EQUITY RESEARCH - COMPANY REPORT

AEON THANA SINSAP (THAILAND)

THAILAND / FINANCE & SECURITIES

Challenging card business in years ahead

- AEONTS posted impressive 4QFY23 profit growth, thanks to declining ECLs from its policy relaxation.
- Asset quality also had a positive improvement due to its aggressive loan write-offs.
- Reiterate our HOLD call with a new FY24 TP of THB170.

4QFY23 earnings beat our estimate and consensus

AEONTS delivered an impressive 4QFY23 net profit of THB1.09b, increasing by 54.9% q-q and 57.8% y-y. This was 43% and 48% better than our estimate and the Bloomberg consensus, respectively, due mainly to lower-than-anticipated ECLs and credit costs. However, PPOP aligned with expectations, decreasing 3.2% q-q and 6.4% y-y from rising OPEX amid the weaker net interest income and interest spread.

Asset quality was in better shape

The NPL ratio plunged to 4.97% in 4QFY23 from 6.23% in 3QFY23, and credit costs declined to 5.61% from 8.10% in 3QFY23. AEONTS disclosed that it had presently reduced its stage 1 new loans granting ECL by 50-80bp from c5-6%, starting from 4Q23, due to having studied customer behaviors for more than three years after implementing TFRS 9. It also decided to expand the days past due for stage 1 loans to 30 from 28 days since customers typically pay off debts in the last two days, which led to a debt collection improvement in 4QFY23. Moreover, the coverage ratio jumped to 182.8% from the impact of its loan write-offs.

Time to grow loans; personal and credit card focus

We have made minor upward revisions to our FY24-26E earnings averaging 2-3% p.a. Hence, we expect the FY24 net profit to contract by 0.4% y-y, with increases of 6.0% in FY25 and 8.2% in FY26. Regarding the FY24 guidance, the driver should come from recovering loan growth, particularly in the personal and credit card cashing segment. For 1Q24, we expect weaker q-q net profit growth despite the resumption of its loan expansion, which could cause the ECLs and credit costs to grow quarterly, combined with the rising NPLs from the credit card segment. We expect a relatively stable spread on an accelerated cost of funds.

Reiterate our HOLD call due to its limited potential upside

We raise our 2024 GGM-TP to THB170 (from THB164) to reflect the LT-ROE uplift to 12.7% (from 12.3%), thanks to a higher FY23 dividend payout ratio of 42.2% (from c36% in FY21-22). We reiterate HOLD due to its limited potential upside at the current price and the anticipated headwinds continuing in FY24-25 regarding limited business growth to protect its asset quality and stricter credit card business regulations.



AEONTS TB

TARGET PRICE	THB170.00
CLOSE	THB156.00
UP/DOWNSIDE	+9.0%
PRIOR TP	THB164.00
CHANGE IN TP	+3.7%
TP vs CONSENSUS	-0.4%

KEY STOCK DATA

YE Feb (THB m)	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Operating profit	4,152	4,150	4,398	4,753
Net profit	3,259	3,245	3,440	3,721
EPS (THB)	13.04	12.98	13.76	14.88
vs Consensus (%)	-	(4.1)	(5.8)	9.9
Recurring net profit	3,249	3,245	3,440	3,721
Core EPS (THB)	13.00	12.98	13.76	14.88
Chg. In EPS est. (%)	-	3.2	2.1	-
EPS growth (%)	(14.8)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2
Core P/E (x)	12.0	12.0	11.3	10.5
Dividend yield (%)	3.5	3.5	3.7	4.0
Price/book (x)	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3
ROE (%)	13.7	12.8	12.6	12.7
ROA (%)	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.4



Share price performance	1 Month	3 Month	12 Month
Absolute (%)	6.1	(3.1)	(13.8)
Relative to country (%)	5.0	(1.9)	(3.0)
Mkt cap (USD m)			1,073
3m avg. daily turnover (US	SD m)		0.5
Free float (%)			41
Major shareholder	AEON Financia	al Service Co	Ltd (32%)
12m high/low (THB)		203	.00/144.00
Issued shares (m)			250

Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates



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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

Despite having a less negative view on AEONTS' business, we reiterate our HOLD call at the current price due to:

- The credit card and personal loan segments should continue to experience headwinds in FY24, particularly the credit card segment, which should persist until FY25 on the lifting of the minimum payment to 10% from 8% in FY24.
- Despite its effort to reduce NPLs and credit costs with a less stringent policy, we view this as neutral since it could lead to higher expected credit losses (ECLs) and NPL migration afterward amid the sluggish economic outlook.
- 3) We expect FY24-26 net profit to grow by just c4.5% p.a. CAGR.

Company profile

AEONTS's main business activity is providing a variety of retail finance services, including credit cards, personal loans, hire purchase, a life-insurance broker business, nonlife insurance broker business, debt collection and others. As of 28 Feb 2023, AEONTS had a total of 104 branches, of which 31 branches are in Bangkok and the vicinity while the remaining are distributed nationwide. As of 31 Aug 2023, the company had 3.33m ready-to-use credit cards and 6.61m membership cards for personal loans.

www.aeon.co.th

Catalysts

- 1) Better-than-expected loan growth.
- 2) Better-than-expected spread.
- 3) Lower-than-expected NPLs and credit cost.
- 4) Lower-than-expected operating expenses.

Risks to our call

Downside risks are: 1) regulatory actions to curb industry growth; 2) a higher-than-expected policy rate; and 3) deteriorating asset quality. Upside risks are: 1) better-thanestimated economic improvement; 2) stronger-thanestimated improvement in the overall asset quality; and 3) less pressure from the market yield and cost of funds.

Event calendar

Date	Event
May 2024	1QFY24 results announcement

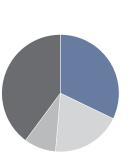
Principal activities (revenue, 2023)

- Net interest income 83.9 %
- Non-interest income 16.1 %

Source: Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand)

Major shareholders

- AEON Financial Service Co Ltd -32.2 %
- ACS Capital Corp Co Ltd 19.2
- Aeon Holding Thailand Co Ltd 8.8 %
- Others 39.9 %



Source: Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand)

Key assumptions

	2024E	2025E	2026E
Loan growth	7.01%	8.82%	8.90%
Interest spread	16.66	16.76	16.74
Net fee income growth	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%
Cost to income	38.25%	38.24%	38.21%
Credit cost (bp)	776	782	772
NPL ratio	5.20%	5.50%	5.50%
ROE	12.78%	12.59%	12.66%
ROA	3.43%	3.42%	3.43%

Source: FSSIA estimates

Earnings sensitivity

			FY2024	
Loan growth	±2ppt	5.01	7.01	9.01
% change in net profit		(1.1)		1.1
Spread (%)	±10bp	16.56	16.66	16.76
% change in net profit		(0.7)		0.7
Credit cost (bp)	±10bp	766	776	786
% change in net profit		2.4		(2.4)

Source: FSSIA estimates



4QFY23 earnings beat our estimate and consensus

AEONTS delivered an impressive 4QFY23 net profit of THB1.09b, increasing by 54.9% q-q and 57.8% y-y. This was 43% and 48% better than our estimate and the Bloomberg consensus, respectively, due mainly to lower-than-anticipated expected credit losses (ECLs) and credit costs. However, PPOP aligned with expectations, decreasing 3.2% q-q and 6.4% y-y from rising OPEX amid the weaker net interest income (NII). Asset quality was better due to its aggressive debt write-offs and policy relaxation. The much better-than-expected 4QFY23 results, positive asset quality development, and higher-than-expected DPS of THB5.50 (42.2% payout ratio) could be short-term catalysts for its share price.

However, we reiterate our HOLD call due to its limited potential upside at the current price and the anticipated headwinds continuing throughout FY24 regarding limited business growth to protect its asset quality and stricter credit card business regulations.

Highlights

(-) Net interest income and the interest spread were in line with expectations, with NII decreasing by 1.6% q-q and 4.5% y-y, due mainly to 1) loans showed a 2.8% q-q and 2.8% y-y decline, primarily due to significant bad debt write-offs in the personal and credit card segments. However, motorcycle hire purchase (7% of total) was the only segment that continued to deliver impressive growth. Personal loans (48%) and credit card receivables (45%) declined by 1.3% q-q and 5.4% q-q, respectively; and 2) the interest spread dropped by 13bp to 16.57% due to a rising cost of funds and lower loan yields.

(+) Non-interest income was in line with expectations, increasing by 5.1% q-q and 3.6% y-y. Following the aggressive debt write-offs during the past couple of years, the rising bad debt recovery was the main contributor to this item.

(-) The cost-to-income ratio rose to 40.2% in the quarter, slightly higher than our estimate of 39.3% from the rising OPEX. Accordingly, the FY23 cost-to-income ratio accelerated to 38.2% from 36.4% in FY22.

(+) Asset quality was much better than expected. The NPL ratio decreased sharply to 4.97% in 4QFY23 from 6.23% in 3QFY23, and credit costs declined to 5.61% from 8.10% in 3QFY23. AEONTS disclosed that it had presently reduced its stage 1 new loans granting ECL by 50-80bp from c5-6%, starting from 4Q23, due to having studied customer behaviors for more than three years after implementing TFRS 9. Furthermore, it decided to expand the days past due for stage 1 loans to 30 from 28 days since customers typically pay off debts in the last two days, which led to a debt collection improvement in 4QFY23.

Stage 2 loans posted a q-q decrease, much below our expectations. Moreover, the coverage ratio jumped to 182.8% from 162.1% in 3QFY23 following the impact of its aggressive write-offs. We view its effort to reduce NPLs and credit costs with a less stringent policy as neutral, since it could lead to higher ECLs and NPL migration afterward amid the sluggish economic outlook.

(0) **1QFY24 outlook:** We expect weaker q-q net profit growth despite the resumption of its loan expansion, which could cause the ECLs and credit costs to grow quarterly, combined with the rising NPLs from the credit card segment. Meanwhile, we expect a relatively stable spread owing to the accelerated cost of funds.

Overall, FY23 net profit rose to THB3.26b, a sharp decrease of 14.6% y-y, pressured by declining PPOP despite relatively stable ECLs. We have made minor upward revisions to our FY24-26E earnings averaging 2-3% p.a. mainly to reflect the expectation of lower credit costs, which could offset the spread reduction. We raise our 2024 GGM-based TP to THB170 (from THB164) to reflect the LT-ROE uplift to 12.7% (from 12.3%), thanks to a higher FY23 dividend payout ratio of 42.2% (from c36% during FY21-22).

Exhibit 1: AEONTS - 4QFY23 operating results

AEONTS	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	Cha	nge	FY23	Change	FY24E	Chang
	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(у-у%				
nterest income	4,786	4,726	4,770	4,650	4,622	(0.6)	(3.4)	18,767	(1.5)	18,802	C
nterest expense	523	527	574	511	550	7.5	5.1	2,162	13.6	2,084	(3.
Net interest income	4,263	4,199	4,196	4,139	4,072	(1.6)	(4.5)	16,605	(3.2)	16,717	C
Non-interest income	766	734	907	755	793	5.1	3.6	3,189	(2.7)	3,174	(0.
Operating income	5,029	4,932	5,102	4,894	4,866	(0.6)	(3.2)	19,794	(3.1)	19,891	C
Operating expenses	2,155	2,033	2,071	2,114	2,175	2.9	0.9	8,394	3.4	8,407	C
PPOP	2,874	2,899	3,031	2,780	2,691	(3.2)	(6.4)	11,400	(7.4)	11,484	C
Expected credit loss	1,964	2,094	1,949	1,899	1,298	(31.6)	(33.9)	7,240	(0.3)	7,327	1
Profit before tax	909	805	1,082	881	1,394	58.2	53.2	4,161	(15.9)	4,150	(0.
ncome tax expense	181	161	218	171	273	60.2	51.5	824	(17.3)	821	(0.
Net profit	693	617	842	706	1,093	54.9	57.8	3,259	(14.6)	3,245	(0.
EPS (THB)	2.77	2.47	3.37	2.82	4.37	54.9	57.8	13.04	(14.6)	12.98	(0.
Key balance sheet highlights	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(<i>y</i> - <i>y</i>)				
_oan - gross	93,864	93,721	93,886	93,814	91,231	(2.8)	(2.8)	91,231	(2.8)	97,630	7
nterest bearing debt	67,057	64,701	65,621	65,624	63,204	(3.7)	(5.7)	63,204	(5.7)	65,063	2
_everage ratio	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)			(x)		(x)	
BD/E (x)	2.94	2.77	2.78	2.77	2.58			2.58		2.47	
D/E (x)	3.15	3.02	2.99	2.95	2.76			2.76		2.65	
Asset quality ratio	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)		(%)	
Gross NPLs (THB m)	5,340	5,541	5,810	5,854	4,534	(22.6)	(15.1)	4,534	(15.1)	5,080	12
NPL ratio	5.69	5.91	6.18	6.23	4.97			4.97		5.20	(0.7
Coverage ratio - LLR/ NPLs	190	184	174	162	183			183		163	(6.7
Credit cost	8.32	8.93	8.31	8.10	5.61			7.82		7.76	(0.0
_LR/TL	10.78	10.87	10.74	10.11	9.08			9.08		8.46	
Profitability ratios	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)		(%)	
Cost-to-income ratio	37.10	37.16	36.46	39.11	40.21			38.21		38.25	1.
rield on loans	20.27	20.15	20.34	19.82	19.98			20.28		19.91	(0.3
Cost of funds	3.09	3.20	3.52	3.12	3.41			3.32		3.25	0.
Spreads	17.18	16.95	16.82	16.70	16.57			16.96		16.66	(0.8
Net interest margin (NIM)	18.05	17.91	17.89	17.64	17.61			17.94		17.70	(0.6
ROE	12.44	10.70	14.34	11.93	18.16			13.78		12.78	
ROA	2.90	2.61	3.56	2.98	4.68			3.47		3.43	
oan growth	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)		(%)	
₋oan growth q-q	(1.2)	(0.2)	0.2	(0.1)	(2.8)						
у-у	3.2	1.2	(0.0)	(1.3)	(2.8)			(2.8)		7.01	
YTD	3.2	(0.2)	0.0	(0.1)	(2.8)						

Sources: AEONTS; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 2: AEONTS – staged loans and ECL

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Loans and accrued interest					% Staged loar	าร		
Stage 1	79,447	82,899	85,032	83,792	90.9	91.1	90.5	91.8
Stage 2	2,944	3,702	3,565	2,979	3.4	4.1	3.8	3.3
Stage 3	5,042	4,427	5,340	4,534	5.8	4.9	5.7	5.0
Total	87,433	91,028	93,937	91,305	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Expected credit loss (ECL)					% ECL to stag	jed loans		
Stage 1	5,969	5,564	4,398	3,748	7.5	6.7	5.2	4.5
Stage 2	1,579	1,917	1,658	1,301	53.6	51.8	46.5	43.7
Stage 3	4,045	3,470	4,069	3,239	80.2	78.4	76.2	71.4
Total	11,593	10,951	10,125	8,288	13.3	12.0	10.8	9.1
LLR / Loans								
Stage 1	7.51	6.71	5.17	4.47				
Stage 2	53.63	51.80	46.51	43.67				
Stage 3	80.23	78.38	76.20	71.43				
Total	13.26	12.03	10.78	9.08				
NPL / TL	5.77	4.86	5.69	4.97				
LLR / NPL	230	247	190	183				
NPLs + stage 2 loans / total loans	9.13	8.93	9.48	8.23				
LLR/(NPLs + stage 2 loans)	145	135	114	110				

Sources: AEONTS; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 3: 2024-26E earnings revisions

	Current				- Previous		Change			
	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	2024E	2025E	2026E	
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	
Net profit (THB m)	3,245	3,440	3,721	3,145	3,369	3,661	3.2	2.1	1.7	
EPS (THB)	12.98	13.76	14.88	12.58	13.48	14.64	3.2	2.1	1.7	
Target price (THB)	170			164			3.7			
2024 P/BV (x)	1.61			2						
Net profit growth (%)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2	7.5	7.1	8.7				
Spread (%)	16.66	16.76	16.74	17.00	17.12	17.27				
Loan growth (%)	7.0	8.8	8.9	6.9	8.8	8.9				
NII growth (%)	0.7	8.8	8.8	2.1	9.1	9.5				
Insurance brokerage income (%)	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0				
Non-NII growth (%)	(0.5)	1.1	1.1	(0.2)	1.1	1.1				
Credit cost (bp)	776	782	772	790	790	790				
Cost to income (%)	38.3	38.2	38.2	38.0	38.0	38.0				
NPL ratio	5.20	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.60	5.60				

Sources: AEONTS; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 4: GGM-based FY2024 TP

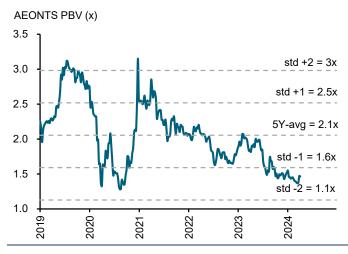
Gordon Growth Model	New	Previous
Sustainable ROE	12.7%	12.3%
g	3.0%	3.0%
ROE-g	9.67%	9.30%
Beta	1.00	1.00
Risk-free rate	3.0%	3.0%
Risk premium	6.0%	6.0%
COE	9.00%	9.00%
COE-g	6.00%	6.00%
ROE-g/COE-g	1.61	1.55

Exhibit 5: Share price performance of non-banks under coverage, as of 9 April 2024

		Pric	e performan	ce	
	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
TIDLOR TB	(0.4)	(5.9)	11.6	(6.6)	(1.3)
MTC TB	(1.6)	(1.1)	29.6	30.5	2.2
SAWAD TB	10.3	2.4	(1.1)	(22.5)	6.2
AEONTS TB	12.6	3.8	8.5	(10.1)	3.4
КТС ТВ	5.1	4.5	1.6	(15.8)	6.9
JMT TB	3.1	(14.1)	(42.9)	(47.1)	(8.2)
BAM TB	12.4	17.6	4.7	(26.5)	22.7
CHAYO TB	(3.8)	(10.6)	(18.5)	(31.8)	(7.3)
SETFIN	3.2	(2.3)	(2.5)	(19.8)	0.9
SET	1.7	(0.2)	(1.7)	(11.5)	(0.4)

Source: FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 6: AEONTS - one-year prospective P/BV band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Source: Bloomberg

Exhibit 7: AEONTS – one-year prospective PER band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 8: Peer comparisons, as of 9 April 2024

Company name	BBG	Rec	Share	Target	Up	PE		PB	V	RO	E	Div y	'ld
	code		price	price	side	24E	25E	24E	25E	24E	25E	24E	25E
			(LCY)	(LCY)	(%)	(X)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)	(x)	(x)
AEON Thana Sinsap (Thailand)	AEONTS TB	HOLD	156.00	164.00	5	12.4	11.6	1.5	1.4	12.4	12.2	2.9	3.1
Muangthai Capital	MTC TB	HOLD	46.00	43.00	(7)	16.8	13.1	2.6	2.2	16.8	18.3	0.5	0.7
Krungthai Card	КТС ТВ	HOLD	46.25	46.00	(1)	15.6	14.1	3.0	2.7	20.2	20.1	2.9	3.2
Srisawad Corp	SAWAD TB	HOLD	43.25	40.00	(8)	12.0	10.6	2.1	1.8	18.4	18.2	4.1	0.9
JMT Network services	JMT TB	HOLD	22.70	25.70	13	13.8	11.7	1.2	1.2	9.0	10.5	5.8	6.8
Ngern Tid Lor	TIDLOR TB	BUY	22.20	27.00	22	13.8	11.7	2.0	1.8	15.4	16.2	2.2	2.6
Bangkok Commercial Asset Mgmt.	BAM TB	HOLD	10.00	8.75	(13)	18.2	17.0	0.7	0.7	4.1	4.3	3.7	3.8
Chayo Group	CHAYO TB	BUY	4.84	6.00	24	13.8	11.9	1.4	1.3	11.1	11.3	1.1	1.3
Average						14.6	12.7	1.8	1.6	13.4	13.9	2.9	2.8

Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates



Financial Statements

Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand)

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Feb	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	20265
nterest Income	19,055	18,767	18,802	20,382	22,160
nterest expense	(1,904)	(2,162)	(2,084)	(2,192)	(2,369
let interest income	17,151	16,605	16,717	18,190	19,791
let fees & commission	3,015	2,880	2,862	2,893	2,926
oreign exchange trading income	-	-	-	-	
Securities trading income	-	-	-	-	
Dividend income	-	-	-	-	
Other income	261	309	312	315	318
Non interest income	3,277	3,189	3,174	3,208	3,244
Total income	20,428	19,794	19,891	21,398	23,035
Staff costs	(7,962)	(8,211)	(8,214)	(8,818)	(9,496
Other operating costs	(253)	(191)	(200)	(210)	(220
Dperating costs	(8,215)	(8,402)	(8,415)	(9,028)	(9,716
Pre provision operating profit	12,213	11,392	11,476	12,370	13,319
Expected credit loss	(7,263)	(7,240)	(7,327)	(7,973)	(8,566
Other provisions	-	-	-	-	
Dperating profit	4,950	4,152	4,150	4,398	4,75
Recurring non operating income	0	0	0	0	, (
ssociates	-	-	-	-	
Goodwill amortization	-	-	-	-	
Ion recurring items	0	0	0	0	
Profit before tax	4,950	4,152	4,150	4,398	4,75
ax	(996)	(824)	(821)	(870)	(941
Profit after tax	3,954	3,338	3,328	3,527	3,81
Non-controlling interest	(139)	(79)	(83)	(87)	(92
Preferred dividends	-	-	-		(
Dther items	-	-	-	-	
Reported net profit	3,815	3,259	3,245	3,440	3,72
Non recurring items & goodwill (net)	-	-	0,210	0	0,12
Recurring net profit	3,815	3,259	3,245	3,440	3,72
Per share (THB)	.,	-,	-, -	-, -	- /
Recurring EPS *	15.26	13.04	12.98	13.76	14.8
-					
Reported EPS	15.26	13.04	12.98	13.76	14.8
DPS Growth	5.50	5.50	5.48	5.81	6.2
		(2.0)			
Net interest income (%)	6.1	(3.2)	0.7	8.8	8.8
Non interest income (%)	13.4	(2.7)	(0.5)	1.1	1.
Pre provision operating profit (%)	9.0	(6.7)	0.7	7.8	7.
Operating profit (%)	8.2	(16.1)	(0.1)	6.0	8.
Reported net profit (%)	7.4	(14.8)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2
Recurring EPS (%)	7.4	(14.8)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2
Reported EPS (%)	7.4	(14.8)	(0.4)	6.0	8.3
ncome Breakdown					
let interest income (%)	84.0	83.9	84.0	85.0	85.9
let fees & commission (%)	14.8	14.6	14.4	13.5	12.
Foreign exchange trading income (%)	-	-	-	-	
Securities trading income (%)	-	-	-	-	
Dividend income (%)	-	-	-	-	
Other income (%)	1.3	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4
Operating performance					
Gross interest yield (%)	22.02	21.38	20.87	21.01	21.14
Cost of funds (%)	2.86	3.32	3.25	3.24	3.2
let interest spread (%)	19.16	18.06	17.62	17.77	17.9
let interest margin (%)	19.8	18.9	18.6	18.8	18.
Cost/income(%)	40.2	42.4	42.3	42.2	42.3
Cost/assets(%)	8.8	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.
Effective tax rate (%)	20.1	19.8	19.8	19.8	19.
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	36.0	42.3	42.2	42.2	42.
ROE (%)	17.9	13.7	12.8	12.6	12.
ROE - COE (%)	8.9	4.7	3.8	3.6	3.
ROA (%)	4.3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.
RORWA (%)	т.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.
	-	-	-	-	

Sources: Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand); FSSIA estimates

Financial Statements

Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand)

Balance Sheet (THB m) Year Ending Feb	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Bross customer loans	94,462	92,132	98,567	107,348	117,000
Allowance for expected credit loss	(10,125)	(8,288)	(8,268)	(9,136)	(9,939)
nterest in suspense	(598)	(901)	(937)	(1,107)	(1,308)
let customer loans	83,739	82,943	89,362	97,105	105,754
Bank loans	218	63	46	55	66
Government securities	0	0	0	0	C
rading securities	-	-	-	-	
nvestment securities	-	-	-	-	
cash & equivalents	3,816	2,797	2,847	2,488	2,132
Other interesting assets	73	75	73	73	74
angible fixed assets	-	-	-	-	
ssociates	0	0	0	0	C
Goodwill	-	-	-	-	
Other intangible assets	1,816	1,482	1,481	1,346	1,238
Other assets	3,054	2,820	2,997	3,199	3,429
otal assets	95,207	92,499	96,806	104,267	112,694
ustomer deposits	-	-	-	-	
ank deposits		-	-	-	
ther interest bearing liabilities	67,057	63,204	65,063	70,262	76,246
lon interest bearing liabilities	4,718	4,230	4,761	4,968	5,189
lybrid Capital	-	-	-	-	
otal liabilities	71,775	67,434	69,823	75,230	81,435
Share capital	-	-	-	-	00
Reserves	22,093	23,744	25,607	27,595	29,746
otal equity	22,821	24,472	26,335	28,323	30,474
Ion-controlling interest	527	589	648	713	785
otal liabilities & equity	95,207	92,499	96,806	104,267	112,694
Supplementary items					
lisk weighted assets (RWA)	-	-	-	-	
verage interest earning assets	86,535	87,758	90,075	97,001	104,841
verage interest bearing liabilities	66,592	65,131	64,133	67,662	73,254
CET 1 capital	-	-	-	-	
otal capital	0	0	0	0	(
Gross non performing loans (NPL)	5,340	4,534	5,080	5,847	6,366
Per share (THB)					
Book value per share	91.29	97.89	105.34	113.29	121.90
angible book value per share	-	-	-	-	
Growth					
Gross customer loans	3.2	(2.5)	7.0	8.9	9.0
verage interest earning assets	4.7	1.4	2.6	7.7	8.1
otal asset (%)	5.2	(2.8)	4.7	7.7	8.1
tisk weighted assets (%)	-	-	-	-	
Customer deposits (%)	-	-	-	-	
everage & capital measures					
customer loan/deposits (%)	-	-	-	-	
quity/assets (%)	24.0	26.5	27.2	27.2	27.0
angible equity/assets (%)	22.1	24.9	25.7	25.9	25.9
WA/assets (%)	-	-	-	-	
ET 1 CAR (%)	-	-	-	-	
otal CAR (%)	-	-	-	-	
sset Quality (FSSIA's calculation)					
hange in NPL (%)	20.6	(15.1)	12.0	15.1	8.9
IPL/gross loans (%)	5.7	4.9	5.2	5.4	5.4
llowance for ECL/gross loans (%)	10.7	9.0	8.4	8.5	8.5
llowance for ECL/NPL (%)	189.6	182.8	162.8	156.3	156.1
aluation	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
lecurring P/E (x) *	10.2	12.0	12.0	11.3	10.5
ecurring P/E @ target price (x) *	11.1	13.1	13.1	12.4	11.4
eported P/E (x)	10.2	12.0	12.0	11.3	10.5
initial and a viable (O()	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.7	4.0
lividend yield (%) Irice/book (x)	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3
		1.6 -	1.5 -	1.4	1.3

Sources: Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand); FSSIA estimates

AEON Thana Sinsap (Thailand) (AEONTS TB)



 $\star \star$

33.86 /100

Exhibit 9: FSSIA ESG score implication

Rating	Score	Implication
****	>79-100	Leading its industry peers in managing the most significant ESG risks which not only better cost efficiency but also lead to higher profitability.
****	>59-79	A mixed track record of managing the most significant ESG risks and opportunities relative to industry peers.
$\star \star \star$	>39-59	Relevant ESG materiality matrix has been constructively addressed, well-managed and incorporated into day-to-day operations, in which targets and achievements are evaluated annually.
**	>19-39	Relevant ESG materiality matrix has been identified with key management in charge for progress to be followed up on and to provide intensive disclosure. Most targets are conventional and achievable.
*	1-19	The company has adopted the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), established sustainability management guidelines and fully complies with regulations or ESG suggested guidance from related organizations such as the SET and SEC.

Source: FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 10: ESG – peer comparison

	FSSIA		Domestic ratings						Global ratings						Bloomberg	
	ESG score	DJSI	SET THSI	THSI	CG score	AGM level	Thai CAC	Morningstar ESG risk	ESG Book	MSCI	Moody's	Refinitiv	S&P Global	ESG score	Disclosure score	
SET100	69.20	5.34	4.40	4.40	4.76	4.65	3.84	Medium	51.76	BBB	20.87	58.72	63.91	3.72	28.17	
Coverage	67.12	5.11	4.15	4.17	4.83	4.71	3.53	Medium	52.04	BB	16.97	56.85	62.09	3.40	31.94	
AEONTS	33.86				4.00	3.00		Medium	40.10	BBB		27.64	17.00			
BAM	55.19		Y	Y	5.00	4.00	Certified	Medium	47.11	В		49.29	14.00	2.88	51.77	
JMT	35.60				4.00	5.00	Declared	Medium		BBB		12.70	13.00		39.90	
КТС	71.80		Y	Y	5.00	5.00	Certified	Low	57.22	A		64.48	59.00	4.96	57.09	
SAWAD	46.52		Y	Y	4.00	5.00		Medium	43.97	BB		20.18	13.00	1.93	40.04	

Sources: SETTRADE.com; FSSIA's compilation

Exhibit 11: ESG disclosure from the company's one report

FY ending Feb 28	 FY 2022
Environmental	
Climate change policy	
Climate change opportunities discussed	
GHG scope 2 location-based policy	Yes
Biodiversity policy	
Energy efficiency policy	Yes
Electricity used	Yes
Fuel used - crude oil/diesel	
Waste reduction policy	Yes
Water policy	Yes
Water consumption	1,133.13
Social	
Human rights policy	Yes
Policy against child labor	
Quality assurance and recall policy	Yes
Consumer data protection policy	Yes
Equal opportunity policy	Yes
Gender pay gap breakout	
Pct women in workforce	Yes
Business ethics policy	Yes
Anti-bribery ethics policy	Yes
Health and safety policy	Yes
Lost time incident rate - employees	
Training policy	Yes
Fair remuneration policy	Yes
Number of employees - CSR	
Total hours spent by firm - employee training	324
Social supply chain management	

FY ending Feb 28	FY 2022
Governance	
Board size / Independent directors (ID) / Female	12 / 4 / 2
No. of board meetings for the year / % attendance	12 / 98.61%
Company conducts board evaluations	Yes
Number of non-executive directors on board	2
Director share ownership guidelines	No
Board age limit	No
Age of the youngest / oldest director	61 / 75
Number of executives / female	11/3
Executive share ownership guidelines	No
Size of audit committee / ID	3/3
Audit committee meetings	10
Audit committee meeting attendance (%)	100
Size of compensation committee	
Number of compensation committee meetings	
Compensation committee meeting attendance (%)	
Size of nomination committee / ID	
Number of nomination committee meetings	
Nomination committee meeting attendance (%)	
Board compensation (THB m)	24.21
Auditor fee (THB m)	7.59
(Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Jaiyos Audit Company Limited)	

Source: FSSIA's compilation



Disclaimer for ESG scoring

ESG score	Methodology				Rating						
The Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (<u>DJSI</u>) By S&P Global	process based from the annua Only the top-ra inclusion.	d on the comp al S&P Globa anked compa	ransparent, rules-based banies' Total Sustainabil al Corporate Sustainabili nies within each industr	ity Scores resulting ty Assessment (CSA). y are selected for	Be a member and invited to the annual S&P Global Corporate Sustainability Assessment (CSA) for DJSI. Companies with an S&P Global ESG Score of less than 45% of the S&P Global ESG Score of the highest scoring company are disqualified. The constituents of the DJSI indices are selected from the Eligible Universe.						
Sustainability Investment List (<u>THSI</u>) by The Stock Exchange of Thailand (<u>SET</u>)	managing bus Candidates m 1) no irregular float of >150 s up capital. Sor 70%; 2) indep wrongdoing re	iness with tra ust pass the p trading of the hareholders, me key disqu endent direct lated to CG,	ity in Environmental and insparency in Governam- preemptive criteria, with e board members and e: and combined holding r alifying criteria include: ' ors and free float violatio social & environmental i amings in red for > 3 yea	ce, updated annually. two crucial conditions: xecutives; and 2) free nust be >15% of paid- 1) CG score of below n; 3) executives' mpacts; 4) equity in	To be eligible for <u>THSI inclusion</u> , verified data must be scored at a minimum of 50% for each indicator, unless the company is a part of DJSI during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against the nature of the relevant industry and materiality. <u>SETTHSI Index</u> is extended from the THSI companies whose 1) market capitalization > 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 a maximum, and no cap for number of stocks.						
CG Score by Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD)	annually by the	e Thai IOD, w). The results	in sustainable developr vith support from the Sto s are from the perspectiv	ock Exchange of	Good (80-89), 3 and not rated for equitable treat	3 for Good (70 or scores belov nent of shareh 25%); 4) disclo	ories: 5 for Excell -79), 2 for Fair (6 w 50. Weightings iolders (weight 2 sure & transpare	60-69), 1 for P include: 1) th 5% combined	ass (60-69), e rights; 2) and); 3) the role of		
AGM level By Thai Investors Association (TIA) with support from the SEC	treatment are transparent ar out of five the criteria cover A date (45%), ar <i>circulation of suf</i> <i>exercised. Thes</i> <i>and verifiability;</i>	incorporated ad sufficiently CG compone AGM procedu and after the m fficient informati second assesse and 3) opennes	hich shareholders' rights into business operations disclosed. All form impo- ents to be evaluated ann ures before the meeting neeting (10%). (The first a ion for voting; and 2) facilitat is 1) the ease of attending m so for Q&A. The third involve is, resolutions and voting reso	s and information is ortant elements of two ually. The assessment (45%), at the meeting ssesses 1) advance ing how voting rights can be beetings; 2) transparency is the meeting minutes that	The scores are classified into four categories: 5 for Excellent (100), 4 for Very Good (90-99), 3 for Fair (80-89), and not rated for scores below 79.						
Thai CAC By Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)	establishment policies. The C (Companies dec Declaration of In Certification, incl	of key contro Certification is iding to become tent to kick off a luding risk asse mployees, esta	hecklist include corrupti- bls, and the monitoring a s good for three years. e a CAC certified member si an 18-month deadline to sub issment, in place of policy ar blishment of whistleblowing stakeholders.)	nd developing of tart by submitting a bmit the CAC Checklist for nd control, training of	The document will be reviewed by a committee of nine professionals. A passed Checklist will move for granting certification by the CAC Council approvals whose members are twelve highly respected individuals in professionalism and ethical achievements.						
<u>Morningstar</u> <u>Sustainalytics</u>	based on an a risk is unmana	assessment of aged. <i>Sources</i>	k rating provides an ove f how much of a compar to be reviewed include corp er media, NGO reports/webs	ny's exposure to ESG orate publications and	A company's ESG risk rating score is the sum of unmanaged risk. The more risk is unmanaged, the higher ESG risk is scored.						
	information, company feedback, ESG controversies, issuer feedback on draft ESG reports, and quality & peer reviews.				NEGL 0-10	Low 10-20	Medium 20-30	High 30-40	Severe 40+		
ESG Book	positioned to o the principle o helps explain t	outperform ov f financial ma future risk-adj g features witl	ustainable companies th er the long term. The m iteriality including inform justed performance. Ma' h higher materiality and ly basis.	ethodology considers ation that significantly teriality is applied by	scores using m	ateriality-base	ated as a weight d weights. The s dicating better p	core is scaled			
MSCI				anagement of financially their exposure to ESG ri					ethodology to		
		8.571-10.000 7.143-8.570	Leader:	leading its industry in m	anaging the most si	gnificant ESG ris	sks and opportunitie	es			
	A BBB BB	5.714-7.142 4.286-5.713 2.857-4.285	Average:	a mixed or unexception industry peers	al track record of ma	anaging the mos	t significant ESG ris	sks and opportu	nities relative to		
	B CCC	1.429-2.856 0.000-1.428	Laggard:	lagging its industry base	ed on its high expos	ure and failure to	o manage significan	t ESG risks			
<u>Moody's ESG</u> solutions	Moody's asses believes that a	sses the degr a company int		take into account ESG o to its business model and medium to long term.							
Refinitiv ESG	based on publ	licly available	and auditable data. The	a company's relative ES score ranges from 0 to re 0 to 25 = poor; >25 to 50	100 on relative E	SG performan	ce and insufficie	nt degree of t			
	1 5		e is a relative score mea	asuring a company's perf			of ESG risks, op	portunities, an	d impacts		
	The S&P Glob			sification. The score ran	ges nom u to rut						
rating	The S&P Glob	ts peers within	n the same industry clas Bloomberg score evalu score is based on Bloor	sification. The score ran ating the company's agg nberg's view of ESG fina the weights are determin	regated Environn ancial materiality.	nental, Social The score is a	a weighted gener	alized mean (power mean)		

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

GENERAL DISCLAIMER

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

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Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand	I) AEONTS TB	THB 156.00	HOLD	Downside risks are: 1) regulatory actions to curb industry growth; 2) a higher-than- expected policy rate; and 3) deteriorating asset quality. Upside risks are: 1) better-than- estimated economic improvement; 2) stronger-than-estimated improvement in the overall asset quality; and 3) less pressure from the market yield and cost of funds.
Muangthai Capital	МТС ТВ	THB 46.00	HOLD	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. Upside riskes are 1) a positive development of asset quality which could bring down its credit costs and 2) a decreasing market interest rate which could alleviate its cost of funds burden.
Krungthai Card	КТС ТВ	THB 46.25	HOLD	Downside risks are: 1) regulatory actions to curb industry growth; 2) a higher-than- expected policy rate; and 3) deteriorating asset quality. Upside risks are: 1) better-than- estimated economic improvement; 2) stronger-than-estimated improvement in the overall asset quality; and 3) less pressure from the market yield and cost of funds.
Srisawad Corp	SAWAD TB	THB 43.25	HOLD	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. Upside risks include 1) a faster-than-expected decline in losses on sales of repossessed cars for SCAP; and 2) an interest rate downtrend could push its interest spread.
JMT Network Services	JMT TB	THB 22.70	HOLD	Downside risks to our P/BV-based TP include 1) lower cash collection from both debt management and debt tracking collection services; and 2) higher-than-expected funding costs and operating expenses. Upside risks includes 1) better-than-expected purchasing power and cash collection 2) lower-than-expected operating and financing expense
Ngern Tid Lor	TIDLOR TB	THB 22.20	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.
Bangkok Commercial Asset Mngt.	BAM TB	THB 10.00	HOLD	Downside risks to our NAV-based TP include 1) lower cash collection than estimated; 2) lower-than-expected bad debt acquisition; and 3) a slowdown in the property market. Upsides include 1) better-than-expected economic conditions and debt repayment momentum; and 2) an acceleration in the demand for NPAs.
Chayo Group	CHAYO TB	THB 4.84	BUY	Downside risks to our GGM-based TP include 1) lower-than-expected bad debt acquisition; and 2) higher-than-expected operating expenses.

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 09-Apr-2024 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.