

Thailand Morning Cuppa

Top Story

Banks (OVERWEIGHT)

Brighter Days Ahead; Stay OVERWEIGHT

Sector Update

Still O/W. 4Q21 earnings rose QoQ on stronger non-II and lower provisions. Banks are now more upbeat on the economic recovery. We still expect banking stocks to outperform the SET in FY22, catalysed by a favourable landscape (Banks: 2022 Playbook – Stay Bullish), attractive valuations, and the sector's heavy weighting on the SET. FY22 sector net profit is forecasted to grow beyond pre-COVID-19 levels. Top Picks: Kasikornbank (KBANK), Siam Commercial Bank (SCB), and Kiatnakin Phatra Financial Group (KKP).

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Today's Report: Banks: Brighter Days Ahead; Stay OVERWEIGHT (2 Feb 2022)

Previous Report: Banks: 2022 Playbook - Stay Bullish; Still OVERWEIGHT (7 Jan 2022)

Other Story

Construction (NEUTRAL)

An Almost Equal Share Of The Cake

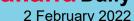
Sector Update

Maintain NEUTRAL; Top Pick: CH Karnchang. The Mass Rapid Transit Authority (MRTA) announced the lowest bidders for all six construction contracts under the Purple-Line MRT extension project. The results were in line with our expectations, especially with all large construction players getting awarded almost equally. The bid is seen as a positive indication of the Government's upcoming infrastructure project bids this year. We also believe this is a good opportunity for our Top Pick to turn around its orderbook, which is critical for its revenue momentum going forward.

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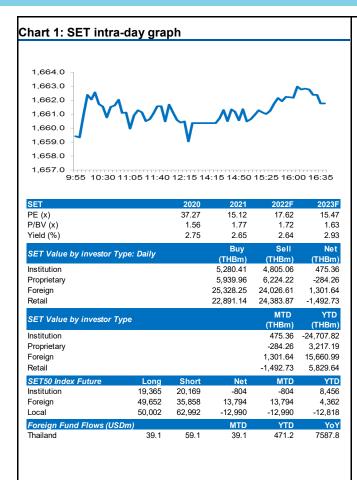
Today's Report: <u>Construction: An Almost Equal Share Of The Cake</u> (2 Feb 2022) Previous Report: <u>Construction: Good Start To FY22; Still NEUTRAL</u> (10 Jan 2022)







Note: *As at 1 Feb 2022 closing



| | Index | Chg | Chg (%) | YTD (% |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------|--------|
| Thailand (SET) | 1661.75 | 12.94 | 0.78% | 0.2% |
| Thailand (SET50) | 998.15 | 4.86 | 0.49% | 0.7% |
| Thailand (SET100) | 2274.11 | 14.23 | 0.63% | 0.4% |
| USA (Dow Jones) | 35405.24 | 273.38 | 0.78% | -2.6% |
| USA (S&P500) | 4546.54 | 30.99 | 0.69% | -4.6% |
| USA (Nasdaq) | 14346.00 | 106.12 | 0.75% | -8.3% |
| UK (FTSE) | 7535.78 | 71.41 | 0.96% | 2.0% |
| Singapore (FSSTI) | 3249.59 | UNCHG | UNCHG | 4.0% |
| Hong Kong (Hang Seng) | 23802.26 | UNCHG | UNCHG | 1.7% |
| Japan (Nikkei) | 27078.48 | 76.50 | 0.28% | -6.0% |
| Malaysia (KLCI) | 1512.27 | UNCHG | UNCHG | -3.5% |
| China (SHANGHAI SE) | 3361.44 | UNCHG | UNCHG | -7.6% |
| Indonesia (JCI) | 6631.15 | UNCHG | UNCHG | 0.8% |
| Foreign Exchange Rates USD | / Oil Marke | t Closed | Chg | Chg (% |
| Baht (Onshore) | | 33.18 | -0.01 | 0.04 |
| Yen | | 114.72 | 0.01 | -0.0 |
| Euro Oil Price (USD/barrel) | | 1.13 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Brent | | 91.31 | 0.36 | 0.40 |
| Nymex-Crude Light | | 88.36 | 0.16 | 0.18 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
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Note: *As at 1 Feb 2022 closing





| Top BUYs | | | | | |
|--|-------------|---------------|---|--|--|
| | TP (THB) | Upside (%) | Catalysts | | |
| Airports of Thailand (AOT TB) | 77.00 | 19.84 | 2QFY21F's performance may be the weakest of the year, before gradually improving with smaller losses throughout 2HFY21, while an earnings turnaround in FY22 may also support AOT's long-term outlook. Local aviation sees favourable recovery: its domestic recovery may approach pre-pandemic levels by FY23, a year ahead of the international side. The Government's latest approval for Phase 3 of the "We Travel Together" local tourism stimulus campaign, from May to August, may be a catalyst and boost flight numbers. As the first-tier tourism player, AOT may strongly underpin the revival of the tourism industry, while the weakening short-term sentiment and earnings present investors with an opportunity to BUY. | | |
| Bangkok Expressway and Metro (BEM TB) | 10.10 | 20.96 | Both BEM's expressway traffic and mass rapid transit (MRT) ridership decreased further in 3Q21, making it the hardest hit quarter YTD. For FY21, Aug-21 was the lowest month for recording expressway traffic and also MRT ridership. We expect the company's performance to improve QoQ in 4Q21, as we expect BEM's expressway traffic and MRT ridership numbers to bounce back – when the number of vaccinated persons exceed >90% of the total in Bangkok and the surrounding areas. Although the bidding process for the MRT Orange Line has been delayed due to legal issues between Mass Rapid Transit Authority and one bidder, BEM still has an edge over its competitor. We expect the results of this bid to occur to FY22. | | |
| Central Pattana (CPN TB) | 65.50 | 21.30 | Vaccination progress and less new COVID-19 cases have improved public confidence on out-of-home activities. They may strongly support CPN's operational recovery from 4Q21 onwards. Its retail mall traffic picked up to 70-80% of normal levels, with in-line tenant sales revival. Rental rate discounts may improve to c.20-30% in 4Q21. Recent ground checks at major CPN malls in Bangkok found lively traffic on weekends. The country's re-opening may be positive for its eights malls in tourism locations from 1 Nov. Opening of three new projects are on schedule and could be another earnings support in 4Q21F-1H22F, with the secured c.80% leasable progress and may be profitable at their openings. Optimistic 2022 outlook, to be mainly driven by stronger performances from all businesses, lowering average rental rate discounts to 15% (2021: 40%), profit margin revivals from an improving operating leverage. | | |
| Kasikornbank (KBANK TB) | 175.00 | 16.28 | KBANK is ready for the new digital era, as it has business units that are fully equipped with new tech. This will be hidden value waiting to be unlocked in future. Historical price trends suggest its share price should outperform peers when the economy is on a recovery path. KBANK offers lowest CIR in the banking industry, while its asset quality remains manageable. We expect 4Q21 earnings to rise QoQ, mainly on a rebound in non-II and lower ECL, despite seasonally higher opex. | | |
| PTT Exploration & Production (PTTEP TB) | 145.00 | 12.84 | Oil price is likely to move in the high range due to high demand and low supply in 2022, PTTEP acts as a direct beneficiary of stronger oil prices. 1Q22 earnings is expected to manifest strong results on the grounds of stronger sales volume and crude prices, supported by Bongkot, Sabah H, Oman Block 61 and Algeria Hassi Bir Rekaiz | | |
| PTT Global Chemical (PTTGC TB) | 76.00 | 34.51 | Strong gross refinery margin from economic recovery is expected to support 2022 earnings. PTTGC have cushion on its cost on the way of high oil price, thanks to its gas-based structure (ie. ethane and propane), which provides cost advantage over its industry rivals, operating oil/naphtha-based plants. PTTGC continuously develops high valued-added businesses | | |
| PTT Oil and Retail Business (OR TB) | 35.00 | 42.28 | The recovery of Thai economy will boost the demand for consumption and travelling along its oil stations. OR will get benefit from its oil and retail businesses via more than 2,300 nationwide oil stations. Thailand has opened the country to welcome tourists, which will support the demand for aviation oil which will provides higher gross margin. | | |
| Siam Commercial Bank (SCB TB) | 150.00 | 18.11 | The growth momentum should gain pace with the expected economic recovery and start of the interest rate upcycle. Its wealth management delivers superior growth among peers, while efforts to accelerate digital migration have been bearing fruit so far and beyond. We believe investors are looking ahead to the corporate restructuring and potential unlocking of value, though it will take years. Hence, downside to share price should be limited from any insignificant news. | | |





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Banks: 2022 Playbook - Stay Bullish; Still OVERWEIGHT







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