RHB Small Cap Asean Research

Malaysia Results Review 🦄

25 February 2022

RCE Capital (RCE MK)

Valuations Turn Attractive; Upgrade To BUY

- U/G BUY from Neutral, new MYR1.90 TP from MYR2.00 (ex-share dividend and bonus issue), 14% upside and c.4% yield as we refresh our valuation inputs. Results were broadly in line. With the share price retreating 20% from the peak post the share dividend and bonus issue, valuations are looking attractive again. The stock is trading at 1.2x FY23F (Mar) P/BV vs a FY22F-23F average ROE of 15.9%. We continue to like the resilient asset quality and consistent earnings and dividend deliveries. Near-term catalysts include a digital banking license award.
- **9MFY22 results in line.** RCE Capital reported a 3QFY22 net earnings of MYR34.7m (+10% QoQ, -0.2% YoY), bringing 9MFY22 net earnings to MYR101.6m (+12.2% YoY). We deem these results in line with our and Street's estimates at 76% and 78%.
- Operational highlights. 3QFY22 PIOP rebounded sequentially (+12% QoQ, -1.1% YoY) as the operating environment began to be more conducive following the reopening of the economy. Topline growth was robust at 16% QoQ as NII increased 13% while non-II was up 26%. The stronger 29% QoQ rise in opex, which led to negative jaws, moderated the PIOP improvement. Credit cost normalised to 40bps in 3Q21 this was still considerably lower than the pre-pandemic period. CIR inched up slightly to 22.7% from 20.3% on higher overheads due to ESOS charges. Sequentially, ROE improved 1ppt to 16.7%.
- Receivables and asset quality. Gross financing resumed growth at 0.5% QoQ (+1.6% YoY). Asset quality remains healthy, with the NPL ratio improving 20bps to 3.8 with LLC at 163%.
- Forecasts unchanged as results were in line with our expectations. Our GGM-derived TP is lowered to MYR1.90 from MYR2.00 (adjusted for the share dividend and bonus issue in Jan 2022), and refreshed our valuation inputs. Our TP incorporates a 2% premium to our intrinsic value for its ESG score of 3.10 based on our in-house proprietary methodology. We also upgrade our call to BUY.
- The downside risks to our call includes: i) Higher-than-expected credit cost, and ii) weaker-than-expected financing growth and net financing margins.

Forecasts and Valuation	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
Reported net profit (MYRm)	111	125	130	132	137
Net profit growth (%)	15.8	12.7	4.2	1.3	4.3
Recurring net profit (MYRm)	111	125	130	132	137
Recurring EPS (MYR)	0.32	0.35	0.18	0.19	0.19
BVPS (MYR)	1.94	2.15	1.25	1.19	1.13
DPS (MYR)	0.11	0.13	0.06	0.08	0.08
Recurring P/E (x)	5.22	4.80	9.02	8.91	8.55
P/B (x)	0.86	0.77	1.33	1.40	1.47
Dividend Yield (%)	6.6	7.7	3.5	4.6	4.6
Return on average equity (%)	17.6	17.2	15.7	15.3	16.8

Source: Company data, RHB

See important disclosures at the end of this report

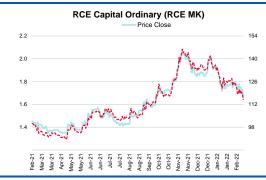
Market Dateline / PP 19489/05/2019 (035080)

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Buy (from Neutral)

1.35 - 2.06

Target Price	(Return):		MY	′R1.90 (1	14.5%)
Price (Market	: Cap):		MYR1.	66 (USD	289m)
ESG score:				3.10 (ou	ut of 4)
Avg Daily Tu	nover (MYF	R/USD)		0.92m/	/0.22m
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Share Perform	nance (%)				
	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(16.1)	(4.6)	(15.0)	10.2	11.7
Relative	(16.5)	(8.0)	(18.4)	8.9	10.7



Source: Bloomberg

52-wk Price low/high (MYR)

Overall ESG Score: 3.10 (out of 4)

E: GOOD

Some green initiatives undertaken by RCE include a lockprint policy that has been implemented to limit and reduce paper wastage. As a result, a 20% reduction in paper utilisation per headcount was recorded in FY20. Electricity consumption per sq ft also dropped due to the extensive use of energy saving lights.

S: GOOD

RCE practises responsible lending by ensuring customers are aware of their obligations and commitments when financing is obtained. It is also imperative that they use the financing for legitimate purposes. The product features are clearly disclosed to the borrowers for their consideration. Financing will only be disbursed after obtaining their unambiguous acceptance of the offer. **G: EXCELLENT**

RCE's board comprised nine members, entirely of nonexecutive directors. Four are non-independent directors (including the chairman) and five are independent directors.

Note:

Small cap stocks are defined as companies with a market capitalisation of less than USD0.5bn.



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Financial Exhibits

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Asia	Financial summary (MYR)	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
Malaysia	EPS	0.32	0.35	0.18	0.19	0.19
Financial Services	Recurring EPS	0.32	0.35	0.18	0.19	0.19
RCE Capital	DPS	0.11	0.13	0.06	0.08	0.08
RCE MK	BVPS	1.94	2.15	1.25	1.19	1.13
Buy						
buy	Valuation metrics	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
Valuation basis	Recurring P/E (x)	5.22	4.80	9.02	8.91	8.55
	P/B (x)	0.9	0.8	1.3	1.4	1.5
Our GGM assumptions are: i. CoE of 11.6%; ii. ROE of 15.9%;	Dividend Yield (%)	6.6	7.7	3.5	4.6	4.6
iii. 3.5% long-term growth rate.	Income statement (MYRm)	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
in. 0.070 long term growth late.	Interest income	257	273	268	272	281
Key drivers	Interest expense	(82)	(81)	(75)	(77)	(79)
	Net interest income	175	192	192	196	202
Dur FY22 forecasts are most sensitive to changes in: i. Financing margins;	Non interest income	40	39	49	51	53
ii. Impairment allowances;	Total operating income	215	232	241	246	255
iii. Growth in receivables.	Overheads	(49)	(49)	(51)	(53)	(54)
	Pre-provision operating profit	166	183	191	193	201
Key risks	Loan impairment allowances	(17)	(16)	(16)	(17)	(17)
The downside risks include:	Pre-tax profit	149	167	174	177	184
i. Higher-than-expected credit cost;	Taxation	(38)	(43)	(44)	(45)	(47)
ii. Weaker-than-expected financing growth;	Reported net profit	111	125	130	132	137
iii. Weaker-than-expect net financing margin.	Recurring net profit	111	125	130	132	137
		M 00	N 04	Max 005	M 005	N 045
Den an Den Mil	Profitability ratios Return on average assets (%)	Mar-20 4.7	Mar-21 5.1	Mar-22F 5.1	Mar-23F 5.0	Mar-24F 5.2
Company Profile	Return on average equity (%)	17.6	17.2	15.7	15.3	16.8
RCE provides general financing services to civil	Return on IEAs (%)	12.2	17.2	10.9	11.1	11.3
servants - repayments are done via direct salary	Cost of funds (%)	4.9	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.4
deductions. Its wholly-owned EXP Payment unit offers payroll collection management services for	Net interest spread (%)	7.3	7.0	6.4	6.7	6.8
povernment departments under the purview of the	Net interest margin (%)	8.3	8.3	7.8	8.0	8.1
Accountant General's Department.	Non-interest income / total income (%)	18.8	17.0	20.3	20.5	21.0
·····	Cost to income ratio (%)	22.8	21.1	20.3	20.5	21.0
	Credit cost (bps)	97.4	85.1	87.9	87.9	82.8
		57.4	05.1	67.5	01.9	02.0
	Balance sheet (MYRm)	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
	Total gross loans	1,820	1,845	1,891	1,967	2,065
	Other interest earning assets	364	625	553	503	453
	Total gross IEAs	2,184	2,471	2,445	2,470	2,519
	Total provisions	(130)	(124)	(129)	(134)	(139)
	Net loans to customers	1,690	1,721	1,763	1,833	1,927
	Total net IEAs	2,054	2,346	2,316	2,337	2,380
	Total non-IEAs	377	144	305	295	272
	Total assets	2,431	2,491	2,621	2,631	2,652
	Other interest-bearing liabilities	1,714	1,671	1,708	1,759	1,821
	Total IBLs	1,714	1,671	1,708	1,759	1,821
	Total non-IBLs	43	46	32	32	32
	Total liabilities	1,758	1,717	1,740	1,792	1,853
	Share capital	172	188	194	201	207
	Shareholders' equity	673	774	881	840	798
			May 24	Mar-22F	Mar-23F	Mar-24F
	Asset quality and capital	Mar-20	Mar-21	IVIAI-22F	IVIAI "ZJF	
	Asset quality and capital Reported NPLs / gross cust loans (%)	Mar-20 4.1	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.2

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Source: Company data, RHB



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Results At a Glance

Figure 1: RCE – 3QFY22 and 9MFY22 results summary

FYE Mar (MYRm)	3QFY21	2QFY22	3QFY22	% QoQ	% YoY	9MFY21	9MFY22	% YoY	Comments
NII	51.7	43.2	49.0	13.3	(5.2)	142.6	143.9	0.9	
Interest income	71.6	63.7	69.0	8.3	(3.7)	203.2	204.3	0.5	
Interest expense	(20.0)	(20.5)	(20.0)	(2.2)	0.3	(60.7)	(60.4)	(0.5)	
Non-II Non-II/Total income	10.6	10.7	13.4	25.5	26.9	30.0	35.2	17.1	
(%)	17.0	19.8	21.5			17.4	19.6		
Operating income	62.3	53.9	62.4	15.7	0.2	172.6	179.0	3.7	
Overheads	(13.5)	(11.0)	(14.2)	29.3	5.1	(36.2)	(37.6)	3.7	CIR inched higher on higher overheads due to ESOS
CIR (%)	21.7	20.3	22.7			21.0	21.0		charges.
PIOP Impairment on	48.8	42.9	48.2	12.3	(1.1)	136.4	141.5	3.8	
financings	(2.1)	(0.7)	(1.9)	>100	(10.3)	(14.9)	(5.7)	(62.0)	Credit cost normalised
									upwards, but still below pre-
Credit cost	46	16	40			83	31		pandemic level.
Pre-tax profit	46.7	42.2	46.4	9.8	(0.7)	121.4	135.8	11.8	
Tax	(11.9)	(10.7)	(11.7)			(30.9)	(34.2)		
ETR (%)	25.5	25.3	25.1			25.4	25.2		
Net earnings	34.8	31.5	34.7	10.0	(0.2)	90.6	101.6	12.2	In line with expectations.
Gross financing Total borrowings	1,832.8 1,677.0	1,852.1 1,696.2	1,862.1 1,751.9	0.5 3.3	1.6 4.5				
Gross impaired financing	(128.1)	(120.3)	(115.2)	(4.2)	(10.1)				
Total assets	2,454.6	2,567.3	2,637.3	2.7	7.4				
Shareholders' funds	734.4	825.3	840.6	1.9	14.5				
ROAA	5.9%	4.9%	5.3%			4.9%	5.3%		
ROAE GIL ratio	19.2% 4.0%	15.7% 4.0%	16.7% 3.8%			17.2%	16.8%		

Source: Company data, RHB



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Valuation and TP

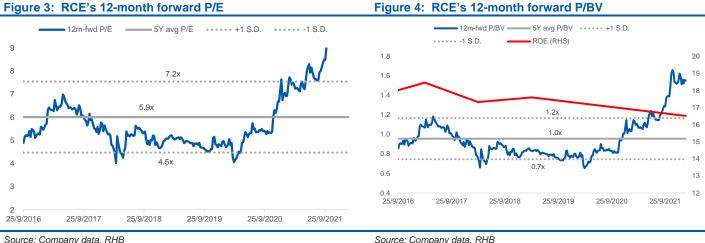
Our GGM-derived TP is lowered to MYR1.90 from MYR2.00 (ex-share dividend and bonus issue), as roll forward our base year to FY23F. This translates into an implied 1.5x FY23F P/BV, above its historical mean.

We increase our long-term growth assumption to 3.5% from 2% (consistent with the other lenders), but also increased our risk premium assumption.

Figure 2: RCE – GGM valuation

Cost of equity (COE) computation		Sustainable ROE (%)	15.9
Risk free rate (%)	3.5	COE (%)	11.6
Equity premium (%)	6.8	Long-term growth (g)	3.5
Beta (x)	1.2	Implied P/BV (x)	1.49
Cost of equity - CAPM (%)	11.6	BVPS (MYR) - FY21F	MYR 1.53
		Gross target price	MYR 1.862
		ESG premium	2.0%
		TP	MYR 1.86
		TP (rounded)	MYR 1.90

Source: Company data, RHB



Source: Company data, RHB

Source: Company data, RHB



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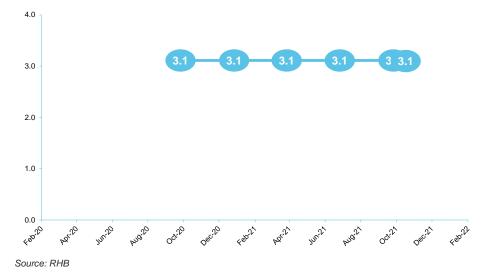
Recommendation Chart



Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2021-11-10	Neutral	3.90	2.02
2021-05-26	Buy	3.20	1.43
2021-02-09	Buy	3.00	1.32
2020-12-08	Buy	2.80	1.29
2020-07-06	Buy	2.50	1.01
2020-06-16	Buy	2.20	0.95
2020-03-15	Buy	2.10	0.79
2020-02-19	Buy	2.20	0.93
2020-01-10	Buy	2.10	0.90
2019-08-16	Not Rated	na	0.84

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

ESG Rating History





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