



Singapore

ADD (no change)

Consensus ratings*:	Buy 1	Hold 0	Sell 0
Current price:			S\$1.00
Target price:			S\$1.20
Previous target:			S\$1.43
Up/downside:			20.0%
CGS-CIMB / Consens	us:		na
Reuters:		C	CRED.SI
Bloomberg:		(CBA SP
Market cap:		USS	\$170.2m
		S	\$230.4m
Average daily turnove	r:	US	\$\$0.10m
		S	\$\$0.14m
Current shares o/s:			203.5m
Free float:			24.7%
*Source: Bloomberg			

Key changes in this note

- We cut FY22-23F EPS by c.22% as we factor in lower revenue growth assumptions and account for an enlarged share base, and introduce FY24F estimates.
- We cut FY22-23F DPS to 3.4-3.6Scts, aligning it to mgmt.'s 90% payout guidance (4.3-4.6Scts previously).



		Source:	Bloomberg
Price performance	1M	ЗМ	12M
Absolute (%)	-2.9	-14.5	-24.8
Relative (%)	-2.7	-16	-36.8
Major shareholders			% held
Koo Chiang			67.8
Lim Wah Liang			75

Standard Life Aberdeen PLC

Analyst(s)



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Credit Bureau Asia Ltd

Growth prospects in the pipeline

- 2H21 PATMI of S\$3.9m (-7% yoy) was 12% below our expectation. CBA declared final DPS of 1.7Scts, bringing FY21 DPS to 3.4Scts (100% payout).
- New business opportunities to drive growth 4 digital banks and commercial credit info licence for FI segment in SG, MOU signed with FiinGroup in VN.
- Reiterate Add. Border reopenings should support rise in credit info demand.

Softer 2H21 as domestic demand for commercial credit info slowed

CBA posted PAT of S\$9m in 2H21 (-6% yoy, adjusted for listing expenses in 2H20), 10% below our S\$9.9m estimate. In turn, 2H21 PATMI of S\$3.9m (-7% yoy, 2H20 adjusted) was 12% below our expectation. FY21 PATMI was at 94% of our forecast. The miss was mainly due to weaker-than-expected revenue from the non-financial institution (FI) data business, which contracted 12% yoy to S\$12.9m in 2H21. CBA declared a final DPS of 1.7Scts for 2H21, bringing full-year DPS to 3.4Scts, implying c.100% dividend payout ratio, ahead of management's c.90% guidance.

Steady FI business revenues; conditions in Cambodia improving

Non-FI data revenue declined in FY21 due to a decrease in reports sold under Singapore Commercial Credit Bureau (-8% yoy) and 24% reduction in auxiliary services (e.g. customised projects and marketing) revenue. The volume of overseas enquiries for non-FI credit information sustained yoy in 2H21. Meanwhile, CBA's FI data business recorded steady revenue growth (+11% yoy) in 2H21, boosted by \$\$0.6m contributions from CBA Data Solutions (acquisition completed in Dec 2020, houses CBA's software technology). Revenue from report sales (+4% yoy in 2H21) was supported by higher volumes of new credit applications for compliance and employment checks. Contributions from Cambodia were encouraging, rising 58% yoy to \$\$0.7m in 2H21 as credit growth picked up.

Several growth initiatives in the pipeline

New business opportunities in CBA's pipeline include the commencement of 4 new digital bank licence awardees in Singapore (currently onboarding them as members of Credit Bureau Singapore), regulation of buy-now-pay-later providers (by Monetary Authority Singapore), licencing process to collect and use commercial credit information from FIs (we estimate by 2H23F), and further discussions with FiinGroup in Vietnam (signed MOU) to decide its joint product offering. CBA's JV partner, Myanmar Credit Bureau, will start generating membership revenue (credit report sales to follow) from Mar 22 as CBA works on enabling cross-selling data between the Moneylenders Credit Bureau and its FI clients.

Reiterate Add with lower DCF-based TP of S\$1.20

Our FY22-23F net profit forecasts are cut by c.12% to factor in lower revenue growth assumptions, but EPS estimates are reduced by c.22% as we account for an enlarged share base due to a sub-division of shares at end-FY20. We think border reopenings will continue to drive growth across ASEAN, but are cognisant of rising inflation and geopolitical headwinds. As such, we lower our DCF-based TP to S\$1.20 (Figure 3).

Financial Summary	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Revenue (S\$m)	43.38	45.38	48.90	52.27	55.64
Operating EBITDA (S\$m)	24.06	24.84	26.26	28.00	30.27
Net Profit (S\$m)	8.20	7.84	8.54	9.14	9.74
Core EPS (S\$)	0.035	0.039	0.037	0.040	0.042
Core EPS Growth	(0.7%)	11.5%	(3.7%)	7.0%	6.5%
FD Core P/E (x)	28.95	25.97	25.39	25.20	23.66
DPS (S\$)	0.036	0.039	0.034	0.036	0.038
Dividend Yield	3.63%	3.85%	3.41%	3.57%	3.80%
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.84	6.69	7.34	6.98	6.55
P/FCFE (x)	9.33	11.21	11.26	13.14	12.41
Net Gearing	(92.3%)	(84.5%)	(83.9%)	(79.1%)	(74.2%)
P/BV (x)	4.67	4.30	4.80	4.71	4.62
ROE	23.7%	17.2%	17.9%	18.9%	19.7%
% Change In Core EPS Estimates			(21.8%)	(22.2%)	
CGS-CIMB/Consensus EPS (x)			0.79	0.78	

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



Figure 1: 2H21 earnings				
FYE Dec (S\$m)	2H21	2H20 y	oy chg (%)	Previous FY21F Comments
Revenue	23.1	22.9	1.2%	Below.2H21 revenue came in 5% lower than our expectations due to slower-than-expected growth in the Non-FI data business.
Total operating expenses	-13.6	-13.9	-2.5%	Below due to heftier-than-expected employee benefits expenses in 2H21. This comes on the back of an increase in IT headcount and customer services staff in the FI data business.
Finance costs	-0.1	-0.1	-36.5%	0.0
Share of result of joint ventures	0.7	0.4	58.4%	1.0
EBITDA	13.0	11.9	8.7%	29.0
% Margin	56.1%	52.3%	3.9% pts	60.1%
Profit before tax	10.7	9.9	9.0%	24.9 Below expectations.
Income tax expense	-1.8	-1.5	21.7%	-3.8
Tax rate (%)	16.5%	14.8%	1.7% pts	15.0%
Profit for the year	9.0	8.4	6.9%	21.2 Below. FY21 formed 94% of our full year estimates.
% Margin	38.8%	36.7%	2.1% pts	43.9%
Non-controlling interests	5.1	5.3	-4.2%	11.7
PATMI	3.9	3.1	25.5%	9.5
% Margin	16.9%	13.7%	3.3% pts	19.8%
EPS	1.70	1.55	9.7%	4.68
FYE Dec (S\$m)	2H21	2H20 y	oy chg (%)	Previous Comments FY21F
Segment Revenue:				
FI data	10.2	9.2	11.3%	19.9
Non FI data	12.9	14.7	-12.1%	26.7
	23.1	23.9	-3.1%	46.5
Total revenues	23.1			
	23.1			
Total revenues Segment PBT:	5.2	4.4	19.8%	FI data business revenue was boosted by S\$0.9m in FY21 on the back of the completion o the acquisition of CBA Data Solutions in Dec 20.
Segment PBT:		4.4 47.6%	19.8% 3.6% pts	FI data business revenue was boosted by S\$0.9m in FY21 on the back of the completion o the acquisition of CBA Data Solutions in Dec 20.
Segment PBT: Fl data % Margin	5.2			the acquisition of CBA Data Solutions in Dec 20.
Segment PBT:	5.2 51.2%	47.6%	3.6% pts	the acquisition of CBA Data Solutions in Dec 20. 55.0%

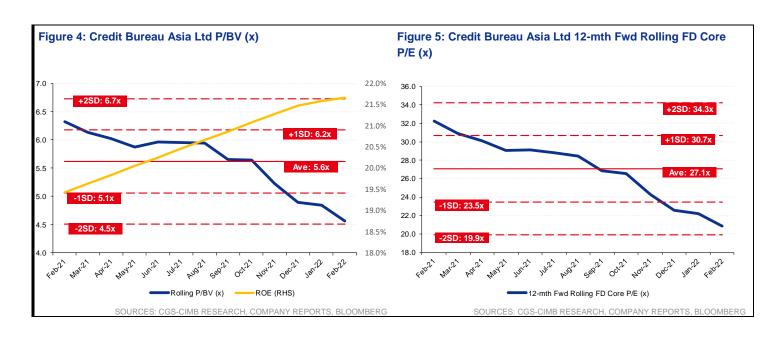
Re-rating catalysts and downside risks:

Winning the licence to collect commercial credit information is a key re-rating catalyst. A prolonged political situation in Myanmar is a downside risk.

	Ne	New forecasts		Prev	Previous forecasts			Changes		
	FY22F	FY23F	FY24F	FY22F	FY23F	FY24F	FY22F	FY23F	FY24F	
Net revenue	49.9	53.2	56.6	50.6	54.4	n.a.	-1%	-2%	n.a.	
Total operating expenses	(27.8)	(29.7)	(31.5)	(25.7)	(27.8)	n.a.	8%	7%	n.a.	
Operating profit	22.1	23.6	25.1	24.9	26.6	n.a.	-11%	-11%	n.a.	
Core net profit	8.5	9.1	9.7	9.7	10.4	n.a.	-12%	-12%	n.a.	
Basic EPS (Scts)	3.7	4.0	4.2	4.7	5.1	n.a.	-22%	-22%	n.a.	



Figure 3: DCF valuation				
FYE Dec (S\$m)	FY22F	FY23F	FY24F	Terminal value
Core net profit	8.5	9.1	9.7	
Add: deprec. + amort.	4.3	4.5	5.3	
Add: changes in working capital	1.0	(1.1)	1.0	
Less: capex	(1.5)	(1.5)	(4.0)	
Total FCF	12.4	11.2	12.2	276.4
Terminal growth rate (assumed)	1.2%			
Sum of PV of FCF	54.8			
PV of terminal value (S\$m)	215.9			
Equity fair value (S\$m)	270.7			
Weighted average number of shares	230.4			
Target Price	1.20			
WACC				
Risk-free rate	1.5%			
Beta	0.8			
Market risk premium	6.5%			
Cost of equity = WACC	6.4%			
	SOURCES: CG	S-CIMB RESE	ARCH. COI	MPANY REPORTS







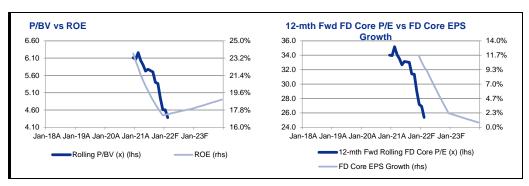
ESG in a nutshell

Credit Bureau Asia Ltd (CBA) is committed to ESG causes and established Infocredit Cares in 2014 to execute its sustainability initiatives. As CBA was listed in Dec 2020, it will publish its first Sustainability Report for FY21 by May 2020, according to the company's FY20 annual report. CBA is making its foray into Vietnam via a joint venture (JV) with FiinGroup to provide analytics and data solutions to financial institutions (FIs) as well as setting up a credit bureau; the company sees potential for market penetration to create new growth avenues as well as achieve diversification.

Keep your eye on	Implications
CBA's JV with FiinGroup marked its foray into Vietnam to proving analytics and data solutions to FIs as well as set up a credit bureau in Vietnam.	Given Vietnam's relatively large unbanked and underbanked population, there is a huge potential to penetrate the market, according to the company and in our view. We think this initiative may be viewed positively under the lens of improving financial inclusion in regional economies.
ESG highlights	Implications
CBA established Infocredit Cares in 2014 for its commitment to ESG causes. Sustainability initiatives include providing financial support to students and improving financial literacy in Cambodia.	We view this positively as this underscores CBA's commitment to ESG causes.
Trends	Implications
As CBA was listed on 3 Dec 2020, there are no meaningful trends for us to make any ESG comparisons. CBA will publish its inaugural Sustainability Report for FY21 by May 2022, according to the company's FY20 annual report.	Not meaningful.
	SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, REFINITIV



BY THE NUMBERS



(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total Net Revenues	46.05	46.72	49.86	53.23	56.60
Gross Profit	46.05	46.72	49.86	53.23	56.60
Operating EBITDA	24.06	24.84	26.26	28.00	30.27
Depreciation And Amortisation	(4.08)	(4.32)	(4.29)	(4.52)	(5.31)
Operating EBIT	19.98	20.52	21.97	23.48	24.96
Financial Income/(Expense)	(0.10)	(0.01)	0.10	0.10	0.10
Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc.	0.86	1.18	1.36	1.50	1.65
Non-Operating Income/(Expense)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Profit Before Tax (pre-EI)	20.75	21.70	23.43	25.08	26.71
Exceptional Items	1.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pre-tax Profit	22.12	21.70	23.43	25.08	26.71
Taxation	(3.12)	(3.64)	(3.75)	(4.01)	(4.27)
Exceptional Income - post-tax					
Profit After Tax	19.00	18.05	19.68	21.06	22.44
Minority Interests	(10.79)	(10.22)	(11.14)	(11.92)	(12.70)
Preferred Dividends					
FX Gain/(Loss) - post tax					
Other Adjustments - post-tax					
Net Profit	8.20	7.84	8.54	9.14	9.74
Recurring Net Profit	7.03	7.84	8.54	9.14	9.74
Fully Diluted Recurring Net Profit	7.03	7.84	8.54	9.14	9.74

Cash Flow					
(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
EBITDA	24.06	24.84	26.26	28.00	30.27
Cash Flow from Invt. & Assoc.					
Change In Working Capital	(0.70)	(0.98)	0.96	(1.06)	0.96
(Incr)/Decr in Total Provisions					
Other Non-Cash (Income)/Expense					
Other Operating Cashflow	(1.15)	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Interest (Paid)/Received	0.09	0.14	0.10	0.10	0.10
Tax Paid	(1.72)	(4.07)	(3.75)	(4.01)	(4.27)
Cashflow From Operations	20.58	19.95	23.58	23.03	27.06
Capex	(1.42)	(3.13)	(4.30)	(5.50)	(8.50)
Disposals Of FAs/subsidiaries					
Acq. Of Subsidiaries/investments					
Other Investing Cashflow	2.67	1.33	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash Flow From Investing	1.24	(1.80)	(4.30)	(5.50)	(8.50)
Debt Raised/(repaid)					
Proceeds From Issue Of Shares	26.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Shares Repurchased					
Dividends Paid	(23.62)	(14.59)	(18.11)	(18.96)	(20.19)
Preferred Dividends					
Other Financing Cashflow	(3.98)	(2.67)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cash Flow From Financing	(0.63)	(17.26)	(18.11)	(18.96)	(20.19)
Total Cash Generated	21.19	0.89	1.17	(1.43)	(1.63)
Free Cashflow To Equity	21.82	18.15	19.27	17.53	18.56
Free Cashflow To Firm	21.83	18.15	19.27	17.53	18.56

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS



BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

Balance Sheet					
(S\$m)	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Total Cash And Equivalents	54.68	53.46	54.42	53.00	51.37
Total Debtors	5.54	5.34	4.04	5.98	4.69
Inventories					
Total Other Current Assets	1.52	2.05	2.05	2.05	2.05
Total Current Assets	61.73	60.84	60.51	61.03	58.10
Fixed Assets	1.95	3.14	3.91	4.64	7.79
Total Investments	5.97	5.73	7.09	8.58	10.23
Intangible Assets	10.83	10.94	10.88	10.79	10.65
Total Other Non-Current Assets	3.78	4.17	2.54	2.88	3.07
Total Non-current Assets	22.53	23.97	24.42	26.89	31.73
Short-term Debt	0.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt					
Total Creditors	4.43	4.18	3.85	4.74	4.41
Other Current Liabilities	18.90	14.50	14.50	14.50	14.50
Total Current Liabilities	23.97	18.69	18.36	19.24	18.91
Total Long-term Debt					
Hybrid Debt - Debt Component					
Total Other Non-Current Liabilities	1.34	2.33	1.20	1.20	1.20
Total Non-current Liabilities	1.34	2.33	1.20	1.20	1.20
Total Provisions	0.38	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.51
Total Liabilities	25.69	21.52	20.06	20.95	20.62
Shareholders' Equity	43.62	47.28	47.97	48.88	49.85
Minority Interests	14.96	16.01	16.90	18.09	19.36
Total Equity	58.58	63.29	64.87	66.97	69.22

Key Ratios					
	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
Revenue Growth	6.79%	4.61%	7.76%	6.90%	6.45%
Operating EBITDA Growth	8.82%	3.25%	5.72%	6.62%	8.11%
Operating EBITDA Margin	55.5%	54.7%	53.7%	53.6%	54.4%
Net Cash Per Share (S\$)	0.27	0.26	0.24	0.23	0.22
BVPS (S\$)	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.21	0.22
Gross Interest Cover	98.9	136.4	N/A	N/A	N/A
Effective Tax Rate	14.1%	16.8%	16.0%	16.0%	16.0%
Net Dividend Payout Ratio	108%	100%	92%	90%	90%
Accounts Receivables Days	43.98	43.72	35.00	35.00	35.10
Inventory Days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Accounts Payables Days	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
ROIC (%)	(240%)	7228%	317%	464%	352%
ROCE (%)	45.3%	33.5%	34.2%	35.5%	36.5%
Return On Average Assets	24.2%	21.4%	23.1%	24.3%	25.1%

Key Drivers					
	Dec-20A	Dec-21A	Dec-22F	Dec-23F	Dec-24F
FI Data Business (% yoy)	4.7%	12.4%	10.0%	8.0%	7.0%
Non FI Data Business (% yoy)	8.2%	-0.7%	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS





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	Rating Distribution (%)	Investment Banking clients (%)			
Add	71.1%	1.5%			
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Spitzer Chart for stock being researched (2 year data)

Credit Bureau Asia Ltd (CBA SP)



Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies (CGR). CG Rating by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD) in 2021, Anti-Corruption 2021

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