

THAILAND / COMMERCE

SIAM MAKRO

# Strong growth for wholesale business in 1Q23

- 1Q23 core profit was THB2.2b (-12% q-q, +6% y-y), in line with our and BBG's consensus estimate on sales and rental income.
- We expect continued growth y-y in 2Q23; catalysts in 2H23 should be falling electricity costs and interest expenses.
- Maintain BUY with a DCF-based TP of THB46.

# Strong growth for wholesale business in 1Q23

MAKRO reported a 1Q23 core profit of THB2.2b, dropping 12% q-q from seasonal factors but increasing 6% y-y on the back of in-stores sales and improvements in delivery efficiency. MAKRO's 1Q23 SSSG came in at 11%, Lotus's Thailand's was 0.8% and Lotus's Malaysia's was -0.9% (vs MAKRO's 1%, Lotus's Thailand's 0.4% and Lotus's Malaysia's -7.9% in 1Q22). The gross margin dipped to 16.4% (-20bps q-q, -10bps y-y), mainly from Lotus's marketing and promotional activities, while wholesales slightly increased from fresh foods and private labels. SG&A to sales inched up to 14.1% (+10bps q-q, +40bps y-y) due to new store expenses, utility costs and new wholesale digital business costs.

# Pressure from borrowing cost in floating benchmark on USD loan

1Q23 interest expenses increased by 27% y-y due to a LIBOR interest rate hike related to a USD loan, which was quoted by LIBOR at +1.95%. In 1Q23, there was a gain from a related loan prepayment transaction of THB87m; an accounting gain from derivatives of THB298m; and upfront fees from a prepaid USD loan of THB211m. In 1Q23, MAKRO had total interest-bearing debts worth THB95b, down 15% y-y from debt repayments. Its debt profile is USD 18%, THB 64% and MYR 18%.

# Positive outlook in 2H23

We expect to see MAKRO's 2Q23 earnings grow y-y, estimating its SSSG in April to grow by 7-9% for wholesale and Lotus's SSSG to grow by 0-2% from a consumption and tourism recovery. Its store expansion is still going according to plan, and electricity costs should decrease in May-August. We expect MAKRO's earnings in 2H23 to be driven by lower interest costs. The company plans to restructure its debt by issuing low-interest debentures.

# Maintain BUY with TP of THB46

We maintain our forecast and DCF-based TP of THB46. MAKRO is currently trading at 37.6x 2023E P/E, below its five-year average of 39.6x P/E. Short-term catalysts are 1) lower electricity costs in May-August; and 2) the restructuring of the floating rate in USD loans to fixed THB loans, to be completed in 2Q23, which would reduce interest expenses in 2H23.



Jitra Amornthum jitra.a@fssia.com +66 2646 9966 Thada Jiracharoenying thada.j@fssia.com +66 2646 9964

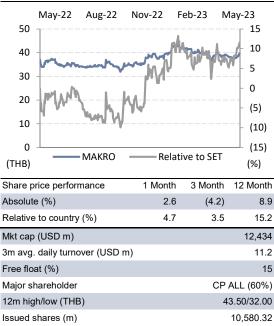


# 

TARGET PRICE	THB46.00
CLOSE	THB39.75
UP/DOWNSIDE	+15.7%
PRIOR TP	THB46.00
CHANGE IN TP	UNCHANGED
TP vs CONSENSUS	+6.8%

# **KEY STOCK DATA**

YE Dec (THB m)	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
Revenue	466,082	508,344	545,268	589,262
Net profit	7,697	11,187	13,670	16,055
EPS (THB)	0.73	1.06	1.29	1.52
vs Consensus (%)	-	(2.4)	(4.2)	0.3
EBITDA	34,252	37,148	41,116	44,662
Core net profit	7,697	11,187	13,670	16,055
Core EPS (THB)	0.73	1.06	1.29	1.52
Chg. In EPS est. (%)	-	-	-	-
EPS growth (%)	10.4	45.3	22.2	17.4
Core P/E (x)	54.6	37.6	30.8	26.2
Dividend yield (%)	1.3	1.9	2.3	2.7
EV/EBITDA (x)	14.5	13.0	11.9	10.9
Price/book (x)	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Net debt/Equity (%)	25.7	21.1	22.6	21.6
ROE (%)	2.7	3.8	4.6	5.3



Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates

PREPARED BY FSS INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT ADVISORY SECURITIES CO LTD (FSSIA). ANALYST CERTIFICATION AND IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES CAN BE FOUND AT THE END OF THIS REPORT

# **Investment thesis**

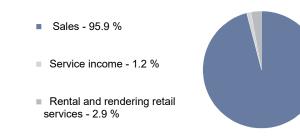
MAKRO's strong presence in business-to-business (B2B) grocery wholesaling is coupled with Lotus's business-to-consumer (B2C) grocery retailing and consumer-centric brand in Southeast Asia. MAKRO, after its acquisition of Lotus's, is one of the leading players in grocery retailing and wholesaling in Asia (ex-Japan). In 2023-25, we forecast its revenue to grow at a c8% CAGR to reach THB589b in 2025, while its core profit should grow at a 27.8% CAGR to reach THB16b in 2025 from 1) a domestic consumption and tourism recovery; 2) synergies between MAKRO and Lotus's; 3) continued store and mall space expansions; 4) the O2O strategy targeting a 15-20% sales proportion within three years; and 5) restructuring its debt profile to mitigate the impact from interest rate hikes.

# **Company profile**

Siam Makro Public Company Limited was established in 1988 to operate a member-based wholesale centre under the name of "MAKRO". Currently, MAKRO is the largest cash-and-carry operator in Thailand. Siam Makro announced a name change to CP Axtra and a change in its securities symbol from "MAKRO" to "CPAXT".

www.siammakro.co.th

# Principal activities (revenue, 2022)

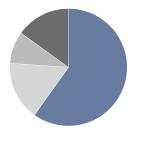


Source: Siam Makro

# **Major shareholders**

- CP ALL 59.9 %
- Charoen Pokphand Holdings -16.2 %
- CP Merchandising 8.9 %

Others - 15.1 %



Source: Siam Makro

# Catalysts

Potential catalysts for MAKRO include: 1) a faster-thanexpected domestic consumption and tourism recovery; and 2) a speedy turnaround for Lotus's.

# **Risks to our call**

The key downside risks to our DCF-based TP include: 1) lower-than-expected SSSG; 2) a lower-than-expected GPM improvement; and 3) operational losses from its overseas business.

# **Event calendar**

Date	Event
11 May 2023	1Q23 analyst meeting
July 2023	2Q23 results announcement

# **Key assumptions**

MAKRO	2023E	2024E	2025E
SSSG MAKRO (%)	6.0	3.0	3.0
SSSG Lotus-TH (%)	3.0	3.0	3.0
SSSG Lotus-ML (%)	0.5	1.0	3.0
New store growth (%)	6.8	5.9	5.5
GPM (%)	16.8	17.0	17.1
SG&A to total rev. (%)	13.5	13.4	13.3

Source: FSSIA estimates

### **Earnings sensitivity**

- For every 1% increase in SSSG, we estimate 2023 EPS to rise by 0.8% and vice versa, all else being equal.
- For every 0.1% increase in GPM, we estimate 2023 EPS to rise by 3.5% and vice versa, all else being equal.
- For every 0.1% increase in SG&A to sales, we estimate 2023 EPS to fall by 3.6% and vice versa, all else being equal.
- For every 0.5% decrease in the effective interest rate, we estimate 2023 EPS to rise by 5.7% and vice versa, all else being equal.

Source: FSSIA estimates

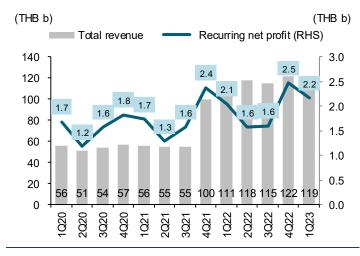


## Exhibit 1: 1Q23 earnings results

	1Q22	2Q22	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23	Char	ige	2022	2023E	Change
Year to Dec 31	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(y-y %)				
Total revenue	110,680	117,933	114,963	121,995	119,089	(2)	8	466,082	508,344	9
Gross profit	18,167	18,763	19,232	20,332	19,473	(4)	7	76,494	85,424	12
Other income	536	530	597	1,386	1,133	(18)	111	3,050	2,653	(13)
Operating costs	(14,616)	(15,776)	(16,031)	(16,419)	(16,106)	(2)	10	(62,842)	(68,638)	9
Operating profit	3,551	2,987	3,201	3,913	3,367	(14)	(5)	13,651	16,787	23
Interest expense	(1,494)	(1,598)	(1,826)	(2,204)	(1,895)	(14)	27	(7,122)	(6,622)	(7)
Profit before tax	2,593	1,920	1,972	3,095	2,605	(16)	0	9,579	12,817	34
Тах	(767)	(549)	(603)	(810)	(647)	(20)	(16)	(2,729)	(2,563)	(6)
Associates	224	202	230	175	193	10	(14)	831	918	10
Minority interests	0	0	3	11	15	38	3,369	15	15	0
Non recurring items	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	n/a
Reported net profit	2,050	1,573	1,602	2,471	2,166	(12)	6	7,697	11,187	45
Recurring net profit	2,050	1,573	1,602	2,471	2,166	(12)	6	7,697	11,187	45
EPS (THB)	0.19	0.15	0.15	0.23	0.20	(12)	6	0.73	1.06	45
Recurring EPS (THB)	0.19	0.15	0.15	0.23	0.20	(12)	6	0.73	1.06	45
Key ratios (%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(ppt)	(ppt)	(%)	(%)	(ppt)
Gross profit margin	16.4	15.9	16.7	16.6	16.4	(0.2)	(0.1)	16.4	16.8	0.4
Operating margin	3.2	2.5	2.8	3.2	2.8	(0.4)	(0.4)	2.9	3.3	0.4
Recurring net margin	1.9	1.3	1.4	2.0	1.8	(0.2)	(0.0)	1.7	2.2	0.5
SG&A / Sales	13.8	13.9	14.6	14.0	14.1	0.1	0.4	14.1	14.1	0.0
Operating statistics	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(ppt)	(ppt)	(%)	(%)	(ppt)
SSSG (%) - MAKRO	1.0	7.4	8.9	9.6	10.9	1.3	9.9	6.9	6.0	(0.9)
SSSG (%) - Lotus's TH	0.4	(2.1)	0.0	2.4	0.8	(1.6)	0.4	0.2	3.0	2.8
SSSG (%) - Lotus's ML	(7.9)	8.3	(3.7)	(2.4)	(0.9)	1.5	7.0	(1.8)	0.5	2.3
Number of stores (Wholesales) (no.)	151	154	154	162	163	0.6	7.9	162	180	11.1
Number of stores (Lotus) (no.)	2,664	2,661	2,644	2,643	2,654	0.4	(0.4)	2,643	2,817	6.6

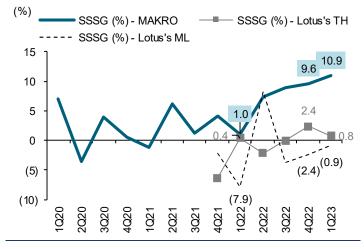
Sources: MAKRO; FSSIA estimates

# **Exhibit 2: Quarterly earnings**



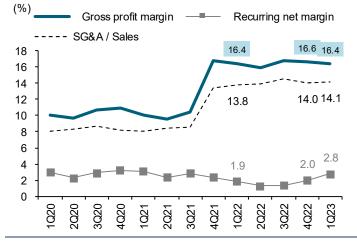
Sources: MAKRO; FSSIA's compilation

# Exhibit 3: Same-store sales growth by business unit



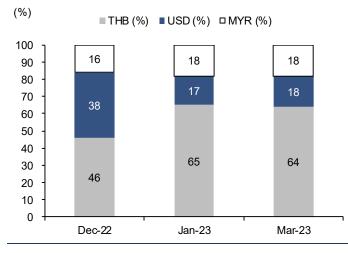
Sources: MAKRO; FSSIA's compilation

# **Exhibit 4: Profitability**



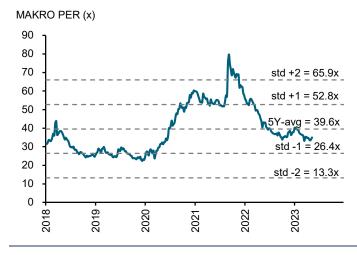
Sources: MAKRO; FSSIA's compilation

### Exhibit 6: Debt currency breakdown



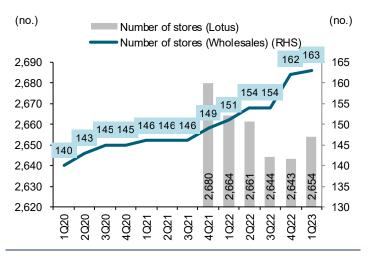
Sources: MAKRO; FSSIA's compilation

# Exhibit 8: Rolling one-year forward P/E band



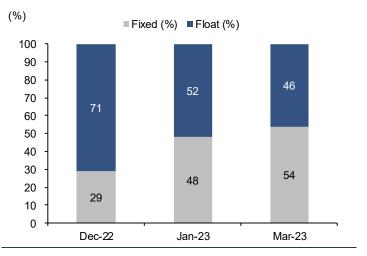
Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

### Exhibit 5: Number of stores



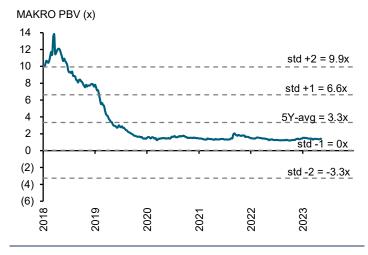
Sources: MAKRO; FSSIA's compilation

# Exhibit 7: Debt profile breakdown



Sources: MAKRO; FSSIA's compilation

### Exhibit 9: Rolling one-year forward P/BV band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

# **FINANSIA**

# **Financial Statements**

Siam Makro

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025
Revenue	265,398	466,082	508,344	545,268	589,26
Cost of goods sold	(223,256)	(372,037)	(405,212)	(433,925)	(469,375
Gross profit	42,142	94,045	103,132	111,344	119,88
Other operating income	970	3,050	2,653	2,784	2,93
Derating costs	(26,490)	(62,842)	(68,638)	(73,012)	(78,159
Dperating EBITDA	16,622	34,252	37,148	41,116	44,66
Depreciation	(6,128)	(17,551)	(17,708)	(18,760)	(19,354
Goodwill amortisation	0	0	0	0	( - /
Dperating EBIT	10,494	16,701	19,440	22,356	25,30
Vet financing costs	(1,557)	(7,122)	(6,622)	(6,493)	(6,523
Associates	(226)	831	918	964	1,01
Recurring non-operating income	(226)	831	918	964	1,01
Non-recurring items	6,714	0	0	0	1,01
Profit before tax	15,425	10,411	13,736	16,828	19,79
	-	-			-
ax	(2,128)	(2,729)	(2,563)	(3,173)	(3,757
Profit after tax	13,298	7,682	11,172	13,655	16,04
Ainority interests	389	15	15	15	1
Preferred dividends	0	0	0	0	(
Other items	0	0	0	0	(
Reported net profit	13,687	7,697	11,187	13,670	16,05
Non-recurring items & goodwill (net)	(6,714)	0	0	0	
Recurring net profit	6,972	7,697	11,187	13,670	16,05
Per share (THB)					
Recurring EPS *	0.66	0.73	1.06	1.29	1.5
Reported EPS	1.29	0.73	1.06	1.29	1.5
DPS	0.32	0.51	0.74	0.90	1.0
Diluted shares (used to calculate per share data)	10,580	10,580	10,580	10,580	10,58
Growth					
Revenue (%)	21.6	75.6	9.1	7.3	8.
Dperating EBITDA (%)	32.6	106.1	8.5	10.7	8.
Derating EBIT (%)	17.2	59.1	16.4	15.0	13.
Recurring EPS (%)	(51.8)	10.4	45.3	22.2	17.4
Reported EPS (%)	(5.4)	(43.8)	45.3	22.2	17.4
Derating performance	(0.1)	(10.0)	10.0	<i>LL</i> .L	
Gross margin inc. depreciation (%)	13.6	16.4	16.8	17.0	17.
	13.6	16.4	16.8	17.0	17.
Gross margin of key business (%)					
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	6.3	7.3	7.3	7.5	7.
Dperating EBIT margin (%)	4.0	3.6	3.8	4.1	4.
Net margin (%)	2.6	1.7	2.2	2.5	2.
Effective tax rate (%)	23.8	28.5	20.0	20.0	20.
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	48.6	70.1	70.0	70.0	70.
nterest cover (X)	6.6	2.5	3.1	3.6	4.
nventory days	38.0	34.2	32.7	30.3	30.
Debtor days	2.2	1.9	2.9	3.9	3.
Creditor days	72.1	59.9	60.2	64.1	66.
Dperating ROIC (%)	17.7	15.4	20.9	24.1	25.
ROIC (%)	2.9	3.0	3.9	4.4	4.
ROE (%)	3.5	2.7	3.8	4.6	5.
ROA (%)	2.1	2.3	2.9	3.2	3.
Pre-exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted		-	-	-	-
	_ 2024 _	2022	20225	20245	
Revenue by Division (THB m)	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025
Sales	258,630	447,182	486,951	521,578	563,23
Service income	4,136	5,422	5,737	5,877	6,07
	0.004	13,477	15,656	17,813	19,95
Rental and rendering retail services	2,631	13,477	10,000	11,010	10,00

# **FINANSIA**

# Financial Statements Siam Makro

Siam Makro					
Cash Flow (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
ecurring net profit	6,972	7,697	11,187	13,670	16,055
epreciation	6,128	17,551	17,708	18,760	19,354
ssociates & minorities	419	96	0	0	(
ther non-cash items	(191)	(187)	630	(198)	261
hange in working capital	13,416 <b>26,744</b>	(4,400) <b>20,757</b>	9,940 <b>39,465</b>	5,926 <b>38,157</b>	5,652 <b>41,32</b> 2
ash flow from operations apex - maintenance	20,744	20,757	39,405	30,157	41,322
apex - new investment	(93,470)	(15,872)	(27,480)	(28,978)	(30,259
et acquisitions & disposals	(229,281)	(5,027)	(3,130)	(3,296)	(3,459
ther investments (net)	12,662	815	10,445	(2,880)	4,518
ash flow from investing	(310,090)	(20,085)	(20,164)	(35,154)	(29,199
ividends paid	(3,386)	(5,396)	(7,831)	(9,569)	(11,239
quity finance	176,619	50	185	185	18
lebt finance	168,123	(23,753)	(434)	4,429	(2,915
Other financing cash flows	0	0	0	0	(42.060)
cash flow from financing Ion-recurring cash flows	341,357	(29,099)	(8,080)	(4,955)	(13,969
Other adjustments	0	0	0	0	(
let other adjustments	ů	Ő	Ő	Ő	, (
lovement in cash	58,011	(28,426)	11,220	(1,951)	(1,846
ree cash flow to firm (FCFF)	(281,788.59)	7,794.01	25,922.77	9,496.27	18,645.99
ree cash flow to equity (FCFE)	(115,221.97)	(23,080.44)	18,866.14	7,432.66	9,207.57
er share (THB)					
CFF per share	(26.63)	0.74	2.45	0.90	1.76
CFE per share	(10.89)	(2.18)	1.78	0.70	0.87
ecurring cash flow per share	1.26	2.38	2.79	3.05	3.37
alance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Dec	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
angible fixed assets (gross)	141,469	148,498	175,978	204,956	235,215
ess: Accumulated depreciation	(23,025)	(30,383)	(46,607)	(63,749)	(81,356
angible fixed assets (net)	118,444	118,115	129,371	141,207	153,859
ntangible fixed assets (net)	0	0	0	0	(
ong-term financial assets ivest. in associates & subsidiaries	0 14,310	0 14,961	0 14,961	0 14,961	( 14,96
ash & equivalents	68,530	40,103	51,323	49,372	47,52
/C receivable	2,301	2,431	5,571	5,976	6,458
iventories	31,967	37,820	34,761	37,207	40,169
other current assets	7,203	7,001	7,636	8,191	8,85
current assets	110,001	87,355	99,290	100,745	103,004
other assets	326,737	328,213	330,082	331,989	333,934
otal assets	569,491	548,643	573,704	588,901	605,758
common equity	287,997	290,348	293,889	298,175	303,177
Inorities etc.	501	583	567	552	537
otal shareholders' equity	288,498	290,931	294,457	298,728	303,714
ong term debt )ther long-term liabilities	105,120	110,025 56,925	14,209	102,455	80,434
ong-term liabilities	57,661 <b>162,781</b>	166,949	58,147 <b>72,357</b>	59,310 <b>161,765</b>	60,496 <b>140,930</b>
VC payable	60,236	61,818	71,838	80,615	89,712
Short term debt	34,269	4,796	99,179	14,429	32,58
Other current liabilities	23,707	24,148	35,873	33,365	38,820
current liabilities	118,211	90,763	206,891	128,409	161,113
otal liabilities and shareholders' equity	569,490	548,643	573,704	588,901	605,758
let working capital	(42,472)	(38,715)	(59,744)	(62,607)	(73,054
vested capital	417,018	422,573	414,669	425,549	429,700
ncludes convertibles and preferred stock which is b	eing treated as debt				
er share (THB)					
ook value per share angible book value per share	27.22 27.22	27.44 27.44	27.78 27.78	28.18 28.18	28.65 28.65
inancial strength	21.22	21.44	21.10	20.10	20.03
et debt/equity (%)	24.6	25.7	21.1	22.6	21.6
et debt/total assets (%)	24.0 12.4	25.7 13.6	10.8	11.5	21.0
urrent ratio (x)	0.9	1.0	0.5	0.8	0.0
F interest cover (x)	(13.0)	0.0	8.0	6.6	7.1
aluation	2021	2022	2023E	2024E	2025E
ecurring P/E (x) *	60.3	54.6	37.6	30.8	26.
ecurring P/E @ target price (x) *	69.8	63.2	43.5	35.6	30.3
eported P/E (x)	30.7	54.6	37.6	30.8	26.2
ividend yield (%)	0.8	1.3	1.9	2.3	2.
rice/book (x)	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
rice/tangible book (x)	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
V/EBITDA (x) ** V/EBITDA @ target price (x) **	29.6 33.6	14.5 16.4	13.0 14.8	11.9 13.5	10.9
	33.6	16.4	14.8	13.5	12.4
V/invested capital (x)	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1

Sources: Siam Makro; FSSIA estimates



### Public disclosures related to sustainable development evaluation of Thai listed companies

Rating regarding the sustainable development of Thai listed companies, both on the SET and MAI, are publicly available on the website of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Thailand (SEC). Currently, ratings available are 1) "CG Score" by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD); 2) "AGM Checklist" by the Thai Investors Association (TIA), a "CAC certified member" of the Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC); and 3) Sustainability Investment List (THSI) by the Stock Exchange of Thailand. The ratings are updated on an annual basis. FSS International Investment Advisory Company Limited does not confirm nor certify the accuracy of such ratings.

### CG Score by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD)<sup>1</sup>

The CG Score indicates corporate governance (CG) strength in the sustainable development of Thai listed companies. Annually, the Thai IOD, with support from the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), surveys and assesses the CG practices of companies and publishes the results on the <u>Thai IOD website</u> in a bid to promote and enhance the CG of Thai listed companies in order to promote compliance with international standards for better investment decisions. The results are from the perspective of a third party, not an evaluation of operations, as of the date appearing in the report, and may be changed after that date.

The five underlying categories and weighting used for the CG scoring in 2022 include the rights of shareholders and equitable treatment of shareholders (weight 25% combined), the role of stakeholders (25%), disclosure and transparency (15%), and board responsibilities (35%).

The CGR report rates CG in six categories: 5 for Excellent (score range 90-100), 4 for Very Good (score range 80-89), 3 for Good (Score range 70-79), 2 for Fair (score range 60-69), 1 for Pass (score range 60-69), and not rated (score below 50).

### AGM Checklist by the Thai Investors Association (TIA)<sup>2</sup>

The "<u>AGM Checklist</u>" quantifies the extent to which shareholders' rights and equitable treatment are incorporated into business operations and the extent to which information is sufficiently disclosed and the level of its transparency. All the considered factors form important elements of two out of five the CG components. Annually, the TIA, with support from the SEC, leads the project to evaluate the quality of Annual General Meetings of Shareholders (AGMs) and to rate quality of the meetings.

The <u>Checklist</u> contains the minimum requirements under law that companies must comply with, or best practices according to international CG guidance. Representatives of the TIA will attend the meetings and perform the evaluation. The assessment criteria cover AGM procedures before the meeting (45%), at the meeting date (45%), and after the meeting (10%). The first assesses 1) advance circulation of sufficient information for voting; and 2) facilitating of how voting rights can be exercised. The second assesses 1) the ease of attending meetings; 2) transparency and verifiability; and 3) openness for Q&A. The third involves the meeting minutes that should contain discussion issues, resolutions and voting results.

The results are classified into four categories: 5 for Excellent (score 100), 4 for Very Good (score 90-99), 3 for Fair (score 80-89), and not rated (score below 79).

### CAC certified member by the Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)<sup>3</sup>

A <u>CAC certified member</u> is a listed company whose Checklist satisfies the CAC Certification's criteria and is approved by the CAC Council. The core elements of the Checklist include corruption risk assessment, establishment of key controls, and the monitoring and developing of policies. Note that the CAC does not certify the behaviour of the employees nor whether the companies have engaged in bribery, and Certification is good for three years.

Companies deciding to become a CAC certified member <u>start with</u> by submitting a Declaration of Intent signed by the Chairman of the Board to kick off the 18-month deadline for companies to submit the CAC Checklist for Certification. The 18-month provision is for risk assessment, in place of policy and control, training of managers and employees, establishment of whistleblowing channels, and communication of policies to all stakeholders.

The checklist document will be reviewed by the CAC Certification Committee for adequate information and evidence. It is worth noting that the committee consists of nine professionals in business law, corporate governance, internal audit, financial audit and experienced representatives from certified members.

A passed Checklist will move on to the <u>CAC Council</u> for granting certification approvals. The CAC Council consists of twelve prominent individuals who are highly respected in professionalism and ethical achievements. Among them are former ministers, a former central bank governor, the former head of the Thai Listed Companies Association, Chairman of Anti-Corruption Organizations (Thailand), Chairman of Thai Institute of Directors, and reputable academic scholars.

### Sustainability Investment (THSI)<sup>4</sup> by the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET)

Thailand Sustainability Investment (<u>THSI</u>) quantifies responsibility in <u>Environmental</u>, and <u>Social</u> issues, by managing business with transparency in <u>Governance</u>. The THSI serves as another choice for investors who desire to adopt a responsible investment approach, according to the SET.

Annually, the SET will announce the voluntary participation of the company candidates which pass the preemptive criteria, and whose two key crucial conditions are met, i.e. no irregular trading of the board members and executives and a free float of >150 by the number of shareholders, and combined holding must >15% of paid-up capital. Some key disqualifying criteria include a CG score of below 70%; independent directors and free float violation; executives' wrongdoing related to CG, social and environmental impacts, equity in negative territory, and earnings in the red for more than three years in the last five years. To become eligible for THSI, the candidate must pass three indicators in data declaration: <u>E</u>conomic (CG, risk management, customer relation management, supply chain management, and innovation); <u>E</u>nvironmental (environmental management, eco-efficiency, and climate risk); <u>S</u>ocial (human rights, talent attraction, operational health & safety, community development, and stakeholder engagement); and the incorporation of ESG in business operations.

To be approved for THSI inclusion, verified data must be scored at a 50% minimum for each indicator, unless the company is a part of the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices<sup>5</sup> (DJSI) during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against the nature of the relevant industry and materiality.

Note that, from the <u>THSI list</u>, the SET further developed a sustainability <u>SETTHSI Index</u> in June 2018 from selected THSI companies whose 1) market capitalisation > THB5b (~USD150b); 2) free float >20%; and 3) liquidity >0.5% of paid-up capital for at least 9 out of 12 months. The SETTHSI Index is a market capitalisation-weighted index, cap 5% quarterly weight at maximum, and no cap for number of stocks.

Sources: SEC; Thai IOD; Thai CAC; SET; FSSIA's compilation

#### Disclaimer:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Dow Jones Sustainability Indices – <u>Wikipedia</u> – Launched in 1999, DJSI evaluates the sustainability performance of companies based on corporate economic, environmental, and social performance.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Thai Institute of Directors Association (<u>Thai IOD</u>) was established in December 1999 and is a membership organisation that strives to promote professionalism in directorship. The Thai IOD offers directors certification and professional development courses, provides a variety of seminars, forums and networking events, and conducts research on board governance issues and practices. Membership comprises board members from companies ranging from large publicly listed companies to small private firms.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Thai Investors Association (<u>TIA</u>) was established in 1983 with a mission to promote investment knowledge and to protect the investment rights of Thai investors. In 2002, the association was appointed by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to represent individual shareholders. To obtain information for evaluation, the association recruits volunteer investors to join AGMs and score the meetings. Weightings for each meeting are at a 45:45:10 ratio. They have been applied since 2017 and subject to change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Thai Private Sector Collective Action against Corruption (<u>CAC</u>) was founded in 2010 and is 100% privately funded. It is an initiative by the Thai private sector to take part in tackling corruption problems via collective action. The CAC promotes the implementation of effective anti-corruption policies in order to create a transparent business ecosystem by developing a unique certification program for large/medium/small companies to apply for and to control corruption risk systematically and efficiently. The CAC's operations are sponsored by the US-based Center for Private Enterprise (CIPE) and the UK Prosperity Fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Sustainability Investment List (<u>THSI</u>), created by the Stock Exchange of Thailand in 2015, comprises the listed companies that conduct sustainable business operations.

# **GENERAL DISCLAIMER**

# ANALYST(S) CERTIFICATION

### Jitra Amornthum FSS International Investment Advisory Securities Co., Ltd

The individual(s) identified above certify(ies) that (i) all views expressed in this report accurately reflect the personal view of the analyst(s) with regard to any and all of the subject securities, companies or issuers mentioned in this report; and (ii) no part of the compensation of the analyst(s) was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or views expressed herein.

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### History of change in investment rating and/or target price

### Siam Makro (MAKRO TB)



Jitra Amornthum started covering this stock from 24-Jul-2020

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Siam Makro	MAKRO TB	THB 39.75	BUY	The key downside risks to our DCF-based TP include: 1) lower-than-expected SSSG; 2) a lower-than-expected GPM improvement; and 3) operational losses from its overseas business.

#### Source: FSSIA estimates

#### Additional Disclosures

Target price history, stock price charts, valuation and risk details, and equity rating histories applicable to each company rated in this report is available in our most recently published reports. You can contact the analyst named on the front of this note or your representative at Finansia Syrus Securities Public Company Limited

FSSIA may incorporate the recommendations and target prices of companies currently covered by FSS Research into equity research reports, denoted by an 'FSS' before the recommendation. FSS Research is part of Finansia Syrus Securities Public Company Limited, which is the parent company of FSSIA.

All share prices are as at market close on 08-May-2023 unless otherwise stated.



# **RECOMMENDATION STRUCTURE**

### Stock ratings

Stock ratings are based on absolute upside or downside, which we define as (target price\* - current price) / current price.

BUY (B). The upside is 10% or more.

HOLD (H). The upside or downside is less than 10%.

REDUCE (R). The downside is 10% or more.

Unless otherwise specified, these recommendations are set with a 12-month horizon. Thus, it is possible that future price volatility may cause a temporary mismatch between upside/downside for a stock based on market price and the formal recommendation.

\* In most cases, the target price will equal the analyst's assessment of the current fair value of the stock. However, if the analyst doesn't think the market will reassess the stock over the specified time horizon due to a lack of events or catalysts, then the target price may differ from fair value. In most cases, therefore, our recommendation is an assessment of the mismatch between current market price and our assessment of current fair value.

### **Industry Recommendations**

**Overweight.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be positive over the next 12 months. **Neutral.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be maintained over the next 12 months. **Underweight.** The analyst expects the fundamental conditions of the sector to be negative over the next 12 months.

### **Country (Strategy) Recommendations**

**Overweight (O).** Over the next 12 months, the analyst expects the market to score positively on two or more of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

**Neutral (N).** Over the next 12 months, the analyst expects the market to score positively on one of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

**Underweight (U).** Over the next 12 months, the analyst does not expect the market to score positively on any of the criteria used to determine market recommendations: index returns relative to the regional benchmark, index sharpe ratio relative to the regional benchmark and index returns relative to the market cost of equity.

# **FINANSIA**