**EQUITY RESEARCH - COMPANY REPORT** 

# FSS INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT ADVISORY

# **AEON THANA SINSAP (THAILAND)**

THAILAND / FINANCE & SECURITIES

# คาดกำไร 2QFY24 จะฟื้นตัว

- เราคาดว่ากำไร 2QFY24 จะฟื้นตัวส่วนมากจากกำไร 160 ลบ. จากการขายหนี้และผล ขาดทุนทางเครดิตที่คาดว่าจะเกิดขึ้น (ECL) ที่ลดลงเล็กน้อย
- ในภาพรวมคุณภาพสินทรัพย์ยังทรงตัวพร้อมอัตราการตัดจำหน่ายหนี้ที่ชะลอตัวลง
- คงคำแนะนำถือที่ราคาเป้าหมายปี FY24 ที่ 145 บาท

# คาดกำไรจากการขายหนี้และ Credit cost ที่ลดลงจะช่วยผลักดันกำไร 2QFY24

เราคาดกำไรสุทธิ 2QFY24 อยู่ที่ 735 ลบ. เพิ่มขึ้นสูงถึง 40.2% q-q แต่ลดลง 12.7% y-y กำไร ก่อนสำรอง (PPOP) น่าจะเพิ่ม 6.0% q-q แต่ลดลง 3.4% y-y เป็น 2.93พัน ลบ. เราคาดว่าสินเชื่อ จะโตเล็กน้อยที่ 0.4% q-q แต่ลดลง 2.2% y-y ส่วนมากจากอัตราการตัดหนี้สูญที่ลดลง ทั้งนี้ สินเชื่อบุคคล (48%) และลูกหนี้บัตรเครดิต (44%) ซึ่งเป็นสินเชื่อหลักยังชะลอตัวโดยเฉพาะบัตร เครดิตซึ่งหดตัวต่อเนื่องจากอัตราการชำระเงินขั้นต่ำที่สูงขึ้นเป็น 8% (จาก 5%) ในทางตรงกันข้าม สินเชื่อเช่าซื้อรถจักรยานยนต์และรถยนต์มือสอง (8%) น่าจะขยายตัวเป็นไตรมาสที่ 6 ติดต่อกัน เราคาดว่า Loan spread จะปรับขึ้นเล็กน้อยอีก 5bp เป็น 16.95% โดยมีปัจจัยผลักดันส่วนมาก จากค่าใช้จ่ายดอกเบี้ยที่ลดลงจากการกู้ยืมระยะสั้นที่สูงขึ้น นอกจากนี้ค่าใช้จ่ายในการดำเนินงาน (OPEX) ยังน่าจะลดลงโดยมีปัจจัยหนุนจากตันทุน IT ที่ลดลง q-q และมาตรการควบคุมตันทุน อย่างเข้มงวดโดยเฉพาะค่าใช้จ่ายบุคลากรและการตลาด ดังนั้นเราจึงคาดว่าสัดส่วนค่าใช้จ่ายใน การดำเนินงานต่อรายได้จะอยู่ที่ 38.32% ปรับตัวดีขึ้นจาก 39.70% ใน 1QFY24

#### ยังไม่เห็นพัฒนาการบวกเด่นชัดในคุณภาพสินทรัพย์

เราคาดว่าสัดส่วนหนี้ด้อยคุณภาพใน 2QFY24 จะค่อนข้างทรงตัวที่ 5.38% จากอัตราการตัด จำหน่ายหนี้เสียที่ลดลงหลังบริษัทฯ ให้ความช่วยเหลือลูกหนี้ผ่านการปรับโครงสร้างหนี้เพิ่มขึ้นซึ่ง อาจทำให้สินเชื่อขั้นที่ 2 เพิ่มขึ้นมากกว่าปกติ (เทียบกับ 3.1% ใน 1QFY24) ในขณะที่สินเชื่อขั้นที่ 3 ลดลงอย่างช้า ๆ อย่างไรก็ดีเราคาดว่าต้นทุนความเสี่ยงในการปล่อยสินเชื่อ (Credit cost) จะ ลดลงเหลือ 8.69% (คาด Management overlay จำนวน 100-200 ลบ. จากผลกระทบของน้ำท่วม) เทียบกับ 9.15% ใน 1QFY24 (ตั้ง Management overlay จำนวน 200 ลบ. สำหรับอัตราการชำระ ขั้นต่ำที่คาดว่าจะเพิ่มเป็น 10%) พร้อมสัดส่วนสำรองต่อหนี้ต้อยคุณภาพที่คาดว่าจะทรงตัวที่ 169%

#### ทบทวนประมาณการกำไรสุทธิ FY24-26 เพื่อสะท้อนประมาณการเติบโตของสินเชื่อที่สูง เกินไป

เรามีแผนจะทบทวนประมาณการกำไรสุทธิปี FY24-26 เพื่อสะท้อนคาดการณ์การเติบโตของ สินเชื่อที่สูงเกินไป จากปัจจุบันที่คาดกำไรสุทธิจะหดตัว 0.4% y-y ในปี FY24 แต่จะกลับมาเติบโต 6.0% y-y ในปี FY25 และ 8.2% y-y ในปี FY26 สำหรับกลยุทธในปี FY25-26 ปัจจัยหนุนการ เติบโตจะมาจากการพื้นตัวของอัตราการเติบโตของสินเชื่อโดยเฉพาะสินเชื่อเงินสดจากบัตรเครดิต และสินเชื่อเช่าซื้อ รายได้ค่าธรรมเนียมที่สูงขึ้นและค่าใช้จ่ายในการดำเนินงานที่ลดลง

#### คงคำแนะนำถือที่ราคาเป้าหมายปี FY24 ที่ 145 บาท

เราคงคำแนะนำถือที่ราคาเป้าหมายปี FY24 ที่ 145 บาท (GGM) เทียบเท่าค่า P/BV ที่ 1.38x ภายใต้สมมติฐานค่า L-T ROE ที่ 12.7% และ COE ที่ 10%

# **AEONTS TB**

# HOLD

UNCHANCE

TARGET PRICE	THB145.00
CLOSE	THB143.50
UP/DOWNSIDE	+1.0%
PRIOR TP	THB145.00
CHANGE IN TP	UNCHANGED
TP vs CONSENSUS	-4.2%

#### **KEY STOCK DATA**

YE Feb (THB m)	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
Operating profit	4,161	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 (%)	-	6.6	3.5	(0.3)
Recurring net profit	3,259	3,245	3,440	3,721
Core EPS (THB)	13.04	12.98	13.76	14.88
Chg. In EPS est. (%)	-	-	-	-
EPS growth (%)	(14.6)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2
Core P/E (x)	11.0	11.1	10.4	9.6
Dividend yield (%)	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.4
Price/book (x)	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
ROE (%)	13.8	12.8	12.6	12.7
ROA (%)	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5



Share price performance	1 Month	3 Month	12 Month
Absolute (%)	9.5	10.4	(13.0)
Relative to country (%)	2.5	(0.4)	(8.5)
Mkt cap (USD m)			1,088
3m avg. daily turnover (US	SD m)		1.4
Free float (%)			41
Major shareholder	AEON Financia	Service Co	Ltd (32%)
12m high/low (THB)		168	3.50/107.00
Issued shares (m)			250

Sources: Bloomberg consensus; FSSIA estimates



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The Chairman of The Board of Directors of Finansia Syrus Securities PCL is also AEONTS's Director.

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#### Investment thesis

We maintain our HOLD call at the current price for the following reasons:

- The credit card and personal loan segments continue to face challenges in 1HFY24, especially in credit card asset quality, with the minimum payment requirement increasing from 5% to 8%.
- However, we expect a more positive outlook for 2HFY24, as the upcoming economic stimulus should support better debt collection and boost credit card spending.
- The current share price already reflects the positive impact of postponing the minimum payment increase to 10%, which should reduce credit costs in FY25-26.

## 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, non-life 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

## Principal activities (revenue, 1HFY24)

■ Net interest income - 80.9 %



Non-interest income - 19.1 %

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)

#### 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-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.

#### **Event calendar**

Date	Event	
Oct 2024	2QFY24 results announcement	

# 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

#### Gain on debt selling and lower credit costs to push 2QFY24 profit

We estimate a 2QFY24 net profit of THB735m, marking a sharp increase of 40.2% q-q but a decrease of 12.7% y-y. The expected PPOP should increase by 6.0% q-q but plunge by 3.4% y-y, amounting to THB2.93b.

We anticipate slight loan growth of 0.4% q-q but a decline of 2.2% y-y due mainly to the slower pace of debt write-offs. The main contributors – personal loans (48%) and credit card receivables (44%) – remain sluggish, particularly with credit cards, which continue to contract on the back of the higher minimum payment at 8% (from 5%).

In contrast, the motorcycle and used car HP segment (8%) should grow for the sixth consecutive quarter. AEONTS has addressed the growth that comes when competitors are slowing down, allowing for the selection of higher-quality customers. However, the expected YTD loan growth of 0.5% is far below our 7% full-year estimate and the company's 2-3% y-y guidance.

We anticipate a slight increase in the loan spread by 5bp to 16.95%, primarily driven by a reduction in interest expenses resulting from an increased reliance on short-term borrowings.

The expected operating expenses should also decrease, supported by lower IT costs on a q-q basis and stringent cost control measures, particularly in employee and marketing expenses. Consequently, we estimate the cost-to-income ratio for 2QFY24 to be 38.32%, an improvement from 39.70% in 1QFY24.

We expect 1HFY24 net profit to increase by 6.1% y-y, amounting to THB1.55b, and account for 48% of our full-year forecast.

Exhibit 1: AEONTS - 2QFY24E operations summary

AEONTS	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24	2QFY24E	Cha	inge	1HFY24E	Change	% of	FY24E	Change
	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(y-y%)	FY24E	(THB m)	(y-y%				
nterest income	4,770	4,650	4,622	4,657	4,675	0.4	(2.0)	9,420	(0.8)	50	18,802	0
nterest expense	574	511	550	558	555	(0.6)	(3.3)	1,085	(1.4)	52	2,084	(3.6
Net interest income	4,196	4,139	4,072	4,098	4,120	0.5	(1.8)	8,334	(0.7)	50	16,717	0.
Non-interest income	907	755	793	851	975	14.7	7.6	1,662	1.3	52	3,174	(0.5
Operating income	5,102	4,894	4,866	4,949	5,095	3.0	(0.1)	9,996	(0.4)	50	19,891	0.
Operating expenses	2,071	2,114	2,183	2,188	2,169	(0.9)	4.7	4,185	2.0	50	8,407	0
PPOP	3,031	2,780	2,682	2,760	2,927	6.0	(3.4)	5,811	(2.0)	51	11,484	0.
Expected credit loss	1,949	1,899	1,298	2,089	1,990	(4.7)	2.1	3,848	(4.8)	53	7,327	1
Profit before tax	1,082	881	1,394	672	937	39.5	(13.4)	1,963	4.0	47	4,150	(0.3
Income tax expense	218	171	273	132	185	39.5	(15.5)	389	2.6	47	821	(0.3
Net profit	842	706	1,093	524	735	40.2	(12.7)	1,548	6.1	48	3,245	(0.4
EPS (THB)	3.37	2.82	4.37	2.10	2.94	40.2	(12.7)	6.19	6.1	48	12.98	(0.4
Key balance sheet highlights	(THB m)	(q-q%)	(y-y%)	(THB m)	(y-y%)		(THB m)	(y-y%				
Loan - gross	93,886	93,814	91,231	91,382	91,783	0.4	(2.2)	91,783	(2.2)		97,630	7.
Interest bearing debt	65,621	65,624	63,204	64,322	63,511	(1.3)	(3.2)	63,511	(3.2)		65,063	2.
Leverage ratio	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)			(x)			(x)	
IBD/E (x)	2.78	2.77	2.58	2.55	2.45			2.45			2.47	
D/E (x)	2.99	2.95	2.76	2.73	2.62			2.62			2.65	
Asset quality ratio	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)			(%)	
Gross NPLs (THB m)	5,810	5,854	4,534	4,931	4,940	0.2	(15.0)	4,940	(15.0)		5,080	12.
NPL ratio	6.18	6.23	4.97	5.39	5.38			5.38			5.20	
Coverage ratio - LLR/ NPLs	174	162	183	168	169			169			163	
Credit cost	8.31	8.10	5.61	9.15	8.69			8.89			7.76	
LLR/TL	10.74	10.11	9.08	9.07	9.08			9.08			8.46	
Profitability ratios	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)			(%)	
Cost-to-income ratio	36.46	39.11	40.21	39.70	38.32			39.00			38.25	
Yield on loans	20.34	19.82	19.98	20.40	20.42			20.10			19.91	
Cost of funds	3.52	3.12	3.41	3.50	3.47			3.45			3.25	
Spreads	16.82	16.70	16.57	16.90	16.95			16.65			16.66	
Net interest margin (NIM)	17.89	17.64	17.61	17.95	17.99			21.58			17.70	
ROE	14.34	11.93	18.16	8.44	11.50			11.29			12.78	
ROA	3.56	2.98	4.68	2.24	3.18			2.69			3.43	
Loan growth	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)			(%)			(%)	
Loan growth q-q	0.2	(0.1)	(2.8)	0.2	0.4							
у-у	(0.0)	(1.3)	(2.8)	(2.5)	(2.2)			(2.2)			7.0	
YTD	0.0	(0.1)	(2.8)	0.2	0.5			0.5				

Sources: AEONTS; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 2: Quarterly loan growth, 1QFY22-24

	1QFY22	2QFY22	3QFY22	4QFY22	1QFY23	2QFY23	3QFY23	4QFY23	1QFY24
	(THB m)								
Hire purchase receivables	5,641	5,495	5,645	5,511	5,712	6,009	6,343	6,647	7,567
q-q %	-4.3%	-2.6%	2.7%	-2.4%	3.6%	5.2%	5.6%	4.8%	13.8%
у-у %	-8.0%	-7.6%	-6.9%	-6.5%	1.3%	9.4%	12.4%	20.6%	32.5%
YTD %	-4.3%	-6.7%	-4.2%	-6.5%	3.6%	9.0%	15.1%	20.6%	13.8%
Personal loans	46,194	46,218	45,982	44,878	44,361	43,999	43,975	43,421	43,639
q-q %	1.1%	0.1%	-0.5%	-2.4%	-1.2%	-0.8%	-0.1%	-1.3%	0.5%
у-у %	3.0%	2.8%	0.8%	-1.8%	-4.0%	-4.8%	-4.4%	-3.2%	-1.6%
YTD %	1.1%	1.1%	0.6%	-1.8%	-1.2%	-2.0%	-2.0%	-3.2%	0.5%
Credit card receivables	40,807	42,181	43,399	43,474	43,649	43,879	43,496	41,162	40,177
q-q %	3.8%	3.4%	2.9%	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%	-0.9%	-5.4%	-2.4%
у-у %	14.7%	16.9%	14.9%	10.6%	7.0%	4.0%	0.2%	-5.3%	-8.0%
YTD %	3.8%	7.3%	10.4%	10.6%	0.4%	0.9%	0.0%	-5.3%	-2.4%
Total loans	92,641	93,894	95,026	93,864	93,721	93,886	93,814	91,231	91,382
q-q %	1.9%	1.3%	1.2%	-1.2%	-0.2%	0.2%	-0.1%	-2.8%	0.2%
у-у %	7.0%	7.9%	6.2%	3.2%	1.2%	0.0%	-1.3%	-2.8%	-2.5%
YTD %	1.9%	3.2%	4.5%	3.2%	-0.2%	0.0%	-0.1%	-2.8%	0.2%

Sources: AEONTS; FSSIA's compilation

## Yet to observe any positive signs in asset quality

The 2QFY24E NPL ratio is relatively stable at 5.38% due to a slower pace of bad debt write-offs following a greater emphasis on assisting debtors through more debt restructuring. These actions will potentially lead to a higher-than-usual increase in stage 2 loans (3.1% in 1QFY24) and a slow reduction in stage 3 loans.

However, we project a reduction in credit costs to 8.69% (THB100-200m management overlay expected for flooding effects) vs 9.15% in 1QFY24 (200m management overlay for the expected credit card minimum payment raising to 10%), with a sustained coverage ratio at 169%.

Exhibit 3: AEONTS - Staged loans and ECL

	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	1QFY24	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	1QFY24
	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(THB m)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
Loans and accrued interest					% Staged lo	ans		
Stage 1	82,899	85,032	83,792	83,726	91.1	90.5	91.8	91.6
Stage 2	3,702	3,565	2,979	2,796	4.1	3.8	3.3	3.1
Stage 3	4,427	5,340	4,534	4,931	4.9	5.7	5.0	5.4
Total	91,028	93,937	91,305	91,453	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Expect credit loss (ECL)					% ECL to sta	aged loans		
Stage 1	5,564	4,398	3,748	3,532	6.7	5.2	4.5	4.2
Stage 2	1,917	1,658	1,301	1,248	51.8	46.5	43.7	44.6
Stage 3	3,470	4,069	3,239	3,509	78.4	76.2	71.4	71.2
Total	10,951	10,125	8,288	8,289	12.0	10.8	9.1	9.1
LLR / Loans								
Stage 1	6.71	5.17	4.47	4.22				
Stage 2	51.80	46.51	43.67	44.63				
Stage 3	78.38	76.20	71.43	71.17				
Total	12.03	10.78	9.08	9.06				
NPL / TL	4.86	5.69	4.97	5.39				
LLR / NPL	247	190	183	168				
NPLs + stage 2 loans / total loans	8.93	9.48	8.23	8.45				
LLR / (NPLs + stage 2 loans)	135	114	110	107				

Sources: AEONTS; FSSIA's compilation

### FY24-26E net profit under review to reflect overestimated loan growth

We plan to review our FY24-26 net profit forecast, particularly loan growth, after the 2QFY24 results announcement. Our study shows that every 1% loan reduction should impact the expected 2024 net profit by 0.5%, all else being equal. Regarding its FY25-26 strategy, the growth drivers should come from a recovery in loan growth, particularly in the credit card cashing segment, and HP lending, higher fees, and reduced OPEX.

Exhibit 4: GGM-based 2025 TP

Gordon Growth Model	FY2024E
Sustainable ROE	12.7%
g	3.0%
ROE-g	9.7%
Beta	1.2
Risk free rate	3.0%
Risk premium	6.0%
COE	10.0%
COE-g	7.0%
ROE-g/COE-g	1.38

Exhibit 5: Share price performance of non-banks under coverage, as of 23 September 2024

		Pri	ce performa	nce	
	1M	3M	6M	1Y	YTD
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
TIDLOR TB	13.5	(1.1)	(15.1)	(10.8)	(14.7)
MTC TB	13.7	16.9	12.5	33.5	15.0
SAWAD TB	8.3	20.6	11.3	2.7	15.4
SAK TB	5.9	(0.9)	10.1	7.0	28.6
AEONTS TB	9.5	10.0	(2.4)	(13.0)	(10.3)
KTC TB	8.9	8.9	1.1	0.0	5.7
ASK TB	15.4	2.9	(18.4)	(40.1)	(28.6)
THANI TB	5.0	(5.4)	(7.0)	(24.8)	(10.3)
JMT TB	16.8	23.1	(17.0)	(61.7)	(29.0)
BAM TB	19.7	20.5	(5.5)	(13.0)	15.3
CHAYO TB	22.0	17.1	(22.6)	(43.1)	(24.8)
SETFIN	11.1	10.5	(3.6)	(15.1)	(4.5)
SET	6.9	10.0	4.8	(4.9)	2.3

Source: Bloomberg

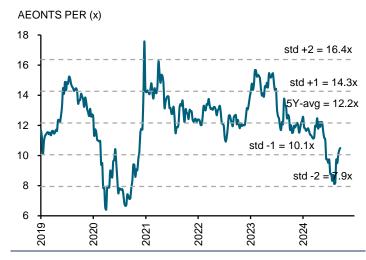
Source: FSSIA estimates

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



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 7: AEONTS – one-year prospective PER band



Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

Exhibit 8: Peers comparison as of 23 September 2024

Company name	BBG	Rec	Share	Target	Up	PE	≣	PB\	/	RC	E	Div y	/ld
	code		price	price	side	24E	25E	24E	25E	24E	25E	24E	25E
			(LCY)	(LCY)	(%)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(x)	(%)	(%)	(x)	(x)
Auto title													
Muangthai Capital	MTC TB	BUY	51.75	62.00	19.8	17.4	13.5	2.9	2.4	18.1	19.7	0.5	0.7
Srisawad Corp	SAWAD TB	HOLD	42.50	37.00	(12.9)	12.3	11.0	1.9	1.7	17.0	16.2	0.2	0.9
Ngern Tid Lor	TIDLOR TB	BUY	18.50	15.80	(14.6)	12.3	10.5	1.7	1.5	14.5	15.1	2.5	2.9
Saksiam Leasing	SAK TB	HOLD	5.35	5.28	(1.3)	13.5	11.8	1.8	1.6	13.7	14.4	3.1	3.5
Unsecured finance													
AEON Thana Sinsap (Thailand)	AEONTS TB	HOLD	143.50	145.00	1.0	11.1	10.4	1.4	1.3	12.8	12.6	3.8	4.0
Krungthai Card	КТС ТВ	HOLD	46.00	40.00	(13.0)	15.5	14.8	3.0	2.7	20.3	19.0	2.9	3.0
Hire-purchase truck													
Asia Sermkij Leasing	ASK TB	HOLD	14.20	9.60	(32.4)	16.9	13.3	0.7	0.7	4.2	5.3	3.0	3.8
Ratchthani Leasing	THANI TB	HOLD	2.12	1.88	(11.3)	11.5	10.6	1.0	0.9	8.5	8.9	4.8	5.2
AMCs													
Bangkok Commercial Asset Mgmt.	ВАМ ТВ	HOLD	9.40	11.00	17.0	16.7	15.4	0.7	0.7	4.1	4.4	4.8	5.2
JMT Network services	JMT TB	HOLD	18.10	11.00	(39.2)	16.1	13.3	1.0	0.9	6.1	7.2	3.7	4.5
Chayo Group	CHAYO TB	HOLD	4.10	3.00	(26.8)	16.0	10.3	1.2	1.1	8.1	11.1	1.6	1.4
Average						14.5	12.3	1.6	1.4	11.6	12.2	2.8	3.2

The Chairman of The Board of Directors of Finansia Syrus Securities PCL is also AEONTS's Director.

Sources: Bloomberg; FSSIA estimates

# **Financial Statements**

Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand)

Profit and Loss (THB m) Year Ending Feb	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
nterest Income	19,055	18,767	18,802	20,382	22,160
nterest expense	(1,904)	(2,162)	(2,084)	(2,192)	(2,369)
Net interest income	17,151	16,605	16,717	18,190	19,791
Net fees & commission	3,015	2,880	2,862	2,893	2,926
Foreign exchange trading income	-	-	-	-	-
Securities trading income	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend income	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	261	318	312	315	318
Non interest income	3,277	3,198	3,174	3,208	3,244
Total income	20,428	19,803	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)
Operating costs	(8,215)	(8,402)	(8,415)	(9,028)	(9,716)
Pre provision operating profit	12,213	11,402	11,476	12,370	13,319
Expected credit loss	(7,263)	(7,240)	(7,327)	(7,973)	(8,566)
Other provisions	· · · · ·	-	-	-	-
Operating profit	4,950	4,161	4,150	4,398	4,753
Recurring non operating income	0	0	0	0	0
Associates	-	-	_	-	-
Goodwill amortization	-	-	_	-	-
Non recurring items	0	0	0	0	0
Profit before tax	4,950	4,161	4,150	4,398	4,753
Гах	(996)	(824)	(821)	(870)	(941)
Profit after tax	3,954	3,338	3,328	3,527	3,813
Non-controlling interest	(139)	(79)	(83)	(87)	(92)
Preferred dividends	-	-	-	-	(/
Other items	_	_	_	_	_
Reported net profit	3,815	3,259	3,245	3,440	3,721
Non recurring items & goodwill (net)	-	-	0	0	0
Recurring net profit	3,815	3,259	3,245	3,440	3,721
Per share (THB)			5,= 15	2,112	-,
Recurring EPS *	15.26	13.04	12.98	13.76	14.88
Reported EPS	15.26	13.04	12.98	13.76	14.88
DPS	5.50	5.50	5.48	5.81	6.28
Growth	5.50	5.50	5.46	5.61	0.20
	0.4	(2.0)	0.7	0.0	0.0
Net interest income (%)	6.1	(3.2)	0.7	8.8	8.8
Non interest income (%)	13.4	(2.4)	(0.8)	1.1	1.1
Pre provision operating profit (%)	9.0	(6.6)	0.7	7.8	7.7
Operating profit (%)	8.2	(15.9)	(0.3)	6.0	8.1
Reported net profit (%)	7.4	(14.6)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2
Recurring EPS (%)	7.4	(14.6)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2
Reported EPS (%)	7.4	(14.6)	(0.4)	6.0	8.2
ncome Breakdown					
Net interest income (%)	84.0	83.9	84.0	85.0	85.9
Net fees & commission (%)	14.8	14.5	14.4	13.5	12.7
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	3.23
Net interest spread (%)	19.16	18.06	17.62	17.77	17.91
Net interest margin (%)	19.8	18.9	18.6	18.8	18.9
Cost/income(%)	40.2	42.4	42.3	42.2	42.2
Cost/assets(%)	8.8	9.0	8.9	9.0	9.0
Effective tax rate (%)	20.1	19.8	19.8	19.8	19.8
Dividend payout on recurring profit (%)	36.0	42.2	42.2	42.2	42.2
ROE (%)	17.9	13.8	12.8	12.6	12.7
ROE - COE (%)	7.8	3.8	2.8	2.6	2.6
ROA (%)	4.3	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5
					ა.:
RORWA (%)	-	_	_	-	

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
Gross customer loans	94,462	92,132	98,567	107,348	117,000
Illowance for expected credit loss	(10,125)	(8,288)	(8,268)	(9,136)	(9,939)
terest in suspense	(598)	(901)	(937)	(1,107)	(1,308)
et customer loans	83,739	82,943	89,362	97,105	105,754
ank loans	218	63	46	55	66
overnment 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	(
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
Customer deposits	· <u>-</u>	· <u>-</u>	· -	· -	
ank deposits	_	-	-	-	
Other 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	-	-	,	-	-,.50
otal liabilities	71,859	67,437	69,823	75,230	81,435
Share capital	,	- /	,	-,	,
deserves	22,093	23,744	25,607	27,595	29,746
otal equity	22,821	24,472	26,335	28,323	30,474
Non-controlling interest	527	589	648	713	785
otal liabilities & equity	95,207	92,499	96,806	104,267	112,694
Supplementary items	00,201	02,400	00,000	104,207	112,00
		-	_	-	
isk weighted assets (RWA)	96 525				104 944
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	0	0	0	-	
otal capital				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
Risk 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 (%)			-		
EET 1 CAR (%)	_	_	_	_	
otal CAR (%)	_	_	_	_	
sset Quality (FSSIA's calculation)					
	20.6	(15.1)	12.0	15.1	0.0
Change in NPL (%)	20.6	(15.1)	12.0	15.1 5.4	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
Illowance for ECL/NPL (%)	189.6	182.8	162.8	156.3	156.1
aluation	2022	2023	2024E	2025E	2026E
ocurring P/E (v) *	0.4	11.0	44.4	40.4	
ecurring P/E (x) *	9.4	11.0	11.1	10.4	9.6
Recurring P/E @ target price (x) *	9.5	11.1	11.2	10.5	9.7
eported P/E (x)	9.4	11.0	11.1	10.4	9.6
vividend yield (%)	3.8	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.4
Price/book (x)	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
rice/tangible book (x)	-	-	-	-	
rice/tangible book @ target price (x)	-	-	-	-	
Pre-exceptional, pre-goodwill and fully diluted					

Sources: Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand); FSSIA estimates

# **AEON Thana Sinsap (Thailand) (AEONTS TB)**

FSSIA ESG rating

# Exhibit 9: FSSIA ESG score implication

33.86 /100

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.
***	>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		Υ	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
KTC	71.80		Υ	Υ	5.00	5.00	Certified	Low	57.22	Α		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: <u>SETTRADE.com</u>; FSSIA's compilation

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

FY ending Feb 28	FY 2022	FY ending Feb 28	FY 2022
Environmental		Governance	
Climate change policy		Board size / Independent directors (ID) / Female	12/4/2
Climate change opportunities discussed		No. of board meetings for the year / % attendance	12 / 98.61%
GHG scope 2 location-based policy	Yes	Company conducts board evaluations	Yes
Biodiversity policy		Number of non-executive directors on board	2
Energy efficiency policy	Yes	Director share ownership guidelines	No
Electricity used	Yes	Board age limit	No
Fuel used - crude oil/diesel		Age of the youngest / oldest director	61 / 75
Waste reduction policy	Yes	Number of executives / female	11/3
Water policy	Yes	Executive share ownership guidelines	No
Water consumption	1,133.13	Size of audit committee / ID	3/3
Social		Audit committee meetings	10
Human rights policy	Yes	Audit committee meeting attendance (%)	100
Policy against child labor		Size of compensation committee	-
Quality assurance and recall policy	Yes	Number of compensation committee meetings	-
Consumer data protection policy	Yes	Compensation committee meeting attendance (%)	
Equal opportunity policy	Yes	Size of nomination committee / ID	
Gender pay gap breakout		Number of nomination committee meetings	
Pct women in workforce	Yes	Nomination committee meeting attendance (%)	-
Business ethics policy	Yes	Board compensation (THB m)	24.21
Anti-bribery ethics policy	Yes	Auditor fee (THB m)	7.59
Health and safety policy	Yes	(Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Jaiyos Audit Company	
Lost time incident rate - employees		Limited)	
Training policy	Yes		
Fair remuneration policy	Yes		
Number of employees - CSR			
Total hours spent by firm - employee training	324		
Social supply chain management			

Source: 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 bas from the ani	ed on the com	transparent, rules-based panies' Total Sustainabili al Corporate Sustainabili anies within each industry	ity Scores resulting ty Assessment (CSA).	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 (THSI) List (THSI) The Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET)	managing b Candidates 1) no irregul float of >150 up capital. S 70%; 2) inde wrongdoing	usiness with transt pass the lar trading of the shareholders some key disquependent direct related to CG,	lity in Environmental and ansparency in Governand preemptive criteria, with he board members and ex , and combined holding n ualifying criteria include: 1 tors and free float violatic social & environmental in arnings in red for > 3 year	ce, updated annually. two crucial conditions: eccutives; and 2) free nust be >15% of paid- 1) CG score of below on; 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 DJ during the assessment year. The scoring will be fairly weighted against nature of the relevant industry and materiality. <u>SETTHSI Index</u> is extended from the THSI companies whose 1) marke 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 weigh maximum, and no cap for number of stocks.						
CG Score by Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD)	annually by Thailand (SI	the Thai IOD,	h in sustainable developn with support from the Sto is are from the perspectiv s.	ck Exchange of	Good (80-89), and not rated for equitable treatr	3 for Good (70 or scores belo nent of shareh 25%); 4) disclo	ories: 5 for Excel 0-79), 2 for Fair (6 w 50. Weightings nolders (weight 2 sure & transpare	60-69), 1 for P s include: 1) th 5% combined	ass (60-69), le rights; 2) and ); 3) the role of		
AGM level By Thai Investors Association (TIA) with support from the SEC	treatment at transparent out of five th criteria cove date (45%), circulation of exercised. The and verifiabiliti	re incorporated and sufficiently are CG componer AGM proced and after the resufficient informate second assessity; and 3) openned	which shareholders' rights into business operations y disclosed. All form impoents to be evaluated annures before the meeting (10%). (The first attion for voting; and 2) facilitations in the ease of attending mess for Q&A. The third involvees, resolutions and voting res	s and information is ortant elements of two ually. The assessment (45%), at the meeting ssesses 1) advance ing how voting rights can be eetings; 2) transparency is the meeting minutes that	ent g n be v						
Thai CAC By Thai Private Sector Collective Action Against Corruption (CAC)	establishme policies. The (Companies of Declaration of Certification, i managers and	ent of key contr e Certification in leciding to become function Intent to kick off including risk assi	Checklist include corruptions, and the monitoring as good for three years. The a CAC certified member store and 18-month deadline to subsessment, in place of policy are ablishment of whistleblowing at takeholders.)	nd developing of  art by submitting a  mit the CAC Checklist for ad 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.						
Morningstar Sustainalytics	based on ar risk is unma	n assessment of naged. Sources	sk rating provides an ove of how much of a compar s to be reviewed include corp her 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.						
		ompany feedbac Juality & peer rev	k, ESG controversies, issuer i iews.	feedback on draft ESG	<b>NEGL</b> 0-10	<b>Low</b> 10-20	Medium 20-30	High 30-40	Severe 40+		
ESG Book	positioned to the principle helps explai over-weight	o outperform o of financial mandial manuscription of the output of the o	sustainable companies the ver the long term. The materiality including informations distributed performance. Mat the higher materiality and orly basis.	ethodology considers ation that significantly teriality is applied by	The total ESG scores using m	score is calcul ateriality-base	ated as a weight d weights. The s ndicating better p	ed sum of the	features		
<u>MSCI</u>			measure a company's mand laggards according to						nethodology to		
	AAA	8.571-10.00	0					·			
	AA	7.143-8.570	Leader:	leading its industry in ma	anaging the most s	gnificant ESG ri	sks and opportunitie	es			
	Α	5.714-7.142	2								
	BBB	4.286-5.713	Average:	a mixed or unexceptional industry peers	al track record of ma	anaging the mos	st significant ESG ris	sks and opportu	nities relative to		
	ВВ	2.857-4.285	5	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,							
	В	1.429-2.856	Laggard:	lagging its industry base	ed on its high expos	ure and failure to	o manage significar	nt ESG risks			
	CCC	0.000-1.428					go o.grimodi				
Moody's ESG colutions	believes tha	t a company ir	gree to which companies of the state of the	to its business model and							
Refinitiv ESG rating	based on pu	ublicly available	and objectively measure and auditable data. The ta publicly. (Score ratings a	score ranges from 0 to	100 on relative E	SG performar	nce and insufficie	nt degree of t			
S&P Global			re is a relative score mea in the same industry clas				of ESG risks, op	portunities, ar	d impacts		
Bloomberg	ESG Score  Bloomberg score evaluating the company's aggregated Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) performance. The score is based on Bloomberg's view of ESG financial materiality. The score is a weighted generalized mean (power mean of Pillar Scores, where the weights are determined by the pillar priority ranking. Values range from 0 to 10; 10 is the best.										
			ESG Disclosure Score  Disclosure of a company's ESG used for Bloomberg ESG score. The score ranges from 0 for none to 100 for disclosure of every data point, measuring the amount of ESG data reported publicly, and not the performance on any data point.								

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**

#### ANALYST(S) CERTIFICATION

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

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Company	Ticker	Price	Rating	Valuation & Risks
Aeon Thana Sinsap (Thailand	d) AEONTS TB	THB 143.50	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	MTC TB	THB 51.75	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 42.50	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.
Ngern Tid Lor	TIDLOR TB	THB 18.50	HOLD	Downside risks to our GGM-based TP include 1) further weakening asset quality could potentially hit both loan yield and credit cost; and 2) tighter supervision from related regulators. Upside risks are 1) the lower-than-expected credit costs from better asset quality management and 2) the higher-than-expected loan and insurance premium growth from the positive effects of the more favorable economic situations.
Saksiam Leasing	SAK TB	THB 5.35	BUY	Downside risks include 1) competition from existing and new players 2) regulatory changes by the Bank of Thailand (BoT) and 3) a slower-than-expected reduction in its cost of funds due to a shift toward more long-term loans.
Krungthai Card	КТС ТВ	THB 46.00	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.
Asia Sermkij Leasing PCL	ASK TB	THB 14.20	HOLD	Downside risks to our GGM-derived TP include 1) an economic slowdown, especially for logistics activities and private investment; 2) deteriorating asset quality; and 3) changes in financial regulations from the Bank of Thailand. Upside risks include 1) a better-than-expected macroeconomic improvement; 2) downtrend of policy rate could reduce cost of funds and enhance interest spreads; and 3) a faster-than-expected decline in ECL expense.
Ratchthani Leasing	THANI TB	THB 2.12	HOLD	Downside risks to our GGM-derived TP include 1) an economic slowdown, especially for logistics activities and private investment; 2) deteriorating asset quality; and 3) changes in financial regulations from the Bank of Thailand. Upside risks include 1) a better-than-expected macroeconomic improvement; 2) a downtrend in the policy rate could reduce cost of funds and enhance interest spreads; and 3) a fasterthan-expected decline in ECL expense.
Bangkok Commercial Asset Mngt.	BAM TB	THB 9.40	BUY	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.
JMT Network Services	JMT TB	THB 18.10	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
Chayo Group	СНАУО ТВ	THB 4.10	HOLD	Downside risks to our GGM-based TP include 1) lower-than-expected bad debt acquisition; and 2) higher-than-expected operating expenses. Upside risks include 1) better-than-expected cash collection performance and lower pressure from ECL, 2) stronger-than-expected loan growth, and 3) better cost control than expected.

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 23-Sep-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.