### Singapore Company Update

## Guocoland

Bloomberg: GUOL SP | Reuters: GUOC.SI

DBS Group Research . Equity

Refer to important disclosures at the end of this report

2 Sep 2022

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#### **BUY**

Last Traded Price (1 Sep 2022): \$\$1.67 (STI: 3,224.08) Price Target 12-mth: \$\$2.30 (38% upside)

#### **Analysts**

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#### **What's New**

- FY22 net profit up 132% y-o-y to S\$392.7m, on fair value gains from Guoco Tower and Guoco Midtown
- Property development to remain key driver; look out for Lentor rejuvenation with two new launches
- Deeper focus on property investment in the office upcycle; Guoco Midtown contribution to start in FY23
- Maintain BUY and unchanged TP of S\$2.30

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<b>Forecasts and Valuation</b>	)			
FY Jun (S\$m)	2021A	2022A	2023F	2024F
Revenue	854	966	1,205	1,406
EBITDA	351	635	350	423
Pre-tax Profit	240	540	236	309
Net Profit	172	393	175	229
Net Pft (Pre Ex.)	172	378	175	229
Net Pft Gth (Pre-ex) (%)	51.4	120.4	(53.8)	31.0
EPS (S cts)	15.5	35.4	15.8	20.7
EPS Pre Ex. (S cts)	15.5	34.1	15.8	20.7
EPS Gth Pre Ex (%)	51	120	(54)	31
Diluted EPS (S cts)	15.5	35.4	15.8	20.7
Net DPS (S cts)	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
BV Per Share (S cts)	360	386	396	410
PE (X)	10.8	4.7	10.6	8.1
PE Pre Ex. (X)	10.8	4.9	10.6	8.1
P/Cash Flow (X)	4.8	nm	14.2	5.9
EV/EBITDA (X)	19.3	11.7	21.6	17.7
Net Div Yield (%)	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
P/Book Value (X)	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4
Net Debt/Equity (X)	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8
ROAE (%)	4.4	9.5	4.0	5.1
Earnings Rev (%):			(1)	N/A
Other Broker Recs:		B: 1	S: 0	H: 0

Source of all data on this page: Company, DBS Bank, Bloomberg Finance I.P.

## Exciting times ahead on both property development and investment fronts

#### **Investment Thesis:**

A play into future-ready living. GuocoLand's development projects located in Singapore, Malaysia, and China are built to accommodate the rising expectations of comfort and convenience. With the highly anticipated project launches in FY23 to rejuvenate the Lentor district, similar to GuocoLand's achievement in the Bugis district with Guoco Midtown, we expect the strong property sales momentum to sustain, driving a 17% revenue CAGR from FY21-24F for this segment.

Beneficiary of office upcycle. We believe that the flight-to-quality trend will lead the office market recovery in Singapore. GuocoLand is well positioned to capitalise on this trend, given that Guoco Midtown is the only source of new supply of CBD Grade A office space in Singapore in 2022-2023, and it will begin its maiden contribution in FY23. This is on top of positive rental reversionary trends expected for Guoco Tower in a tight supply market.

Potential restructuring to crystallise value? Trading at a P/NAV multiple of just 0.44x and with a 3.6% yield, valuations are attractive. With a growing portfolio of commercial assets, the potential securitisation of GuocoLand's incomeproducing portfolio or conversion into a "stapled security" could be a significant share price catalyst, with potential upside ranging from 50% to 100%.

#### **Valuation:**

Maintain BUY and TP of S\$2.30, pegged to a conservative 60% discount to our revalued net asset value (RNAV) of S\$5.70, as the stock is illiquid compared to its larger developer peers.

#### Where we differ:

We are the only broker covering this stock.

#### **Key Risks to Our View:**

Economic slowdown, weak sentiment, faster-than-expected increase in interest rates, and regulatory risks.

#### At A Glance

Issued Capital (m shrs)	1,183
Mkt. Cap (S\$m/US\$m)	1,976 / 1,414
Major Shareholders (%)	
Guoco Group Ltd	70.7
Fairbury Pte Ltd	6.2
Free Float (%)	23.1
3m Avg. Daily Val (US\$m)	0.10

**GIC Industry** : Real Estate / Real Estate Management & Development





#### **Guocoland**



#### **WHAT'S NEW**

#### Exciting times ahead on both property development and investment fronts

FY22 net profit 151% above estimate, driven by fair value gains from Guoco Tower and Guoco Midtown. FY22 revenue was in line with our estimate at S\$965.5m, which was mainly contributed by the higher progressive recognition of sales from the group's residential projects in Singapore, Excluding the fair value gains in cost of sales from the transfer of Guoco Changfeng City's South Tower from development properties to investment properties, the gross profit margin remained stable at c.30%. Other income more than doubled to \$354.6m due to higher fair value gains from the group's investment properties, Guoco Tower and Guoco Midtown. The disposal of its Vietnam subsidiaries was completed, resulting in a net profit from discontinued operations of \$14.3m. Profit attributable to equity holders of the company for the year more than doubled to \$392.7m, from S\$169.1m in FY21. A dividend of 6 Scts per share was declared, in line with our estimate; the payout ratio was at c.46% excluding the fair value gains.

Property development segment to remain a key driver.

Revenue increased 12% y-o-y to \$\$803.4m in FY22 from \$\$716.8m in FY21 on the back of higher progressive recognition of sales. As at 30 June 2022, 79% of Meyer Mansion was sold, 75% of Midtown Modern was sold, 38% of Midtown Bay was sold, and 76% of The Avenir was sold. With sales for Midtown Bay lagging the rest of the projects, management shared that the strategy going forward would be to lease out the unsold properties once it received the TOP, given that the units would command higher rental rates as part of a mixed-use development with access to the network hub in Guoco Midtown.

Pivoting to a deeper focus on the property investment

business. GuocoLand has been steadily growing its property investment business, with 60% of its assets in investment properties as at 30 June 2022. Flagship property Guoco Tower's offices and retail units remained at full occupancy with positive double-digit rental reversions, as it is now in the cycle of reversions after five years. For Guoco Midtown, the pre-commitment take-up rate is at 60%, including several deals in advanced stages of negotiation. Tenant mix will be across a highly diversified group of industries, i.e., no anchor tenant, similar to Guoco Tower, which will help reduce any tenant, sector, or industry concentration risk. 20

Collyer Quay enjoyed a firm occupancy rate of 92%. Management guided that Grade A office rental rates continued to look robust on low new supply and sustained demand. For Guoco Changfeng City, its commitment rate stood at c.85%, while the retail mall was fully leased out.

Positive catalysts to look out for. Lentor Modern, a mixed-use development, is expected to launch in 3Q22 with previews starting on 2 September. Given that this will be the first private condominium launch in the Lentor estate in more than two decades, we believe this project will be highly anticipated and well received. This would form a foundation for its next residential development that is located nearby at Lentor Hills Road Site (Parcel A) and launching in c.6 months. Management guided that they will continue to look to replenish its landbank and build its development pipeline.

Attractive valuation. GuocoLand's NAV per share rose to \$\$3.86 as at 30 June 2022 from \$\$3.60 as at 30 June 2021. The stock is currently trading at 0.44x P/NAV, which is 0.5SD below its five-year average and lower than its peer average of 0.58x, against decent yields of 3.6% p.a. for FY23F/24F. We believe that the current valuations are attractive, given the company's expertise in mixed-use developments and strong project pre-sales.

Maintain BUY and unchanged TP of S\$2.30, implying a 38% upside.

#### **Company Background**

GuocoLand Limited was listed on Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited in 1978. Headquartered in Singapore, the principal business activities of GuocoLand and its subsidiaries ("the Group") are property development, property investment, hotel operations and property management.

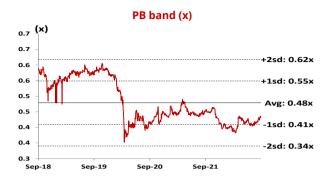




#### **Historical PE and PB band**



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., DBS Bank estimates



Source: Bloomberg Finance L.P., DBS Bank estimates

#### **Key Assumptions**

<u>FY Jun</u>	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023F	2024F
Development Properties	764	717	803	1,008	1,161
Hotel Operations	51.5	17.9	33.5	54.0	73.8
Rental Income	116	115	126	141	169
Management Fees	2.58	4.44	2.61	2.74	2.87

Source: Company, DBS Bank





Segmental Breakdown

FY Jun	2020A	2021A	2022A
Revenues (S\$m)			
GuocoLand Singapore	756	618	698
GuocoLand China	3.40	12.6	105
GuocoLand Malaysia	124	205	128
Others	51.5	17.9	33.5
Total	935	854	965
PAT (S\$m)			
GuocoLand Singapore	95.4	223	435
GuocoLand China	(13.5)	(20.7)	86.8
GuocoLand Malaysia	(2.7)	45.2	16.3
Others	10.2	(45.3)	(23.8)
Total	89.4	202	514
PAT Margins (%)			
GuocoLand Singapore	12.6	36.1	62.3
GuocoLand China	(396.8)	(164.6)	82.3
GuocoLand Malaysia	(2.2)	22.0	12.7
Others	19.8	(252.8)	(71.1)
Total	9.6	23.7	53.3

#### Income Statement (S\$m)

<u>FY Jun</u>	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023F	2024F
Revenue	935	854	966	1,205	1,406
Cost of Goods Sold	(636)	(585)	(600)	(800)	(934)
Gross Profit	299	268	366	406	472
Other Opng (Exp)/Inc	(55.9)	54.4	261	(95.9)	(98.8)
Operating Profit	243	323	627	310	373
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Associates & JV Inc	20.9	12.7	(7.7)	24.5	34.7
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(108)	(95.7)	(93.9)	(98.7)	(98.7)
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0	0.0
Pre-tax Profit	156	240	540	236	309
Tax	(66.7)	(37.8)	(57.4)	(37.1)	(48.6)
Minority Interest	24.0	(30.4)	(89.7)	(23.6)	(30.9)
Preference Dividend	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Profit	113	172	393	175	229
Net Profit before Except.	113	172	378	175	229
EBITDA	282	351	635	350	423
Growth					
Revenue Gth (%)	0.8	(8.7)	13.1	24.8	16.6
EBITDA Gth (%)	(35.0)	24.7	80.7	(44.9)	20.9
Opg Profit Gth (%)	(39.7)	32.6	94.3	(50.6)	20.3
Net Profit Gth (Pre-ex) (%)	(55.6)	51.4	120.4	(53.8)	31.0
Margins & Ratio					
Gross Margins (%)	32.0	31.4	37.9	33.7	33.5
Opg Profit Margin (%)	26.0	37.8	65.0	25.7	26.5
Net Profit Margin (%)	12.1	20.1	40.7	14.5	16.3
ROAE (%)	3.0	4.4	9.5	4.0	5.1
ROA (%)	1.1	1.5	3.3	1.4	1.8
ROCE (%)	1.4	2.5	5.0	2.2	2.6
Div Payout Ratio (%)	68.5	38.8	17.0	38.0	29.0
Net Interest Cover (x)	2.2	3.4	6.7	3.1	3.8

Source: Company, DBS Bank





#### Interim Income Statement (S\$m)

FY Jun	2H2020	1H2021	2H2021	1H2022	2H2022
Revenue	363	320	534	453	513
Cost of Goods Sold	(242)	(225)	(361)	(313)	(287)
Gross Profit	121	95.0	173	140	226
Other Oper. (Exp)/Inc	(8.9)	(20.5)	74.9	(23.9)	285
Operating Profit	112	74.5	248	116	511
Other Non Opg (Exp)/Inc	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Associates & JV Inc	13.9	7.96	4.74	(0.9)	(6.7)
Net Interest (Exp)/Inc	(57.0)	(42.8)	(52.9)	(40.0)	(54.0)
Exceptional Gain/(Loss)	0.0	0.0	0.0	14.3	0.0
Pre-tax Profit	68.7	39.6	200	89.8	450
Tax	(48.7)	(25.4)	(12.4)	(21.5)	(35.8)
Minority Interest	19.0	8.68	(39.1)	(0.7)	(89.0)
Net Profit	38.9	22.9	149	67.5	325
Net profit bef Except. EBITDA	38.9 126	22.9 82.4	149	53.2	325
EDITUA	120	02.4	253	115	504
Growth					
Revenue Gth (%)	(36.6)	(11.9)	67.1	(15.2)	13.3
EBITDA Gth (%)	(9.4)	(34.4)	207.2	(54.4)	336.8
Opg Profit Gth (%)	(15.2)	(33.4)	233.6	(53.2)	339.2
Net Profit Gth (%)	(47.8)	(41.1)	549.9	(54.6)	381.6
Margins					
Gross Margins (%)	33.3	29.7	32.5	31.0	44.0
Opg Profit Margins (%)	30.8	23.3	46.5	25.7	99.6
Net Profit Margins (%)	10.7	7.2	27.9	14.9	63.4
Balance Sheet (S\$m)					
FY Jun	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023F	2024F
Net Fixed Assets	489	479	459	594	729
Invts in Associates & JVs	530	518	554	579	614
Other LT Assets	4,942	5,011	5,959	5,959	5,959
Cash & ST Invts	934	1,129	1,085	999	1,096
Inventory	78.9	20.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Debtors	202	108	155	194	226
Other Current Assets  Total Assets	3,963 <b>11,139</b>	4,049 <b>11,316</b>	4,115 <b>12,328</b>	4,115 <b>12,440</b>	4,115 <b>12,739</b>
ST Debt	723	947	1,757	1,757	1,757
Creditor Other Current Liab	247 80.6	371 124	452 196	564 63.3	658 74.9
LT Debt	4,542	4,165	3,890	3,890	3,890
Other LT Liabilities	784	764	722	722	722
Shareholder's Equity	4,258	4,407	4,691	4,800	4,963
Minority Interests	503	537	621	644	675
Total Cap. & Liab.	11,139	11,316	12,328	12,440	12,739
Non-Cash Wkg. Capital	3,917	3,684	3,623	3,682	3,609
Net Cash/(Debt)	(4,331)	(3,983)	(4,562)	(4,648)	(4,550)
Debtors Turn (avg days)	68.0	66.4	49.8	52.8	54.4
Creditors Turn (avg days)	133.2	198.1	256.9	236.3	242.5
Inventory Turn (avg days)	23.3	31.9	6.5	N/A	N/A
Asset Turnover (x)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Current Ratio (x)	4.9	3.7	2.2	2.2	2.2
Quick Ratio (x)	1.1	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.5
Net Debt/Equity (X)	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8
Net Debt/Equity ex MI (X) Capex to Debt (%)	1.0 (4.0)	0.9 0.1	1.0 0.0	1.0 2.7	0.9 2.7
•	(4.0)	0.1	0.0	۷. /	∠./
Source: Company, DBS Bank					



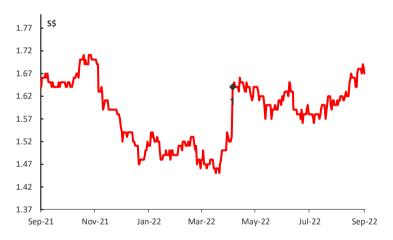


#### Cash Flow Statement (S\$m)

<u>FY Jun</u>	2020A	2021A	2022A	2023F	2024F
Dro Tay Drofit	156	240	540	226	200
Pre-Tax Profit	156			236	309
Dep. & Amort.	17.2	15.7	15.3	15.3	15.3
Tax Paid	(26.7)	(91.1)	(32.9)	(170)	(37.1)
Assoc. & JV Inc/(loss)	(20.9)	(12.7)	7.65	(24.5)	(34.7)
Chg in Wkg.Cap.	(933)	177	(577)	73.7	61.6
Other Operating CF	75.5	59.4	18.3	0.0	0.0
Net Operating CF	(732)	388	(28.8)	131	314
Capital Exp.(net)	212	(3.2)	(0.9)	(150)	(150)
Other Invts.(net)	(81.5)	150	(290)	0.0	0.0
Invts in Assoc. & JV	(3.7)	(0.3)	(81.0)	0.0	0.0
Div from Assoc & JV	29.3	18.5	14.9	0.0	0.0
Other Investing CF	81.5	48.4	34.7	0.0	0.0
Net Investing CF	238	213	(322)	(150)	(150)
Div Paid	(79.2)	(84.3)	(68.0)	(66.6)	(66.6)
Chg in Gross Debt	768	(145)	548	0.0	0.0
Capital Issues	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Financing CF	(83.6)	(194)	(171)	0.0	0.0
Net Financing CF	605	(423)	308	(66.6)	(66.6)
Currency Adjustments	2.49	21.9	(4.5)	0.0	0.0
Chg in Cash	114	200	(46.8)	(86.0)	97.4
Opg CFPS (S cts)	18.1	19.0	49.4	5.13	22.7
Free CFPS (S cts)	(46.8)	34.7	(2.7)	(1.7)	14.8

Source: Company, DBS Bank

#### **Target Price & Ratings History**



S.No.	Date of Report	Closing Price	Target Price	Rating
1:	05 Apr 22	1.64	2.30	BUY

 $\textbf{Note}: Share \ price \ and \ Target \ price \ are \ adjusted \ for \ corporate \ actions.$ 

Source: DBS Bank

Analyst: Tabitha FOO

Derek TAN

#### **Guocoland**



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STRONG BUY (>20% total return over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

BUY (>15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, >10% for large caps)

HOLD (-10% to +15% total return over the next 12 months for small caps, -10% to +10% for large caps)

FULLY VALUED (negative total return, i.e., > -10% over the next 12 months)

**SELL** (negative total return of > -20% over the next 3 months, with identifiable share price catalysts within this time frame)

\*Share price appreciation + dividends

Completed Date: 2 Sep 2022 06:55:46 (SGT) Dissemination Date: 2 Sep 2022 08:35:04 (SGT)

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#### **Guocoland**



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