

Thailand Auto Title Sector

Auto title lenders – the most prominent growth in 2024

- The aggressive growth in title loans as of end-Sep 2023 was driven mainly by the existing customer base resulting from a higher volume of top-up loans.
- Asset quality remains a cause for concern throughout 2024 amid the fragile economic conditions; we also expect the group's 4Q23 net profit to grow q-q and y-y.
- We prefer TIDLOR to MTC at current price, and retain our BUY call for SAWAD.

Auto title loans led personal loan growth, mainly from existing customer base

Auto title loans outstanding at the end of September 2023, according to the Bank of Thailand (BoT), were at THB273b, up 2.4% m-m, 43.0% y-y, and 30.1% YTD. There were 5.50m accounts in total, with loans outstanding equivalent to THB49,254 per account – a continuous increase post-Covid. In addition, the rise in the number of accounts accelerated less than the increase in loans outstanding, indicating that lenders provided more credit to existing customers than new ones, or there was a gradual increase in LTV (loan-to-value) for existing customers after reducing during Covid. The granting of top-up loans was mainly due to lenders' confidence in the existing customers due to long payment histories.

NPLs accelerated quickly; stage 2 loans to be closely monitored

In terms of overall asset quality as of 3Q23, NPLs amounted to THB5.54b, accelerating rapidly from 1Q22 (after Covid), with the NPL ratio increasing to 2.03% from 1.49% at the end of 1Q22 and 0.95% at year-end 2019 (before Covid). BoT revealed no aggregate figures about stage 2 loans in the non-bank group. However, regarding information gathered from the three companies under our coverage, MTC, SAWAD, and TIDLOR, we noticed a continuous increase in levels, reflecting the fragile asset quality. There is still a need to emphasize proactive management by setting credit costs at a consistently high level (supported by writing-off and selling NPLs), even after the peak period of setting high credit costs has passed, though the reduction should be gradual.

4Q23E net profit to accelerate during the loan season

We estimate the aggregate 4Q23 net profit of MTC, SAWAD, and TIDLOR to be THB3.92b, increasing 6.5% q-q and 24.0% y-y (Exhibit 7) due to 1) the business is entering the loan season; and 2) decreasing credit cost, especially for SAWAD, which passed its peak in 3Q23, while MTC and TIDLOR have seen a reduction in credit costs since 2Q23. However, there are pressures from two main factors: 1) the accelerating cost of funds; and 2) rising operating expenses during the season, especially variable costs. Overall, our aggregate 2023 net profit forecast for MTC, SAWAD, and TIDLOR equals THB14.0b, growing 6.7% y-y, slightly higher than our previous estimate by 1.2%.

We prefer TIDLOR to MTC at current price, and retain BUY call for SAWAD

We pick TIDLOR as a top BUY for its financial strengths in terms of gearing ratio and ability to tackle the fragile asset quality. TIDLOR also offers an attractive 2024 upside potential compared to MTC. We also like SAWAD at the current share price from its return to growing auto title loans against motorcycle hire-purchase loans.



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Auto title loans led personal loan growth, mainly from existing customer base

Auto title loans outstanding at the end of September 2023, according to the BoT, were at THB273b (representing 45% of total personal loans for non-bank groups, increasing significantly from 28% in 2019), growing by 2.4% m-m, 43.0% y-y, and 30.1% YTD. There were 5.50m accounts in total, with loans outstanding equivalent to THB49,254 per account — a continuous increase post-Covid. In addition, the rise in the number of accounts accelerated less than the increase in loans outstanding, indicating that lenders provided more credit to existing customers than new ones, or there was a gradual increase in LTV for existing customers after reducing during Covid. The granting of top-up loans was mainly due to lenders' confidence in the existing customers due to long payment histories.

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Exhibit 1: Vehicle title loans and growth, 2019-3Q23

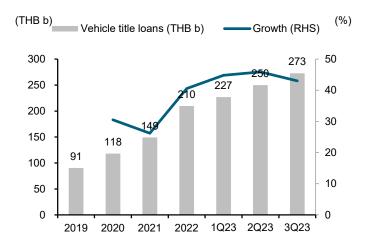
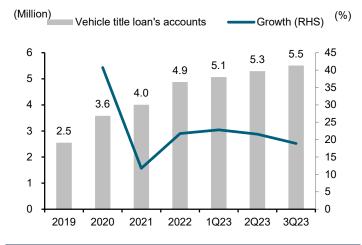


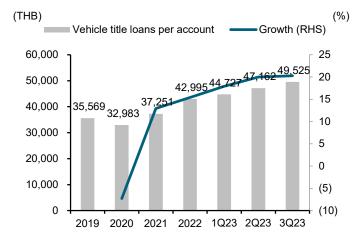
Exhibit 2: Vehicle title loans – accounts and growth, 2019-3Q23



Sources: BoT, FSSIA's compilation

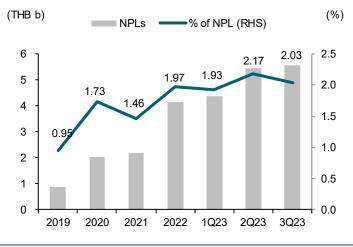
Sources: BoT, FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 3: Vehicle title loans per account and growth, 2019-3Q23



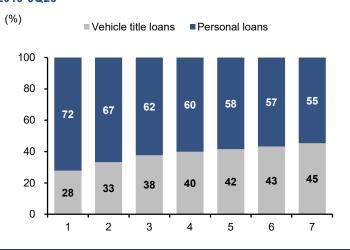
Sources: BoT, FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 5: Vehicle title loans – NPLs and NPL ratio, 2019-3Q23



Sources: BoT, FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 4: Vehicle title loans and personal loans proportion, 2019-3Q23



Sources: BoT, FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 6: YTD price performance comparison, as of 4 December 2023

	Last close	5D	1M	3M	6M	YTD
	(THB)*	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
SET	1,385.11	(1.16)	(2.43)	(10.51)	(9.53)	(16.99)
SETFIN	3,379.17	(0.04)	(0.22)	(12.66)	(16.70)	(27.38)
MTC	44.50*	1.14	11.25	12.66	9.88	17.11
SAWAD	43.75*	(1.13)	(4.89)	(9.33)	(19.72)	(10.26)
TIDLOR	23.00*	0.43	9.48	4.05	(13.64)	(11.91)

Sources: Bloomberg, FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 7: Quarterly results and 4Q23 preview of covered companies

FY ending Dec 31	3Q22	4Q22	1Q23	2Q23	3Q23	4Q23E	Cha	nge	2023E (current)	2022	Chg.	2023E (previous)	Over/ (Under)
	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(%)					
MTC	1,205	1,132	1,070	1,200	1,285	1,340	4.3	18.4	4,895	5,093	(3.9)	4,778	2.5
SAWAD	1,186	1,213	1,200	1,146	1,387	1,470	6.0	21.2	5,204	4,476	16.3	5,340	(2.6)
TIDLOR	901	817	955	927	1,007	1,110	10.2	35.8	3,999	3,640	9.9	3,817	4.8
Net profit - total	3,292	3,162	3,226	3,274	3,679	3,920	6.5	24.0	14,099	13,210	6.7	13,935	1.2

Sources: Company data; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 8: Outstanding debentures and maturity by quarter

Total debt			- Outstanding o	lebentures				Maturity duri	ng quarter		
		1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q		1Q	2Q	3Q	4Q	Total
		(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)		(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)
MTC	2023	59,464	66,186	68,295	65,147		4,514	2,000	4,257	6,656	17,427
	2024	58,761	56,261	53,291	46,841		6,386	2,500	2,970	6,449	18,306
	2025	39,363	32,288	25,168	21,938		7,479	7,075	7,120	3,229	24,903
						_					
SAWAD	2023	19,450	30,178	33,343	32,793	-	2,500	2,553	2,000	550	7,603
	2024	29,546	29,546	26,728	22,949		3,247	-	2,818	3,779	9,844
	2025	22,292	18,179	18,179	18,179		657	4,113	-	-	4,770
						_					
TIDLOR	2023	28,900	25,650	25,850	30,850		-	7,050	4,000	-	11,050
	2024	30,850	25,500	22,500	22,500		-	5,350	3,000	-	8,350
	2025	21,500	21,500	10,800	3,100		1,000	-	10,700	7,700	19,400

 $Note: Content \ on \ the \ table \ only \ accounts \ for \ outstanding \ debentures \ of \ companies \ disclosed \ by \ ThaiBMA$

Sources: ThaiBMA; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 9: Companies' leverage ratios and covenant limits

		MTC		SAWAD			TIDLOR		
	2022	2Q23	3Q23	2022	2Q23	3Q23	2022	2Q23	3Q23
	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)
D/E covenant	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.50	4.50	4.50	n/a	n/a	n/a
IBD/E covenant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.00	6.00	6.00
IBD/ paid-up capital covenant	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.00	7.00	7.00
D/E	3.40	3.71	3.75	1.40	2.55	2.69	2.33	2.40	2.43
IBD/E	3.30	3.62	3.67	1.26	2.42	2.55	2.23	2.32	2.35
IBD/ paid-up capital							4.88	6.48	5.92

Sources: Company data; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 10: Peer comparison – operations

		MTC			SAWAD			TIDLOR	
	2021	2022	3Q23	2021	2022	3Q23	2021	2022	3Q:
	(THB m)	(THB n							
Loans	90,069	117,073	137,081	33,668	55,147	92,429	60,339	79,898	90,45
Branches (no.)	5,799	6,668	7,365	4,908	5,316	5,430	1,286	1,628	1,66
Loans per branch	15.53	17.56	18.61	6.86	10.37	17.02	46.92	49.08	54.4
Yields (%)	19.02	18.54	18.08	18.75	19.77	20.72	17.68	17.87	18.1
Cost of funds (%)	3.38	3.36	3.67	4.26	3.26	3.90	2.75	2.51	3.0
Interest spreads (%)	15.64	15.18	14.40	14.49	16.51	16.82	14.93	15.37	15.0
Operating expenses	6,961	8,069	2,391	3,476	5,442	2,447	6,559	7,923	2,40
Cost to income (%)	50.04	46.76	45.15	36.82	48.47	53.63	60.03	56.44	55.3
ECL	748	2,433	965	(455)	78	316	625	944	58
Credit cost (%)	0.94	2.73	3.87	-1.24	0.18	1.41	0.75	2.26	3.0
Net profit	4,945	5,093	1,285	4,722	4,476	1,387	3,169	3,640	1,00
ROE (%)	21.71	18.88	17.13	20.19	17.78	21.14	18.56	15.22	14.8
NPL	4,948	5,938	4,411	1,249	1,385	2,527	732	1,285	1,39
LLR	5,198	6,237	4,865	736	748	1,477	2,611	3,199	3,67
NPL ratio	3.50	3.52	3.29	3.71	2.51	2.73	1.21	1.61	1.5
Coverage ratio	105	105	110	59	54	50	357	249	26
D/E ratio (x)	2.96	3.40	3.75	0.85	1.40	2.69	1.97	2.33	2.4
IBD/E ratio (x)	2.87	3.30	3.67	0.71	1.26	2.55	1.87	2.23	2.3

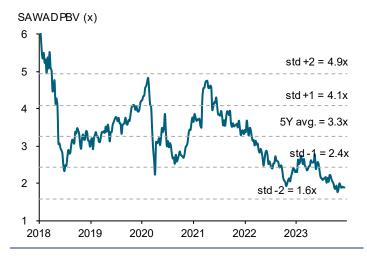
Sources: Company data; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 11: MTC - one-year prospective P/BV band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 13: SAWAD – one-year prospective P/BV band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 15: TIDLOR – one-year prospective P/BV band (average since 2021)



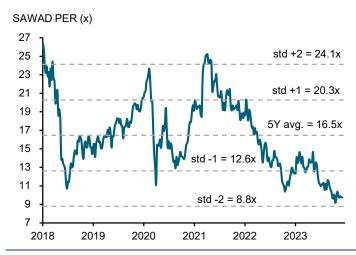
Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 12: MTC - one-year prospective PER band



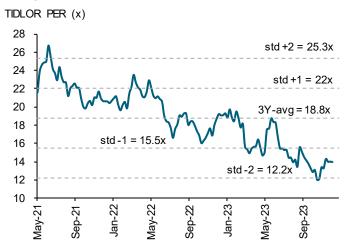
Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 14: SAWAD – one-year prospective PER band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 16: TIDLOR – one-year prospective PER band (average since 2021)



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 17: Peer comparison, as of 4 December 2023

Company name	BBG	Rec	Share	Target	Up	PE		PB\	/	RO	E	Div y	ld
	code		price	price	side	23E	24E	23E	24E	23E	24E	23E	24E
			(LCY)	(LCY)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)	(x)	(x)
Muangthai Capital	MTC TB	BUY	43.75	44.00	0.6	19.4	15.1	2.9	2.5	15.6	17.7	0.8	1.0
Ngern Tid Lor	TIDLOR TB	BUY	22.70	28.00	23.3	16.7	13.8	2.2	2.0	14.2	15.2	1.2	1.4
Srisawad Corp	SAWAD TB	BUY	44.00	54.00	22.7	11.3	9.6	2.1	1.9	19.7	20.7	4.1	4.5
Average						15.8	12.8	2.4	2.1	16.5	17.8	2.0	2.3

Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA's compilation

Disclaimer for ESG scoring

ESG score	Methodolog	У			Rating					
The Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (<u>DJSI</u>) By S&P Global	process base from the ann	ed on the com ual S&P Glob	transparent, rules-base npanies' Total Sustainab pal Corporate Sustainabi nanies within each indust	ility Scores resulting lity Assessment (CSA).	Sustainability ESG Score of scoring comp selected from	Assessment f less than 45 any are disqu the Eligible		I. Companies Global ESG sonstituents of	s with an S&P Score of the hig the DJSI indice	ghest
Sustainability nvestment .ist (THSI) .ist (THSI) .ist cock .exchange of .hailand .SET)	managing bu Candidates I 1) no irregula float of >150 up capital. S 70%; 2) inde wrongdoing	usiness with tr must pass the ar trading of the shareholders ome key disque pendent direct related to CG	ility in Environmental an ransparency in Governal preemptive criteria, with ne board members and combined holding ualifying criteria include: ctors and free float violat , social & environmental earnings in red for > 3 yes	nce, updated annually. In two crucial conditions: executives; and 2) free must be >15% of paid- 1) CG score of below ion; 3) executives' impacts; 4) equity in	minimum of 5 during the ass nature of the SETTHSI Ind capitalization >0.5% of paid Index is a ma	0% for each sessment year relevant indu ex is extende > THB5b (~l l-up capital forket capitalisa	Iusion, verified indicator, unlesser. The scoring stry and mater and from the TH JSD150b); 2) for at least 9 ou ation-weighted number of stock	ss the compa will be fairly iality. SI companies ree float >209 t of 12 month index, cap 5	ny is a part of weighted agains whose 1) ma %; and 3) liquids. The SETTH	nst the rket dity SI
y Thai nstitute of birectors association Thai IOD)	annually by t Thailand (SE	he Thai IOD,	th in sustainable develop with support from the SI ts are from the perspect is.	tock Exchange of	Good (80-89) and not rated equitable trea	, 3 for Good for scores be tment of sha (25%); 4) dis	egories: 5 for E (70-79), 2 for F elow 50. Weigh reholders (weigh closure & trans	air (60-69), 1 itings include ght 25% com	for Pass (60-6 : 1) the rights; bined); 3) the r	59), 2) an ole o
AGM level By Thai nivestors Association TIA) with Support from the SEC	treatment and transparent and to five the assessment the meeting advance circularights can be estransparency as	e incorporated and sufficiently e CG compon criteria cover date (45%), a ation of sufficien exercised. The si and verifiability; a	which shareholders' right d into business operation y disclosed. All form implents to be evaluated an AGM procedures before and after the meeting (10 nt information for voting; and econd assesses 1) the ease and 3) openness for Q&A. To ontain discussion issues, results.	ns and information is portant elements of two nually. The the the meeting (45%), at 19%). (The first assesses 1) (2) facilitating how voting to a tending meetings; 2) the third involves the			nto four categc air (80-89), an			
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lorningstar ustainalytics	based on an risk is unma	assessment of as	isk rating provides an ov of how much of a compa s to be reviewed include con	any's exposure to ESG porate publications and			ng score is the he higher ESG			те
	information, co		her media, NGO reports/wel k, ESG controversies, issue riews.		NEGL 0-10	Low 10-20	Medium 20-30	High 30-40	Severe 40+	
SG Book	positioned to the principle helps explair over-weighti	outperform o of financial m n future risk-a	sustainable companies to over the long term. The rateriality including inforr djusted performance. Matith higher materiality and orly basis.	nethodology considers nation that significantly ateriality is applied by	scores using	materiality-ba	culated as a wased weights. The indicating before	The score is s	caled betweer	
<u>ISCI</u>				nanagement of financially their exposure to ESG r						gy to
	AAA	8.571-10.00	0 Leader:	leading its industry in r	nanaging the most	significant ES0	G risks and oppor	tunities		
	AA	7.143-8.570	0		5 .5 5 5	5 250	SPP01			
	A	5.714-7.142		a mixed or unexception	nal track record of i	managing the r	nost significant E	SG risks and o	oportunities relati	ve to
	BBB BB	4.286-5.713 2.857-4.285	-	industry peers		- 0	-			
	В	1.429-2.856								
	ccc	0.000-1.428	Laggard:	lagging its industry bas	ed on its high expo	osure and failur	e to manage sigr	nificant ESG ris	ks	
oody's ESG olutions	believes that	a company ir		s take into account ESG on to its business model ar medium to long term.						
Refinitiv ESG ating	based on pu	blicly available	e and auditable data. Th	e a company's relative Es ne score ranges from 0 to are 0 to 25 = poor; >25 to 50	100 on relative	ESG perform	nance and insu	fficient degre		
&P Global			nin the same industry cla	easuring a company's per essification. The score rai	nges from 0 to 1	00.				
Bloomberg	ESG Score		score is based on Bloo	uating the company's agg omberg's view of ESG fin the weights are determi	ancial materialit	y. The score	is a weighted (generalized m	nean (power m	ean)
Bloomberg	ESG Disclos	sure Score	Disclosure of a compa every data point, meas	ny's ESG used for Bloom						re of

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"; 2) "AGM Level"; 3) "Thai CAC"; and 4) THSI. The ratings are updated on an annual basis. FSSIA does not confirm nor certify the accuracy of such ratings.

Source: FSSIA's compilation

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Usanee Liurut, CISA FSS International Investment Advisory Securities Co., Ltd

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History of change in investment rating and/or target price



Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price
12-Jan-2021	BUY	78.00	05-Nov-2021	BUY	71.00	04-Aug-2022	BUY	60.00
17-Feb-2021	BUY	82.00	11-Nov-2021	BUY	69.00	09-Nov-2022	HOLD	39.00
07-May-2021	BUY	74.00	15-Feb-2022	BUY	60.00	08-Aug-2023	HOLD	37.00
13-Aug-2021	BUY	67.00	28-Apr-2022	BUY	55.00	19-Oct-2023	BUY	44.00

Usanee Liurut, CISA started covering this stock from 08-Aug-2023

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Srisawad Corp (SAWAD TB) Jun-22 Dec-22 Jun-23 Dec-23 Dec-20 Jun-21 Dec-21 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 Srisawad Corp **Target Price** (THB)

Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price	Date	Rating	Target price
04-Mar-2021	BUY	94.00	05-Nov-2021	BUY	80.00	04-Aug-2022	BUY	62.00
07-May-2021	BUY	108.00	07-Mar-2022	BUY	74.00	17-Nov-2022	BUY	51.00
17-Aug-2021	BUY	86.00	28-Apr-2022	BUY	68.00	17-Nov-2023	BUY	54.00

Usanee Liurut, CISA started covering this stock from 17-Nov-2023

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

Ngern Tid Lor (TIDLOR TB) Dec-20 Jun-21 Dec-21 Jun-22 Dec-22 Jun-23 Dec-23 50 40 30 20 10 Target Price Ngern Tid Lor (THB) Date Rating Target price Date Rating Target price Date Rating Target price

BUY

BUY

43.00

37.00

10-Nov-2022

23-Aug-2023

BUY

BUY

32.00

28.00

Usanee Liurut, CISA started covering this stock from 23-Aug-2023

54.00

47.00

05-Nov-2021

04-Aug-2022

BUY

BUY

Price and TP are in local currency

Source: FSSIA estimates

07-May-2021

16-Aug-2021

Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Muangthai Capital	MTC TB	THB 43.75	BUY	Downside risks to our GGM-based TP include 1) a further weakening of asset quality that could potentially hit both loan yield and credit cost; and 2) changes in financial regulations by the Bank of Thailand and the Office of Consumer Protection Board.
Srisawad Corp	SAWAD TB	THB 44.00	BUY	Downside risks to our GGM-based TP include 1) a further weakening of asset quality that could potentially hit both loan yield and credit cost; and 2) changes in financial regulations by the Bank of Thailand and the Office of Consumer Protection Board.
Ngern Tid Lor	TIDLOR TB	THB 22.70	BUY	Downside risks to our GGM-based TP include 1) the expansion into auto-title loans by the Government Savings Bank and Auto X (subsidiary of SCB X); 2) further weakening asset quality could potentially hit both loan yield and credit cost; and 3) tighter supervision from related regulators.

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.

All share prices are as at market close on 04-Dec-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.