

Vietnam

ADD (previously NOT RATED)

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Consensus ratings*: Buy 8 Hold 2 Sell 0 | |
| Current price: | VND28,900 |
| Target price: | VND39,500 |
| Previous target: | N/A |
| Up/down side: | 36.7% |
| CGS-CIMB / Consensus: | 6.1% |
| Reuters: | ACB.HM |
| Bloomberg: | ACB.VN |
| Market cap: | US\$1,580m |
| | VND36,791,372m |
| Average daily turnover: | US\$1.26m |
| | VND29,447m |
| Current shares o/s: | 1,247m |
| Free float: | 35.0% |
| *Source: Bloomberg | |

Key changes in this note

➤ N/A



Source: Bloomberg

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|------|-------|
| Price performance | 1M | 3M | 12M |
| Absolute (%) | 1 | -3.3 | -13.9 |
| Relative (%) | 1.8 | -0.7 | -11.8 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Major shareholders | % held |
| Chairman and related parties | 11.3 |
| Alp Asia Finance (Vietnam) Limited | 10.0 |
| Dragon Financial Holdings Limited | 6.9 |

Analyst(s)

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Asia Commercial Joint Stock Bank

The comeback of a major retail banking player

- ACB's rich retail banking expertise is a valuable asset in Vietnam's ongoing retail banking race.
- Large write-offs for bad assets in FY17 suggest big write-backs in FY18-21F.
- We forecast a moderate net profit CAGR of 15.6% in FY19-21F.

Reinitiate with an Add rating and potential upside of 33.9%

We reinitiate coverage on Asia Commercial Bank (ACB) with an Add rating and TP of VND39,500, based on residual income valuation (COE: 14.4%, LTG: 3.0%, 50% weighting) and 1.8x FY19F P/BV (50% weighting). We like ACB for its: 1) well-established retail brand name and customer base; 2) strong fee income franchise, and 3) good asset quality. We view ACB's current valuation of 1.4x FY19F P/BV as attractive compared to regional peers' average of 1.6x

Well-established retail brand name and customer base

ACB has focused on retail banking since its inception in 1993, while other Vietnamese banks were competing for market share in corporate banking. It was the first bank to run a 2-year training course on professional retail banking standards. Standard Chartered's investment in ACB for 12 years benefited the bank via the sharing of retail expertise and early application of best-practice corporate governance. Given its rich experience in retail banking, ACB achieved the second-largest market share in individual lending and the third-largest market share in individual deposits among Vietnam's private banks in FY18.

Large retail customer base enables strong fee income franchise

With 90% of its loan book at end-FY18 made up of retail customers, ACB earns a majority of its fee income from payment services, card fees and account management fees. ACB's fee income as a percentage of total operating income was 10.7% in FY18, the fifth-highest among Vietnam's listed banks. The bank recently launched various initiatives to expand its customer base as part of its strategy to increase fee income.

Healthy balance sheet, thanks to conservative lending

ACB's lending strategy is more conservative than its domestic peers', with one of the lowest exposures to real estate and unsecured lending. At end-1Q19, ACB had the lowest NPL ratio (0.7%) in the domestic banking sector (average 1.9%) and the second-highest loan loss reserve (LLR, 158.1%).

Upside and downside risks

Potential upside catalysts could come from higher loan growth vs. our forecast of 15.0% p.a. over FY19-21F, if inflation remains stable. A downside risk is higher-than-expected funding costs due to more competition for long-term deposits.

| Financial Summary | Dec-17A | Dec-18A | Dec-19F | Dec-20F | Dec-21F |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Net Interest Income (VNDb) | 8,458 | 10,363 | 12,206 | 14,309 | 16,537 |
| Total Non-Interest Income (VNDb) | 2,981 | 3,670 | 4,153 | 4,522 | 4,662 |
| Operating Revenue (VNDb) | 11,439 | 14,033 | 16,358 | 18,831 | 21,199 |
| Total Provision Charges (VNDb) | (2,565) | (932) | (1,057) | (1,168) | (1,285) |
| Net Profit (VNDb) | 2,118 | 5,137 | 5,937 | 6,873 | 7,930 |
| Core EPS (VND) | 1,658 | 4,039 | 4,680 | 5,418 | 6,252 |
| Core EPS Growth | 62% | 144% | 16% | 16% | 15% |
| FD Core P/E (x) | 17.79 | 7.30 | 6.30 | 5.44 | 4.72 |
| DPS (VND) | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1,000.0 | 1,000.0 | 1,000.0 |
| Dividend Yield | 0.00% | 0.00% | 3.39% | 3.39% | 3.39% |
| BVPS (VND) | 12,854 | 16,853 | 21,613 | 26,091 | 31,416 |
| P/BV (x) | 2.30 | 1.75 | 1.36 | 1.13 | 0.94 |
| ROE | 13.7% | 27.2% | 24.3% | 22.7% | 21.7% |
| % Change In Core EPS Estimates | | | | | |
| CIMB/consensus EPS (x) | | | 1.09 | 1.09 | 1.17 |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

The comeback of a major retail banking player

INVESTMENT THESIS

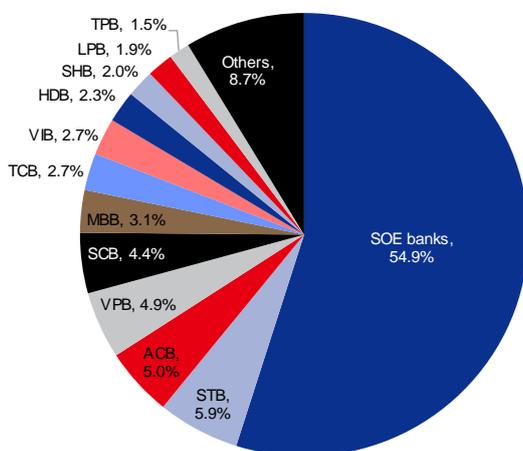
A well-established retail brand name and customer base ►

ACB was established in 1993 with a vision to become the best retail bank in Vietnam in terms of total asset size and popularity. The bank has focused on individual customers and small/medium enterprises (SMEs) since its inception, while other banks were competing for market share in corporate banking. ACB was once a pioneer in introducing new retail products to the Vietnamese retail banking market: it was the first bank in Vietnam to offer a MasterCard credit card in 1996 and Visa credit card in 1997. It is also the first bank to apply international best practices in banking operations and corporate governance by launching a 2-year training programme for employees, instructed by foreign banking experts, about the principles of modern banking, risk management and professional retail-banking standards.

Prior to 2012, ACB was the leading retail bank in Vietnam in terms of total assets and was well-known among retail customers. In 2011, ACB was ranked fifth in terms of total asset value, after the four state-owned commercial banks (SOCBs), making it the biggest bank in the private space. 2006-2011 was a period of rapid growth for ACB, with total asset CAGR of 44.3%, pretax profit CAGR of 44.9%, and ROE reaching 27.5% at end-FY11 (the second-highest ROE in the sector). ACB had the largest market share in both loans and deposits among the country's private sector banks in 2011, at 6.5% and 4.0%, respectively.

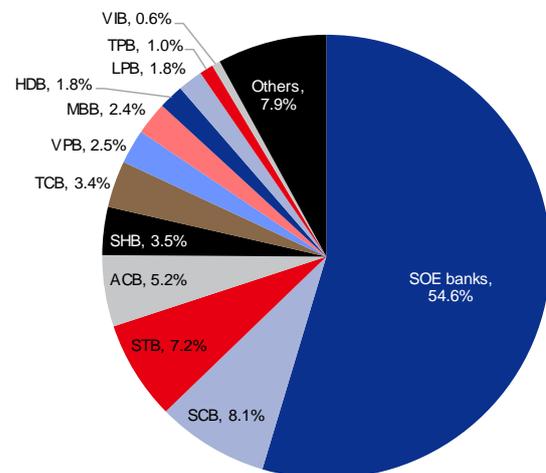
However, ACB was hit by scandal in 2012, when fraud committed by Mr Nguyen Duc Kien (former Vice Chairman of ACB's Board of Directors) left the bank with around VND7,900bn (~US\$350m) in impairments as of end-FY12. The bank spent the next five years resolving these legacy assets (referred to as Group 6 company exposure) and as a result, fell behind its domestic retail bank competitors in terms of profit growth and total assets growth. At the moment, it is difficult to identify the top retail bank in Vietnam as each bank is aggressively competing in this market. However, thanks to its long-established retail customer base, ACB still has large market shares of the country's individual lending and individual deposits of 5.0% and 5.2%, respectively, at end-FY18. As of end-FY18, ACB has the second-largest market share in individual lending and the third-highest market share in individual deposits among the private banks in Vietnam.

Figure 1: Vietnam individual loan market share, by bank (end-FY18)



SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 2: Vietnam individual deposit market share, by bank (end-FY18)



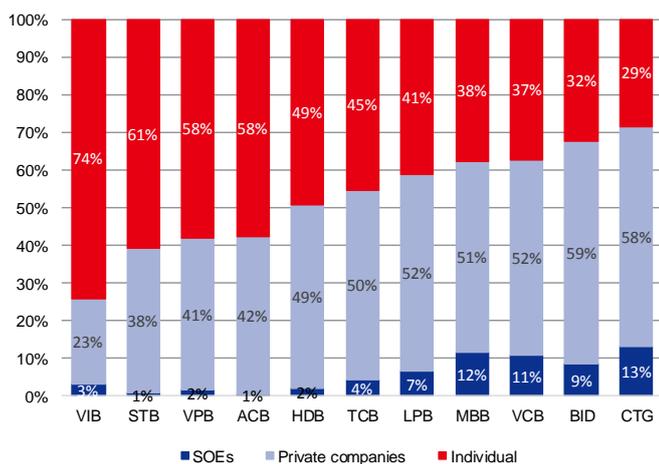
SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

As a first-mover in the retail banking market, ACB has built a good foundation to excel in the retail banking business, including strong corporate governance practices and well-trained, retail-oriented staff. ACB was the first bank to conduct a professional training course for employees on the principles of modern banking, risk management and professional retail-banking standards. It was also the first bank in Vietnam to follow international best practices in corporate governance by setting up an Asset-Liability Committee (ALCO) in 1997 and having independent members on its Board of Directors in 2008. The investment by Standard Chartered (STAN LN, Not Rated) in 2005 meant that ACB was one of the first few banks in Vietnam to have a foreign investor, which benefited the bank as it offered support in technology and retail banking expertise. For years, ACB has been widely known among individual customers for its good customer service, providing a consistent positive experience throughout its network.

Given its focus on retail banking, 90% of ACB's loan book at end-FY18 comprised loans to individuals and small & medium enterprises (SMEs). ACB was among the top 3 banks in the country, with the largest individual loan book as a percentage of the total loan book as of end-FY18. We would like to emphasise that even though Vietnam Prosperity JSC Bank (VPB VN, Add, TP: VND21,200; VPB) had a large individual loan book, which accounted for 58% of its total loan book as of end-FY18 (similar to ACB's), this was due to unsecured lending by FE Credit (VPB's consumer finance subsidiary, Unlisted). In contrast, ACB has not participated in this business.

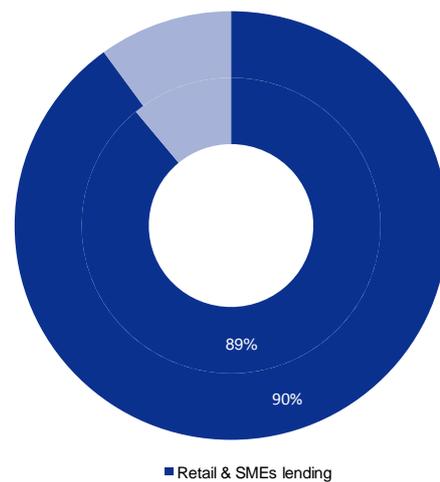
In our view, ACB's rich experience in retail banking gives the bank a competitive advantage over other banks in the country's retail banking race. ACB's understanding of individual customers is a valuable asset in developing retail products that are tailored to the specific needs of customers. Its workforce is well-trained and experienced in serving individual customers, with retail-oriented mindset. As a result, ACB can deliver top-notch customer service, which is a very important aspect in retail banking.

Figure 3: ACB's loan breakdown by customer type (end-FY18)



SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 4: ACB's retail and SME lending (outer circle: end-FY18; inner circle: end-FY17)



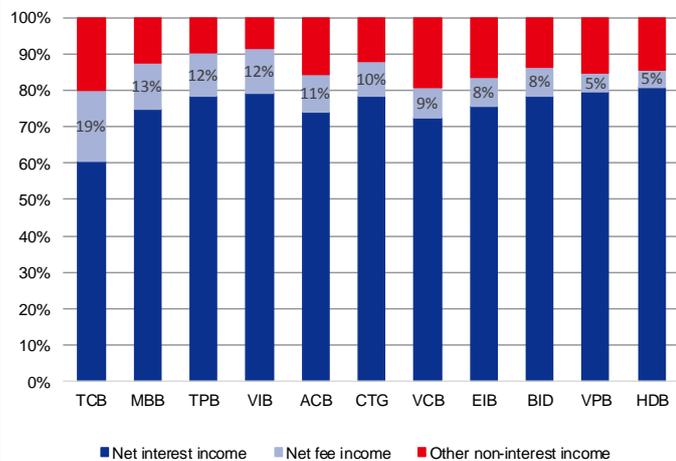
SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Large retail customer base enables strong fee income franchise ➤

Among the listed banks in Vietnam, ACB was among the top 5, with the highest contribution of fee income to total operating income (TOI) at 10.7% in 2018. Payment and treasury services were the major fee income streams as they contributed 54.1% of ACB's total fee income in FY18. Other fee income streams were account management, card fees and bancassurance commission, which are booked as other fee income. In FY18, other fee income accounted for 35.3% of

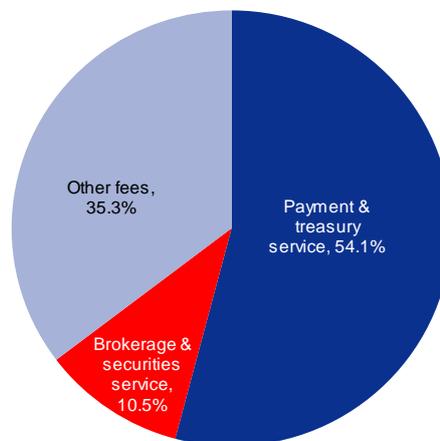
ACB's total fee income. ACB's large retail customer base enables the bank to enjoy a strong fee income franchise, thanks to transaction fees, account management and card fees.

Figure 5: ACB has strong fee income franchise (data in FY18)



Note: Excluding one-off income and recovery of bad debt
SOURCE: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 6: Breakdown of ACB's fee income (data in FY18)



SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Going forward, ACB's strategy to increase fee income is to expand its customer base. Payment services, card products and bancassurance will be the main products that the bank intends to promote to new customers. ACB is simultaneously launching a series of new products targeting various customer segments. Some of the initiatives are as below:

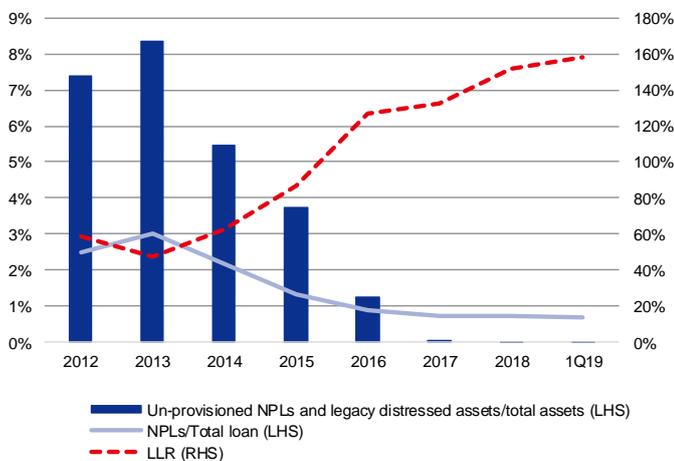
- Approaching corporate customers within a supply chain. ACB is courting the upstream and downstream business partners of its existing corporate customers in order to expand its customer base. In addition, the bank is promoting payroll services to these new corporate customers in order to approach the employees of these companies.
- Launching privilege banking services that target affluent customers (customers with high income). Privilege banking customers will be served by specialised customer officers with expertise in banking and investment. These customers will also be given priority at any branch and access to 700 VIP lounges at domestic and international airports. In Aug 2018, ACB launched ACB Visa Signature – a premium credit card with a credit limit of over VND200m and integrated insurance products such as card fraud insurance, wallet loss insurance and travel insurance. Management intends for cards and bancassurance to be the major products promoted to affluent customers.
- Launching Family Banking, which provides family members with preferential deposit interest rates. Under this product, deposit interest rates are based on the deposit balance of the whole family, and the rates increase as the balance increases. As a result, each member participating in Family Banking can get higher interest rates than those of regular deposit accounts. This product helps ACB utilise its current individual customer base to gain new customers.

A healthy balance sheet thanks to conservative lending ➤

ACB used to have a bad reputation in terms of asset quality due to the fraud committed by Mr Nguyen Duc Kien – the former vice chairman. As at end-FY12, the total bad debt related to six companies owned by Mr Kien amounted to around VND7,900bn (~US\$350m), or 4.5% of ACB's total assets at end-FY12. In the past five years, ACB has focused on resolving these legacy assets and in FY17, the bank made full provisions to write off all the bad debt of the Group 6 companies. In addition, ACB fully provisioned for the debt sold to Vietnam Asset Management Company (VAMC) and repurchased the debt to monitor off-balance sheet. As

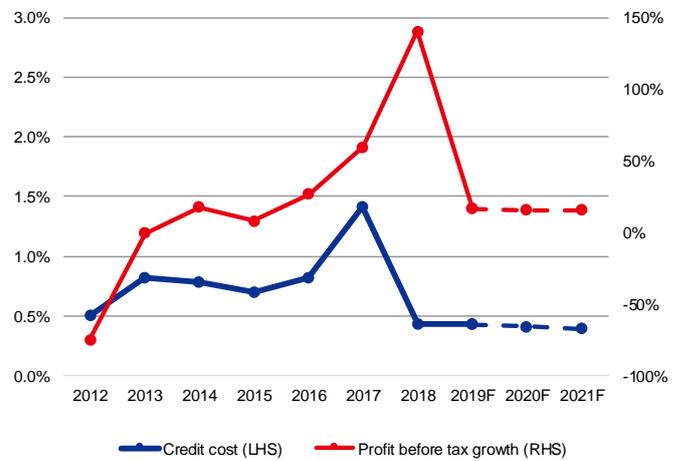
ACB ramped up provisioning and resolved legacy assets in FY17, its provision expenses dropped by 63.7% in FY18.

Figure 7: ACB now has low NPL and high LLR, having resolved all the bad debts of Group 6 companies in FY17...



SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 8: ... thus, ACB's credit cost dropped in FY18

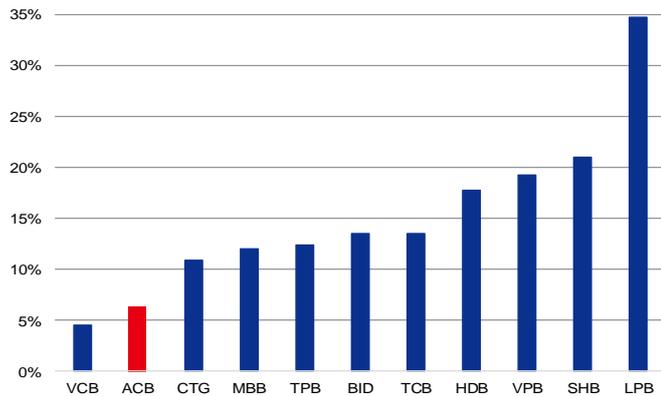


SOURCES: VND RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS

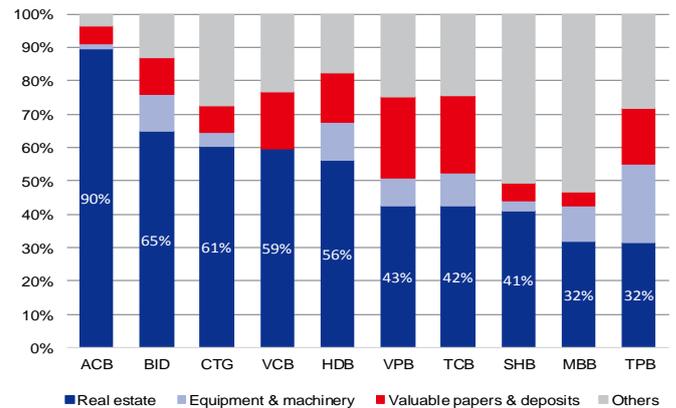
Setting aside the legacy bad debt, which was fully written off in FY17, ACB is among the Vietnamese banks with the lowest NPL and the highest LLR. As of end-1Q19, ACB had the lowest NPL among all Vietnam banks at 0.7% of the total loan book and the second-highest LLR at 158.1%, despite its large retail loan book (90% of total loan book). In our view, ACB has a conservative lending strategy, evinced by:

- Low exposure to real estate: ACB had one of the lowest exposure to real estate developers among Vietnamese banks in 2018. As of end-FY18, ACB's total exposure to construction and real estate trading was 6.3% of its total loan book. Regarding exposure to mortgages, Vietnam banks do not publish this information; we estimate mortgages typically make up 45-50% of the banks' individual loan book. In contrast, mortgages comprised one-third of ACB's individual loan book historically.
- Minimal unsecured lending: amid the intense competition in retail banking, several private-sector banks have expanded into unsecured lending for higher yields. ACB has a more conservative strategy and only has a small amount of unsecured lending (c.VND1,000bn, or 0.5% of the total loan book in FY18).
- ACB's loan book is collateralised mostly by real estate, as real estate accounted for 89.5% of its total collateral as of end-FY18. Although real estate collaterals are affected by economic cycles, real estate does not depreciate over time like equipment and machinery, and the value does not fluctuate as much as valuable papers. Valuable papers used as collateral for loans are often corporate bonds of which value is subject to change in interest and the repayment ability of the issuing companies. Real estate, on the other hand, could devalue in a downturn but banks can keep the real estate and liquidate it when prices recover. As the economy recovers, real estate collateral is the main driver that could help banks to resolve bad debts, in our view.

Figure 9: Construction and real estate trading as % of loan book, Figure 10: Breakdown of banks' collateral, by type (end-FY18) by bank (end-FY18)



SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

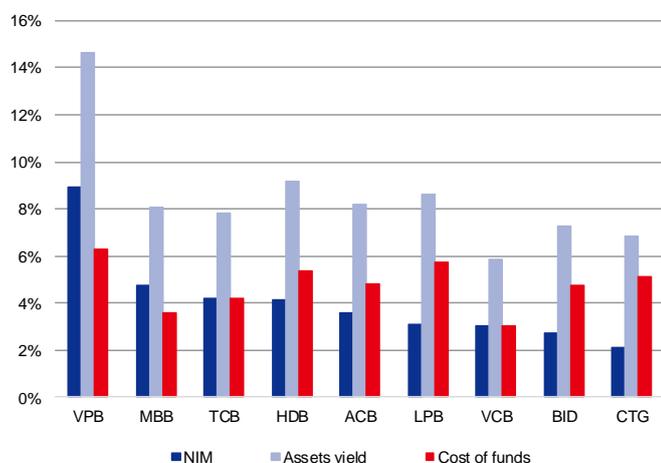


SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

FINANCIALS

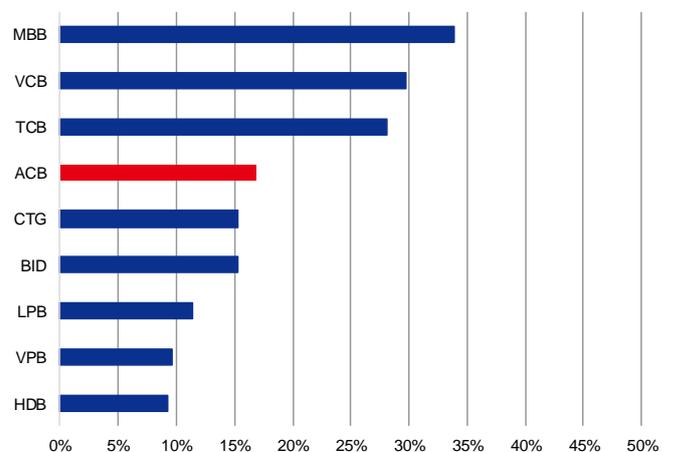
ACB's net interest margin (NIM) is on par with the average of the Vietnam banking sector. In 1Q19, ACB's NIM was 3.6%, slightly higher than the sector average NIM of 3.4% (excluding VPB, as its NIM is much higher than the rest of the sector, thanks to its consumer finance business). With a large retail lending book (90% of total loan book as of end-FY18), ACB earns high asset yields (1Q19 asset yield of 8.2%). However, ACB also bears high funding costs because the bank does not have strong relationships with state-owned enterprises (SOEs) and big corporations; as a result, the majority of its customer deposits come from individual customers who prefer time deposits to demand deposits for higher interest. Individual deposits accounted for 79.9% of ACB's total deposits at end-FY18, and its current account & savings account rate (CASA) was moderate at 16.9% at end-1Q19.

Figure 11: ACB charges higher lending rates than its peers but has higher funding costs (data in 1Q19)



SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Figure 12: ACB has moderate CASA levels (data as of end-1Q19)

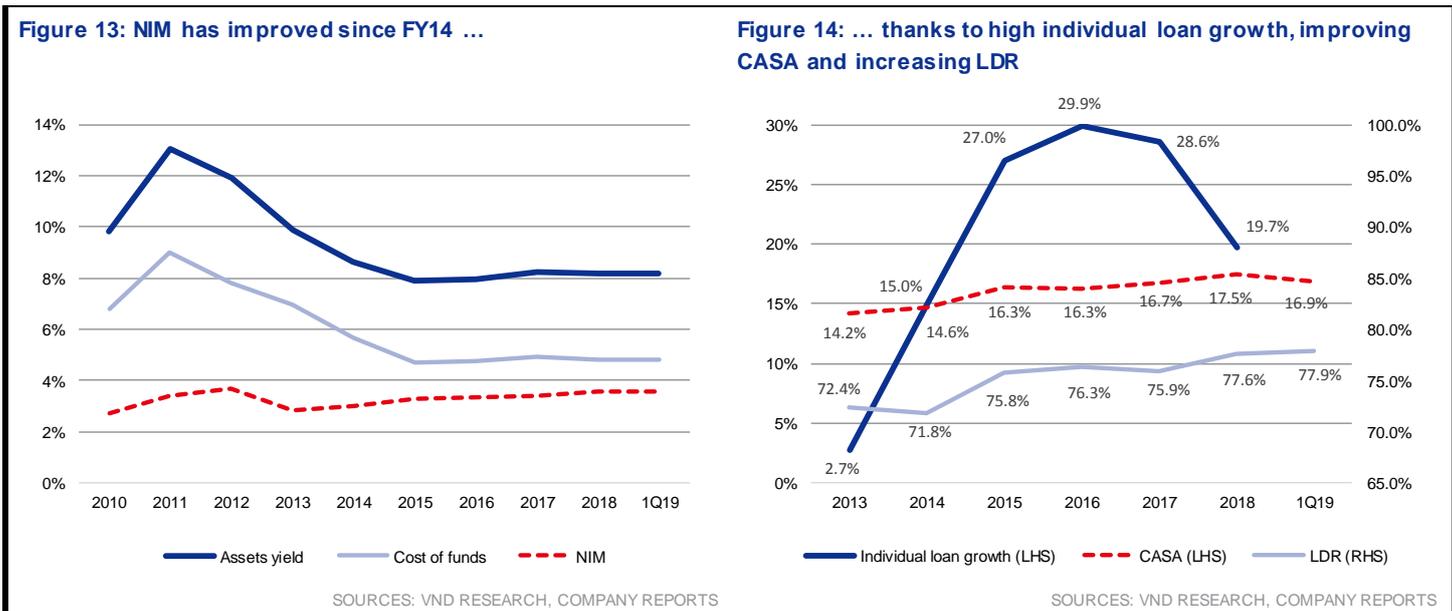


SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

ACB's NIM has improved since 2014 thanks to the expansion of retail lending, increasing usage of funding for lending to customers, and improving CASA. ACB's individual loan book has grown by a strong 23.9% CAGR over FY13-18, lifting the contribution of individual loans to the total loan book from 42.5% as of end-FY13 to 57.7% as of end-FY18. In addition, after sluggish loan growth in FY12-14 as ACB had to prioritise clearing legacy bad debts over growth. ACB's loan growth momentum picked up again in FY15, raising its loan-to-deposit ratio (LDR) from 71.8% as of end-FY14 to 77.6% as of end-FY18.

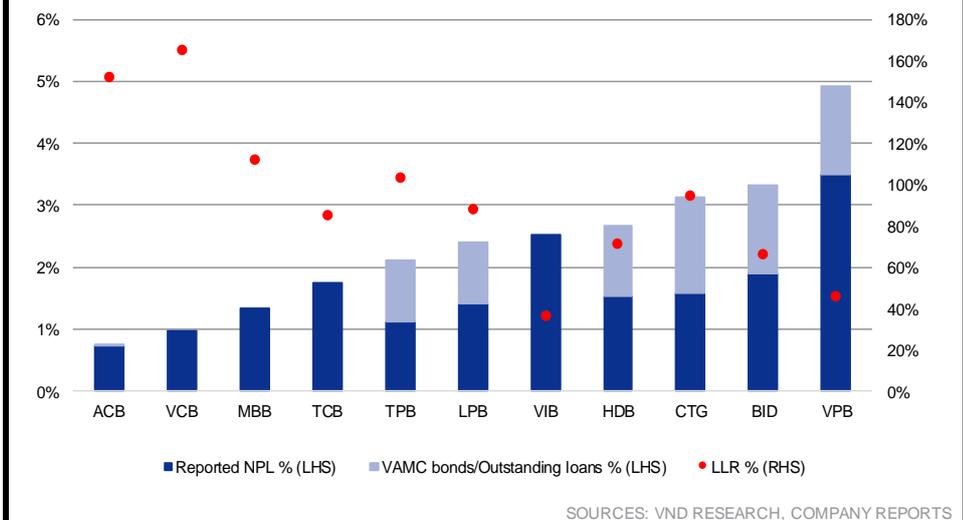
On the funding side, ACB has embarked on new initiatives to increase the CASA rate. The major initiative was the launch of privilege banking in 2015. Customers must maintain a minimum deposit balance of VND2bn (~US\$87k) to qualify for privilege banking. In return, privilege banking customers are given priority at ACB branches, incur no fees for money transfers, higher deposit rates and priority passes for more than 700 VIP lounges at domestic and international airports. The discounted fees and premium services attract more customers to perform banking transactions with ACB. ACB also introduced the Business Account in 2015, which pays higher interest rates for demand deposits and offers zero fees on money transfers if customers maintain a minimum demand deposit balance of VND500m (~US\$22k). Additionally, the launch of a new debit card and prepaid card in 2015 are other initiatives to improve CASA. As a result, ACB's CASA increased from 14.6% as at end-FY14 to 16.9% as at end-1Q19.

Over the period from FY15 to 1Q19, ACB's asset yields rose by 30bp. Funding costs also picked up but improving CASA capped the rise in funding costs at 15bp. Hence, NIM increased from 3.3% in FY15 to 3.6% in 1Q19.



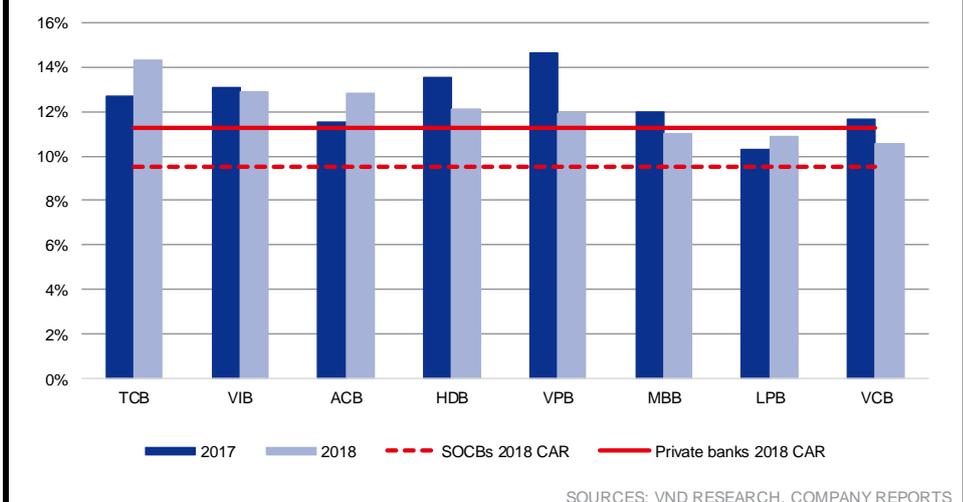
A healthy balance sheet despite its focus on retail lending. In our view, the bad debts of Group 6 companies were major baggage for ACB, but the bad debts from its normal business are not significant. ACB completed provisioning for and writing off its exposure to Group 6 companies and bad debts sold to VAMC in 2017. Therefore, as of end-1Q19, ACB had the lowest level of distressed assets (0.7% of total loans) and the second-highest LLR (158.1%) in the Vietnam banking sector. It is even more encouraging that ACB was able to register low NPL despite its high exposure to retail lending and low write-off ratio (write-off/average loan book ratio of 0.4% over FY15-18, compared to the listed banks' average of 0.7% over the same period).

Figure 15: ACB has the lowest level of distressed assets and the second-highest LLR among Vietnam's listed banks (end-FY18)



Strong capital base allows ACB to qualify for Basel II in 2019. ACB recently obtained approval from the State Bank of Vietnam to apply Basel II from 1 May 2019, ahead of the deadline in Jan 2020. As of end-FY18, ACB has a capital adequacy ratio (CAR) of 12.8% and Tier 1 ratio of 10.6% (non-Basel II). This is a high capital level in the Vietnam banking sector, although ACB has not raised fresh capital since 2011. In comparison, other retail banks have actively raised capital via IPOs in 2017 and early 2018. However, ACB issued subordinated debts to increase Tier 2 capital. As of end-FY18, the bank had c.VND3,000bn (~US\$129m) of subordinated debts, equivalent to 14.4% of Tier 1 capital. In our opinion, there is still plenty of headroom for ACB to issue more subordinated debts, as subordinated debts are capped at 50% of Tier 1 capital by Basel II.

Figure 16: ACB has a higher CAR than the sector average



We estimate ACB's CAR will drop to 9.8% and Tier 1 ratio will drop to 8.3% at end-FY19F under Basel II. Our estimates are based on the following assumptions:

- We project net profit CAGR of 15.6% over FY19-21F
- ACB guided that it would start paying cash dividend at 10% on par value in FY19F. ACB has not paid cash dividends since FY15, however, during the 2018 Annual General Meeting, the bank announced plans to pay cash dividend in FY19F.

- Risk-weighted assets (RWA) CAGR of 22.3% over FY19-21F.
- RWA would be revised up by 30% under Basel II standards.

Our estimated Basel II CAR of 9.8% as of end-FY19F for ACB will satisfy the minimum requirement of 8.0%. Assuming ACB maintains 10% cash dividend on par value in FY19-21F, we estimate its Basel II CAR would drop to 9.2% by end-FY21F, which still meets the minimum requirement of 8.0%. In addition, ACB currently has 35.2m treasury shares. The bank's management guided that it would sell those treasury shares to raise capital when needed.

ACB's cost-to-income ratio (CIR) has come down from a high level in FY12. Following the fraud committed by Mr Kien in FY12, ACB had to book sizeable provisions for legacy assets, which significantly reduced TOI. As a result, CIR was high at 73.2% in FY12. In the past five years, the bank has managed to reduce CIR by cutting cost, but more importantly, by improving loan growth and better bad debt recoveries. CIR dropped significantly in FY18 due to the huge amount of debt recovered from Group 6 companies. As at end-FY18, CIR was 47.8%, down from 54.4% in FY17. CIR at ACB has improved, thanks to recovery of legacy assets related to Group 6 companies, therefore, if we exclude bad debt recoveries from TOI, we estimate FY18 CIR would be 54.7%.

Figure 17: CIR consistently declined thanks to improving loan growth and better bad debt recovery

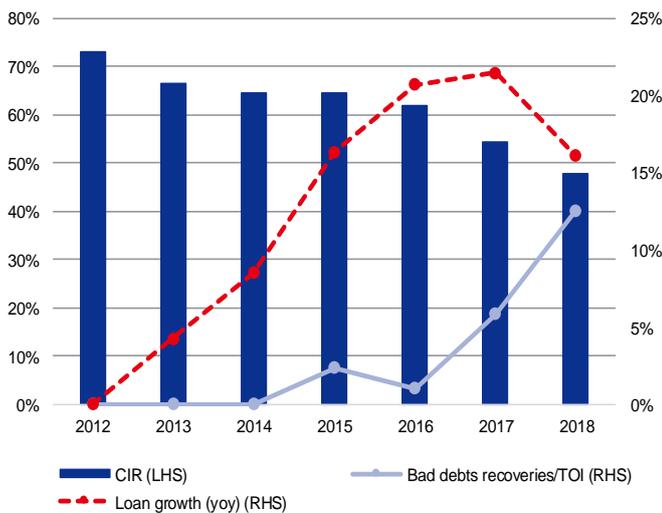
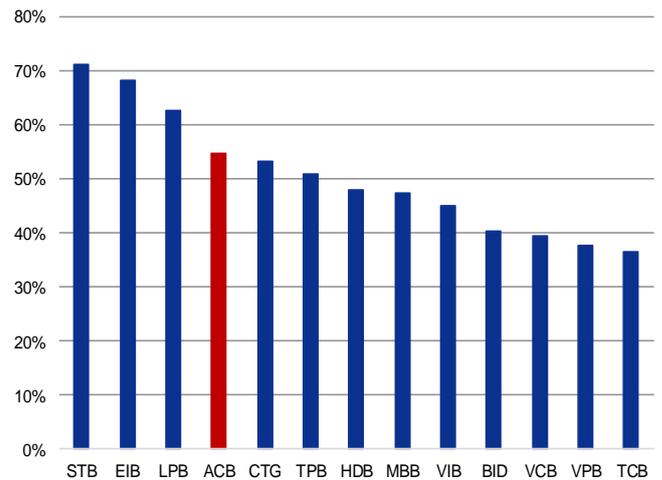


Figure 18: ACB has above-average CIR in the banking sector (data in FY18)



SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

Note: One-off income and bad debt recovery excluded from TOI
SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

OUTLOOK

We project a 15.6% net profit CAGR in FY19-21F ►

Key assumptions for our earnings forecasts are as follows:

- Net interest income (NII) CAGR of 16.4% in FY19-21F, underpinned by 15.0% loan CAGR and a NIM hike of 9bp over FY19-21F. We think ACB's high, non-Basel II CAR of 12.8% at end-FY18 would support 15.0% loan CAGR in FY19-21F. In addition, ACB's loan-to-deposit ratio (LDR) of 77.6% as of end-FY18 is lower than the 80% regulated cap, therefore we expect its LDR level would still accommodate 15.0% loan CAGR over FY19-21F, on the assumption that ACB will maintain deposit CAGR of 15.5% over the same period to keep LDR below the 80% cap.

In the coming years, ACB plans to continue to focus on its core business of retail lending. We project that interest rates may increase moderately over the next three years as inflation returns and competition for mobilisation becomes fiercer. As a result, both asset yields and funding costs are likely to increase. However, the State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) wants banks to stabilise lending rates; as such, we think the higher funding costs will not be fully passed on to credit customers. Nonetheless, ACB is deploying multiple campaigns to improve CASA, and thus lower funding costs. Therefore, we forecast ACB's NIM to increase subtly from 3.62% in FY19F to 3.71% in FY21F.

Figure 19: Balance sheet key KPIs, based on our forecasts

| (In VND bn, otherwise noted) | 2017A | 2018A | 2019F | 2020F | 2021F | CAGR 2015-18 | CAGR 2019-21F |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
| Interest-earning assets (excl. provisions) "IEAs" | 270,165 | 314,995 | 359,963 | 413,758 | 477,833 | 18.1% | 15.2% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 20.8% | 16.6% | 14.3% | 14.9% | 15.5% | | |
| Gross loans to customers | 198,513 | 230,527 | 265,106 | 304,872 | 350,603 | 19.4% | 15.0% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 21.5% | 16.1% | 15.0% | 15.0% | 15.0% | | |
| Interbank deposit and loans | 8,942 | 18,770 | 21,585 | 24,823 | 28,546 | 22.9% | 15.0% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 9.7% | 109.9% | 15.0% | 15.0% | 15.0% | | |
| Securities | 54,396 | 55,015 | 60,985 | 69,688 | 81,434 | 10.4% | 15.6% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 15.8% | 1.1% | 10.9% | 14.3% | 16.9% | | |
| Interest-bearing liabilities "IBLs" | 263,755 | 302,280 | 341,126 | 388,394 | 446,867 | 17.6% | 14.5% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 22.1% | 14.6% | 12.9% | 13.9% | 15.1% | | |
| Customer deposit | 241,393 | 269,999 | 307,798 | 353,968 | 410,603 | 15.6% | 15.5% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 16.6% | 11.9% | 14.0% | 15.0% | 16.0% | | |
| CDs and valuable papers | 6,761 | 8,291 | 8,291 | 8,291 | 8,291 | 39.2% | 0.0% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 2.2% | 22.6% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | | |
| Deposit and loan from other banks | 15,454 | 20,718 | 21,754 | 22,842 | 24,669 | 104.2% | 6.5% |
| <i>% growth</i> | 591.4% | 34.1% | 5.0% | 5.0% | 8.0% | | |
| Other funds from gov. and other org. | 147 | 198 | 208 | 219 | 230 | 7.0% | 5.0% |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS

- Non-interest income CAGR of 6.0% over FY19-21F, driven by: 1) 20.5% CAGR in fee income; 2) 9.0% CAGR in FX trading income; 3) 12.5% CAGR in income from trading and investment securities, and 4) -12.5% CAGR in other income.

We expect the 20.5% CAGR in fee income in FY19-21F to be underpinned by payment services, bancassurance and card fees. In order to grow its fee income franchise, ACB has simultaneously launched a series of initiatives to expand its customer base, such as privilege banking, digital banking and supply chain financing. The new initiatives target new segments of affluent and lower mass customers. The bank intends to promote card and insurance products to new customers and expects these products to be the main drivers of fee income growth in the coming years.

The biggest component of other income would remain income from bad debt recovery, in our view. In FY18, ACB recovered a sizeable amount of bad debt,

with income from bad debt recovery up 4.8x yoy (majority of bad debt recovered was from Group 6 companies). Besides the legacy assets of Group 6 companies, ACB also has bad debt sold to VAMC, but these were fully provisioned for and written off in FY17. Given the large amount of bad debt recovered in FY18, we expect ACB's bad debt recovery to taper in FY19-21F. As a result, we forecast other income to decline by a 12.5% CAGR over FY19-21F.

Figure 20: Profit & loss statement key KPIs, based on our forecasts

| (In VND bn, otherwise noted) | 2017A | 2018A | 2019F | 2020F | 2021F | CAGR 2015-18 | CAGR 2019-21F |
|---|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Net interest income | 8,458 | 10,363 | 12,206 | 14,309 | 16,537 | 20.8% | 16.4% |
| Net fee income | 1,188 | 1,498 | 1,887 | 2,321 | 2,739 | 26.2% | 20.5% |
| FX & gold trading income | 237 | 241 | 273 | 300 | 324 | 26.0% | 9.0% |
| Income from trading and investment securities | 664 | 117 | 146 | 168 | 184 | n/m | 12.5% |
| Other income | 892 | 1,815 | 1,847 | 1,733 | 1,415 | 95.6% | -12.5% |
| Operating income | 11,439 | 14,033 | 16,358 | 18,831 | 21,199 | 31.2% | 13.8% |
| | <i>% growth</i> | <i>51.3%</i> | <i>22.7%</i> | <i>16.6%</i> | <i>15.1%</i> | <i>12.6%</i> | |
| Operating expense | 6,217 | 6,712 | 7,852 | 9,039 | 9,964 | 18.6% | 12.6% |
| | <i>% growth</i> | <i>32.9%</i> | <i>8.0%</i> | <i>17.0%</i> | <i>15.1%</i> | <i>10.2%</i> | |
| Pre-provision profit | 5,222 | 7,321 | 8,506 | 9,792 | 11,236 | 49.3% | 14.9% |
| | <i>% growth</i> | <i>81.0%</i> | <i>40.2%</i> | <i>16.2%</i> | <i>15.1%</i> | <i>14.7%</i> | |
| Provision expense | 2,565 | 932 | 1,057 | 1,168 | 1,285 | 1.8% | 10.3% |
| | <i>% growth</i> | <i>110.7%</i> | <i>-63.7%</i> | <i>13.4%</i> | <i>10.5%</i> | <i>10.0%</i> | |
| Pre-tax profit | 2,656 | 6,389 | 7,449 | 8,624 | 9,950 | 69.4% | 15.6% |
| | <i>% growth</i> | <i>59.3%</i> | <i>140.5%</i> | <i>16.6%</i> | <i>15.8%</i> | <i>15.4%</i> | |
| Profit after tax and minority interest | 2,118 | 5,137 | 5,937 | 6,873 | 7,930 | 71.0% | 15.6% |
| | <i>% growth</i> | <i>59.8%</i> | <i>142.5%</i> | <i>15.6%</i> | <i>15.8%</i> | <i>15.4%</i> | |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH ESTIMATES, COMPANY REPORTS

- We forecast operating expense CAGR of 12.6% in FY19-21F, lower than the 18.6% CAGR seen in FY15-18. Over the past few years, ACB has increased salaries for employees to attract new talent and retain existing staff amid intensifying competition for banking workforce. On the other hand, ACB had to book provisions for receivables from Group 6 companies, hence operating expense was high in FY17. FY17 CIR was 54.4%, but there was a one-off provision expense of VND294bn for receivables from Group 6 companies. Excluding this one-off expense, FY17 CIR would be reduced to 51.8%. In FY18, due to the absence of provisions, CIR dropped to 47.8%. Given that ACB adjusted salaries in the past few years and the absence of provision expenses, we do not expect its CIR to increase in the coming years. However, ACB will continue to invest in ongoing and new IT projects, such as revamping its mobile banking app and development of digital cards. Therefore, we project CIR to be maintained at 48.0% in FY19-20F due to IT spending. ACB plans to spend US\$30m-35m per year on IT development. Beyond FY20F, we expect CIR to gradually reduce as increased automation improves efficiency and cuts operating costs.
- We forecast provision expense CAGR to increase from 1.8% over FY15-18 to 10.3% over FY19-21F. Due to legacy assets, ACB booked hefty provisions in FY16-17, and as a result, it completed the provisioning for legacy bad debts and debts sold to VAMC in FY17. Nearly 70% of the provision expenses ACB incurred in FY17 were for legacy debts and VAMC bonds. As the bank fully provisioned for legacy debts and VAMC bonds in FY17, its provision expenses fell sharply in FY18 (-63.7% yoy). Due to the tapering of the provision cycle in FY18, ACB's provision expense posted a mild CAGR of 1.8% over FY15-18. In the coming years, we expect ACB to maintain a stable provision balance. We forecast credit cost to hold steady at 0.4% in FY19-21F, leading to a 10.3% CAGR in provision expense over the same period.
- Robust net profit CAGR of 71.0% in FY15-18 was driven by the fall in provision expense and the recovery of bad debt. Given the high base in FY15-18, we expect net profit CAGR in FY19-21F to normalise to 15.6%.

VALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION

Reinitiate coverage with an Add rating; potential 33.9% upside to our TP ➤

We use the residual income and P/BV methodologies to value ACB, with weights of 70% and 30%, respectively. The residual income approach is based on our forecasts for ACB's earnings and growth, and factors in the bank's current capital buffer and its business strategy. As for the P/BV approach, this allows us to value ACB relative to other banks and factors in market sentiment on the Vietnamese banking sector as a whole, which has experienced sharp re-rating since Apr 2018. However, each bank has distinctly-different fundamentals and earnings prospects and, therefore, we only give a 30% weight to this relative valuation approach.

Figure 21: Target price calculation, based on our estimates

| Approach | Weight | Fair value (VND/share) | Contribution (VND/share) |
|--|--------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Residual income | 70% | 39,740 | 27,818 |
| P/B multiple (at 1.8x FY19F BVPS) | 30% | 38,903 | 11,671 |
| Target price (VND/share) | | | 39,489 |
| Target price (VND/share, rounded) | | | 39,500 |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH ESTIMATES

Figure 22: Key assumptions of residual income valuation, based on our estimates

| Assumptions | 2019F | 2020F | 2021F | 2022F | 2023F | Terminal year |
|--|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Risk free rate | 5.0% | 5.0% | 5.0% | 5.0% | 5.0% | 5.0% |
| Equity risk premium | 11.0% | 11.0% | 11.0% | 11.0% | 11.0% | 11.0% |
| Beta | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 |
| Cost of equity | 14.4% | 14.4% | 14.4% | 14.4% | 14.4% | 14.4% |
| Long-term growth rate | | | | | | 3.0% |
| <i>(in VND bn, otherwise noted)</i> | | | | | | |
| Opening shareholders' equity | 21,018 | | | | | |
| PV of residual income (5 years) | 10,519 | | | | | |
| PV of terminal value | 18,026 | | | | | |
| Implied EV | 49,563 | | | | | |
| No. of outstanding shares (m shares) | 1,247 | | | | | |
| Implied value per share (VND/share) | 39,740 | | | | | |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH ESTIMATES

For peer comparison, we choose regional banks with strong earnings growth outlook, high profitability and similar financial metrics as ACB. We expect ACB to achieve a solid net profit CAGR of 15.6% over FY19-21F. With strong net profit growth in FY18 and anticipated stable growth in the coming years, we forecast ACB to achieve 24.3% ROE in FY19F. Despite its higher FY19F ROE than the regional peers' average (based on our estimates), ACB currently trades at 1.4x FY19F P/BV, at a 15.7% discount to regional peers' average of 1.6x. We believe ACB deserves to trade at a higher P/BV, given its high profitability and strong asset quality. As a result, we apply a target multiple of 1.8x to FY19F book value per share for our P/BV valuation. Combining the residual income valuation and P/BV multiple valuation, with respective weights of 70% and 30%, we arrive at a TP of VND39,500, implying potential upside of 33.9%.

Figure 23: Regional banking sector comparison

| Banks | Bloomberg Code | Recommendation | Closing price | Target Price | Market cap | P/BV (x) | | P/E (x) | | 3-yr Forward CAGR EPS | ROE (%) | | Div. yields (%) |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | | | (local curr.) | (local curr.) | (US\$m) | FY19F | FY20F | FY19F | FY20F | % | FY19F | FY20F | FY19F |
| Agricultural Bank of China | 1288 HK | ADD | 3.28 | 5.30 | 182,696 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 4.4 | 4.1 | 6.3% | 12.7% | 12.4% | 6.8% |
| Bank of China | 3988 HK | ADD | 3.27 | 5.60 | 150,765 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 4.3 | 4.0 | 7.3% | 11.6% | 11.5% | 7.6% |
| China Merchants Bank | 3968 HK | ADD | 41.70 | 45.40 | 138,292 | 1.5 | 1.3 | 9.3 | 7.9 | 16.7% | 17.0% | 17.6% | 3.2% |
| Bank of Communications | 3328 HK | HOLD | 6.52 | 6.90 | 65,089 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 5.2 | 4.9 | 7.7% | 11.2% | 10.9% | 6.0% |
| China banks average | | | | | | 0.8 | 0.7 | 5.8 | 5.2 | 9.5% | 13.1% | 13.1% | 5.9% |
| ICICI Bank | ICICIBC IN | ADD | 430.80 | 475.00 | 39,943 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 23.9 | 16.4 | 84.9% | 10.4% | 13.7% | 1.2% |
| Axis Bank | AXSB IN | ADD | 771.95 | 900.00 | 29,057 | 2.7 | 2.3 | 20.5 | 14.0 | 60.9% | 13.8% | 17.6% | 0.3% |
| Indusind Bank | IIB IN | ADD | 1,448.70 | 2,100.00 | 12,558 | 2.9 | 2.4 | 17.3 | 13.2 | 35.8% | 17.9% | 19.8% | 0.5% |
| Yes Bank | YES IN | ADD | 109.60 | 270.00 | 3,650 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 9.3 | 6.4 | 49.2% | 9.9% | 13.0% | 2.0% |
| India banks average | | | | | | 2.2 | 1.9 | 17.8 | 12.5 | 57.7% | 13.0% | 16.1% | 1.0% |
| Bank Central Asia | BBCA IJ | HOLD | 29,375.00 | 28,500.00 | 51,165 | 3.9 | 3.4 | 23.5 | 20.8 | 12.0% | 17.6% | 17.4% | 0.9% |
| Bank Rakyat Indonesia | BBRI IJ | ADD | 4,310.00 | 4,500.00 | 37,557 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 13.5 | 11.9 | 13.9% | 18.8% | 18.8% | 2.6% |
| Bank Mandiri | BMRI IJ | ADD | 7,975.00 | 8,800.00 | 26,292 | 1.8 | 1.6 | 12.5 | 10.8 | 15.4% | 14.9% | 15.6% | 2.8% |
| Bank Negara Indonesia | BBNI IJ | ADD | 8,875.00 | 11,100.00 | 11,692 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 8.7 | 7.5 | 15.9% | 15.6% | 16.0% | 3.4% |
| Indonesia banks average | | | | | | 2.3 | 2.1 | 14.5 | 12.7 | 14.3% | 16.7% | 16.9% | 2.4% |
| Malayan Banking Bhd | MAY MK | HOLD | 8.96 | 9.29 | 24,276 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 12.3 | 11.5 | 3.8% | 10.4% | 10.5% | 5.8% |
| Public Bank Bhd | PBK MK | HOLD | 23.02 | 23.60 | 21,539 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 15.5 | 14.8 | 4.5% | 13.5% | 13.3% | 2.9% |
| Hong Leong Bank | HLBK MK | REDUCE | 19.42 | 16.80 | 9,575 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 14.7 | 13.9 | 6.2% | 11.0% | 10.5% | 2.7% |
| BIMB Holdings | BIMB MK | HOLD | 4.59 | 4.63 | 1,952 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 10.2 | 9.7 | 7.8% | 14.6% | 14.1% | 3.6% |
| Malaysia banks average | | | | | | 1.6 | 1.4 | 13.2 | 12.5 | 5.6% | 12.4% | 12.1% | 3.8% |
| Kasikornbank | KBANK TB | ADD | 192.00 | 244.00 | 14,926 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 11.4 | 10.2 | 9.9% | 10.6% | 10.9% | 2.0% |
| Siam Commercial Bank | SCB TB | ADD | 135.00 | 146.00 | 14,890 | 1.2 | 1.1 | 11.5 | 10.5 | 8.2% | 10.5% | 10.8% | 3.9% |
| Bangkok Bank | BBL TB | ADD | 200.00 | 238.00 | 12,401 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 10.2 | 9.4 | 7.5% | 9.0% | 9.3% | 3.1% |
| Kiatnakin Bank | KKP TB | REDUCE | 68.25 | 63.00 | 1,877 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 10.1 | 9.0 | 4.9% | 13.8% | 15.0% | 7.0% |
| Thailand banks average | | | | | | 1.2 | 1.1 | 10.8 | 9.8 | 7.6% | 11.0% | 11.5% | 4.0% |
| Vietcombank | VCB VN | HOLD | 73,000.00 | 73,800.00 | 11,618 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 16.3 | 13.9 | 13.2% | 18.4% | 17.4% | 1.1% |
| Techcombank | TCB VN | ADD | 20,900.00 | 27,400.00 | 3,136 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 7.8 | 6.8 | 14.6% | 16.5% | 16.1% | 0.0% |
| Vietnam Prosperity JSC Bank | VPB VN | ADD | 19,300.00 | 21,200.00 | 2,035 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 6.3 | 5.1 | 12.1% | 19.7% | 19.9% | 0.0% |
| Military Commercial Joint Stock Bank | MBB VN | ADD | 21,300.00 | 34,000.00 | 1,932 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 6.0 | 5.2 | 19.2% | 20.0% | 19.7% | 2.8% |
| Asia Commercial Joint Stock Bank | ACB VN | ADD | 29,500.00 | 39,500.00 | 1,579 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 6.1 | 5.3 | 15.7% | 24.3% | 22.7% | 3.4% |
| Vietnam banks average | | | | | | 1.6 | 1.3 | 8.5 | 7.3 | 15.0% | 19.8% | 19.2% | 1.5% |
| Vietnam banks average - ex-VCB | | | | | | 1.2 | 1.0 | 6.6 | 5.6 | 15.4% | 20.1% | 19.6% | 1.6% |
| Regional bank average | | | | | | 1.6 | 1.4 | 12.4 | 10.5 | 18.9% | 13.2% | 13.9% | 3.4% |

SOURCES: CGS-CIMB RESEARCH, VND RESEARCH, BLOOMBERG (AS AT 24 JUN 2019)

POTENTIAL CATALYSTS AND INVESTMENT RISK

Potential re-rating catalysts ►

Potential upside catalysts for ACB could come from higher-than-expected credit growth. The State Bank of Vietnam (SBV) recently tightened credit growth on the back of tightening monetary policy in various countries, concerns over the US-China trade war and a rising interest rate environment globally. In FY18, Vietnam's credit growth was 14.0%, much lower than the 18.3% growth achieved in FY17. For FY19F, the SBV set a target of 14.0% credit growth. As a result, we conservatively forecast 15.0% loan growth in FY19-21F for ACB. However, credit growth in Vietnam is closely tied to GDP growth and inflation. As the majority of capital in Vietnam comprises banks' credit, credit growth is an important driver of GDP growth. In the coming years, credit growth could be higher than our forecasts if GDP growth is slow and inflation remains stable. In our base-case scenario, we forecast loan CAGR of 15% in FY19-21F for ACB. Our sensitivity analysis shows that every incremental 50bp increase in loan growth from our base-case

assumption of 15% would increase FY19F EPS by VND31 (around 0.7% of our base-case EPS forecast).

Figure 24: Sensitivity of ACB's EPS to loan growth, based on our estimates

| Loan growth (%) | 14.0% | 14.5% | 15.0% | 15.5% | 16.0% | 16.5% | 17.0% |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| EPS FY19F (VND/share) | 4,620 | 4,650 | 4,680 | 4,711 | 4,741 | 4,771 | 4,802 |
| EPS FY20F (VND/share) | 5,219 | 5,319 | 5,418 | 5,518 | 5,618 | 5,719 | 5,820 |
| EPS FY21F (VND/share) | 5,876 | 6,063 | 6,252 | 6,441 | 6,632 | 6,825 | 7,019 |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH ESTIMATES

Another potential catalyst for ACB is the selling of 35.2m treasury shares. Management disclosed that ACB may sell its treasury shares to increase capital when needed. Assuming ACB sells its treasury shares at the current market price, we estimate it would raise VND1,038bn (~US\$44m) in total proceeds, of which VND472bn (~US\$20m) would be the share premium. The new capital would increase FY19F Basel II CAR by 15bp to 9.9%, based on our estimates. As the amount of treasury shares is small relative to ACB's outstanding shares, we estimate the selling of treasury shares would cause an insignificant dilution of 2.7% to FY19F EPS. However, ACB could use the new capital (non-interest bearing) for lending and investment, and therefore, increase income. Nevertheless, ACB does not face the problem of capital constraints, hence we do not think the treasury shares would be sold in the short-term.

Downside risks ►

Downside risks could come from higher funding cost vs. our expectation. Deposit rates in Vietnam are rising, especially for tenor over 12 months as banks have to keep the ratio of short-term funds used for medium/long-term loans below 40%, a stricter requirement that took effect in Jan 2019, compared to the 45% required pre-2019. We expect that ACB's efforts to increase CASA will help to limit the rise in funding costs, and thus project an 9bp NIM hike over FY19-21F. However, ACB faces the downside risk of increasing deposit rates due to more competition for long-term funds, which would lead to lower interest income vs. our forecasts.

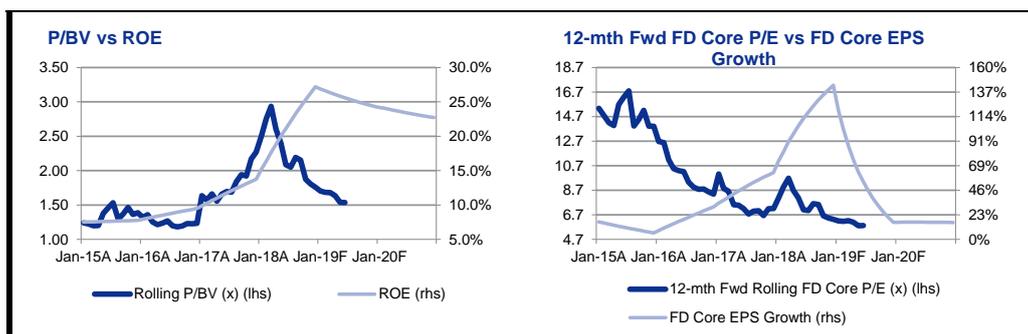
SWOT ANALYSIS

Figure 25: SWOT analysis for ACB

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Well-established retail brand name and retail customer base. Rich experience in retail banking and good customer service. Strong fee income franchise Prudent risk management reflected in low NPL and high LLR. | <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities in fintech, thanks to continuous technology development. |
| <p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of close relationship with large corporations. Limited presence in regions outside Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi. | <p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising competition in retail banking. |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

BY THE NUMBERS



Profit & Loss

| (VNDb) | Dec-17A | Dec-18A | Dec-19F | Dec-20F | Dec-21F |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Net Interest Income | 8,458 | 10,363 | 12,206 | 14,309 | 16,537 |
| Total Non-Interest Income | 2,981 | 3,670 | 4,153 | 4,522 | 4,662 |
| Operating Revenue | 11,439 | 14,033 | 16,358 | 18,831 | 21,199 |
| Total Non-Interest Expenses | (6,217) | (6,712) | (7,852) | (9,039) | (9,964) |
| Pre-provision Operating Profit | 5,222 | 7,321 | 8,506 | 9,792 | 11,236 |
| Total Provision Charges | (2,565) | (932) | (1,057) | (1,168) | (1,285) |
| Operating Profit After Provisions | 2,656 | 6,389 | 7,449 | 8,624 | 9,950 |
| Pretax Income/(Loss) from Assoc. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Operating EBIT (incl Associates) | 2,656 | 6,389 | 7,449 | 8,624 | 9,950 |
| Non-Operating Income/(Expense) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Profit Before Tax (pre-EI) | 2,656 | 6,389 | 7,449 | 8,624 | 9,950 |
| Exceptional Items | | | | | |
| Pre-tax Profit | 2,656 | 6,389 | 7,449 | 8,624 | 9,950 |
| Taxation | (538) | (1,252) | (1,512) | (1,751) | (2,020) |
| Consolidation Adjustments & Others | | | | | |
| Exceptional Income - post-tax | | | | | |
| Profit After Tax | 2,118 | 5,137 | 5,937 | 6,873 | 7,930 |
| Minority Interests | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pref. & Special Div | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| FX And Other Adj. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net Profit | 2,118 | 5,137 | 5,937 | 6,873 | 7,930 |
| Recurring Net Profit | 2,068 | 5,037 | 5,837 | 6,757 | 7,797 |

Balance Sheet Employment

| | Dec-17A | Dec-18A | Dec-19F | Dec-20F | Dec-21F |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Gross Loans/Cust Deposits | 82.2% | 85.4% | 86.1% | 86.1% | 85.4% |
| Avg Loans/Avg Deposits | 80.7% | 83.9% | 85.8% | 86.1% | 85.7% |
| Avg Liquid Assets/Avg Assets | 27.1% | 27.2% | 27.3% | 27.0% | 27.2% |
| Avg Liquid Assets/Avg IEAs | 28.4% | 28.6% | 28.4% | 28.1% | 28.1% |
| Net Cust Loans/Assets | 69.0% | 69.1% | 69.7% | 70.0% | 69.9% |
| Net Cust Loans/Broad Deposits | 74.4% | 76.1% | 77.3% | 77.9% | 77.7% |
| Equity & Provs/Gross Cust Loans | 9.0% | 10.2% | 11.4% | 12.0% | 12.6% |
| Asset Risk Weighting | 70.6% | 60.0% | 66.0% | 72.0% | 75.0% |
| Provision Charge/Avg Cust Loans | 1.42% | 0.43% | 0.43% | 0.41% | 0.39% |
| Provision Charge/Avg Assets | 0.99% | 0.30% | 0.30% | 0.29% | 0.28% |
| Total Write Offs/Average Assets | 0.99% | 0.30% | 0.30% | 0.29% | 0.28% |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

BY THE NUMBERS... cont'd

Balance Sheet

| (VNDb) | Dec-17A | Dec-18A | Dec-19F | Dec-20F | Dec-21F |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total Gross Loans | 207,455 | 249,297 | 286,692 | 329,695 | 379,150 |
| Liquid Assets & Invst. (Current) | 54,396 | 55,015 | 60,985 | 69,688 | 81,434 |
| Other Int. Earning Assets | 8,315 | 10,684 | 12,286 | 14,375 | 17,250 |
| Total Gross Int. Earning Assets | 270,165 | 314,995 | 359,963 | 413,758 | 477,833 |
| Total Provisions/Loan Loss Reserve | (2,285) | (3,001) | (3,828) | (4,703) | (5,765) |
| Total Net Interest Earning Assets | 267,880 | 311,994 | 356,135 | 409,055 | 472,068 |
| Intangible Assets | 533 | 593 | 634 | 679 | 726 |
| Other Non-Interest Earning Assets | 11,052 | 10,617 | 11,360 | 12,155 | 13,006 |
| Total Non-Interest Earning Assets | 11,584 | 11,210 | 11,994 | 12,834 | 13,732 |
| Cash And Marketable Securities | 4,852 | 6,129 | 6,558 | 7,017 | 7,508 |
| Long-term Investments | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Assets | 284,316 | 329,333 | 374,687 | 428,906 | 493,309 |
| Customer Interest-Bearing Liabilities | 248,154 | 278,289 | 316,089 | 362,259 | 418,894 |
| Bank Deposits | 15,454 | 20,718 | 21,754 | 22,842 | 24,669 |
| Interest Bearing Liabilities: Others | 147 | 3,272 | 3,282 | 3,293 | 3,304 |
| Total Interest-Bearing Liabilities | 263,755 | 302,280 | 341,126 | 388,394 | 446,867 |
| Bank's Liabilities Under Acceptances | | | | | |
| Total Non-Interest Bearing Liabilities | 4,531 | 6,035 | 6,607 | 7,973 | 7,260 |
| Total Liabilities | 268,285 | 308,315 | 347,732 | 396,367 | 454,127 |
| Shareholders' Equity | 16,031 | 21,018 | 26,955 | 32,540 | 39,181 |
| Minority Interests | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Equity | 16,031 | 21,018 | 26,955 | 32,540 | 39,181 |

Key Ratios

| | Dec-17A | Dec-18A | Dec-19F | Dec-20F | Dec-21F |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Income Growth | 51.3% | 22.7% | 16.6% | 15.1% | 12.6% |
| Operating Profit Growth | 81.0% | 40.2% | 16.2% | 15.1% | 14.7% |
| Pretax Profit Growth | 59% | 141% | 17% | 16% | 15% |
| Net Interest To Total Income | 73.9% | 73.8% | 74.6% | 76.0% | 78.0% |
| Cost Of Funds | 4.94% | 4.82% | 4.85% | 4.88% | 4.90% |
| Return On Interest Earning Assets | 8.23% | 8.21% | 8.24% | 8.30% | 8.30% |
| Net Interest Spread | 3.28% | 3.38% | 3.39% | 3.42% | 3.40% |
| Net Interest Margin (Avg Deposits) | 3.77% | 4.05% | 4.22% | 4.32% | 4.33% |
| Net Interest Margin (Avg RWA) | 4.71% | 5.20% | 5.49% | 5.15% | 4.87% |
| Provisions to Pre Prov. Operating Profit | 49.1% | 12.7% | 12.4% | 11.9% | 11.4% |
| Interest Return On Average Assets | 3.27% | 3.38% | 3.47% | 3.56% | 3.59% |
| Effective Tax Rate | 20.3% | 19.6% | 20.3% | 20.3% | 20.3% |
| Net Dividend Payout Ratio | NA | NA | 21.0% | 18.1% | 15.7% |
| Return On Average Assets | 0.82% | 1.67% | 1.69% | 1.71% | 1.72% |

Key Drivers

| | Dec-17A | Dec-18A | Dec-19F | Dec-20F | Dec-21F |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Loan Growth (%) | 21.5% | 16.1% | 15.0% | 15.0% | 15.0% |
| Net Interest Margin (%) | 3.4% | 3.5% | 3.6% | 3.7% | 3.7% |
| Non Interest Income Growth (%) | 344.5% | 23.1% | 13.1% | 8.9% | 3.1% |
| Cost-income Ratio (%) | 54.4% | 47.8% | 48.0% | 48.0% | 47.0% |
| Net NPL Ratio (%) | 0.5% | 0.4% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 0.2% |
| Loan Loss Reserve (%) | 132.7% | 145.6% | 153.4% | 153.7% | 155.1% |
| GP Ratio (%) | 0.7% | 0.7% | 0.8% | 0.8% | 0.8% |
| Tier 1 Ratio (%) | 7.8% | 10.4% | 10.7% | 10.4% | 10.5% |
| Total CAR (%) | 11.5% | 12.8% | 12.7% | 12.1% | 12.0% |
| Deposit Growth (%) | 16.6% | 11.9% | 14.0% | 15.0% | 16.0% |
| Loan-deposit Ratio (%) | 81.3% | 84.3% | 84.9% | 84.8% | 84.0% |
| Gross NPL Ratio (%) | 0.7% | 0.7% | 0.8% | 0.9% | 0.9% |
| Fee Income Growth (%) | 25.8% | 26.0% | 26.0% | 23.0% | 18.0% |

SOURCES: VND RESEARCH, COMPANY REPORTS

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| | | | | | |
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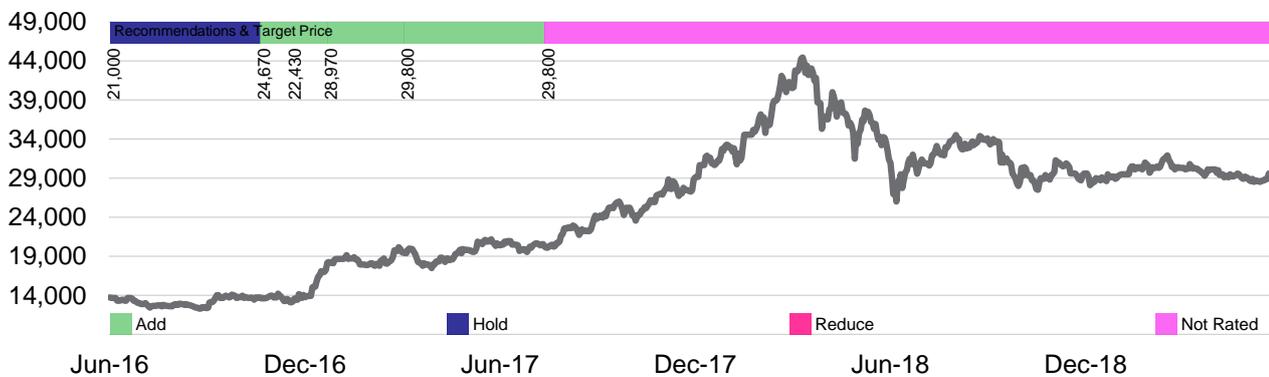
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| Distribution of stock ratings and investment banking clients for quarter ended on 08 April 2019 | | |
|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 771 companies under coverage for quarter ended on 08 April 2019 | | |
| | Rating Distribution (%) | Investment Banking clients (%) |
| Add | 57.8% | 4.0% |
| Hold | 27.0% | 2.1% |
| Reduce | 15.2% | 0.4% |

Spitzer Chart for stock being researched (2 year data)

Asia Commercial Joint Stock Bank (ACB VN)

— Price Close



Corporate Governance Report of Thai Listed Companies (CGR). CG Rating by the Thai Institute of Directors Association (Thai IOD) in 2018, Anti-Corruption 2018

ADVANC – Excellent, Certified, **AEONTS** – Good, n/a, **AH** – Very Good, n/a, **AMATA** – Excellent, Declared, **ANAN** – Excellent, Declared, **AOT** – Excellent, Declared, **AP** – Excellent, Certified, **ASP** – Very Good, Certified, **BANPU** – Excellent, Certified, **BAY** – Excellent, Certified, **BBL** – Very Good, Certified, **BCH** – Good, Certified, **BCP** – Excellent, Certified, **BCPG** – Excellent, Certified, **BEM** – Very Good, n/a, **BDMS** – Very Good, n/a, **BEAUTY** – Good, n/a, **BEC** – Very Good, n/a, **BGRIM** – Very Good, Declared, **BH** – Good, n/a, **BJC** – Very Good, Declared, **BJCHI** – Very Good, Certified, **BPP** – Very Good, Declared, **BR** – Good, Declared, **BTS** – Excellent, Certified, **CBG** – Very Good, n/a, **CCET** – Good, n/a, **CENDEL** – Very Good, Certified, **CHG** – Very Good, Declared, **CK** – Excellent, n/a, **COL** – Excellent, Declared, **CPALL** – Very Good, Certified, **CPF** – Excellent, Certified, **CPN** – Excellent, Certified, **DELTA** – Excellent, n/a, **DEMCO** – Excellent, Certified, **DDD** – Very Good, Declared, **DIF** – not available, n/a, **DTAC** – Excellent, Certified, **EA** – Excellent, n/a, **ECL** – Very Good, Certified, **EGCO** – Excellent, Certified, **EPG** – Very Good, n/a, **ERW** – Very Good, n/a, **GFPT** – Excellent, Certified, **GGC** – Excellent, Certified, **GLOBAL** – Very Good, n/a, **GLOW** – Very Good, Certified, **GPSC** – Excellent, Certified, **GULF** – Very Good, n/a, **GUNKUL** – Excellent, Certified, **HANA** – Excellent, Certified, **HMPRO** – Excellent, Certified, **HREIT** – Excellent, Certified, **ICHI** – Excellent, Declared, **HUMAN** – not available, n/a, **III** – Good, n/a, **INTUCH** – Excellent, Certified, **IRPC** – Excellent, Certified, **ITD*** – Very Good, n/a, **IVL** – Excellent, Certified, **JASIF** – not available, n/a, **KBANK** – Excellent, Certified, **KCE** – Excellent, Certified, **KKP** – Excellent, Certified, **KSL** – Excellent, Certified, **KTB** – Excellent, Certified, **KTC** – Excellent, Certified, **LH** – Very Good, n/a, **LPN** – Excellent, Certified, **M** – Very Good, Certified, **MACO** – Very Good, n/a, **MAJOR** – Very Good, n/a, **MAKRO** – Excellent, Declared, **MALEE** – Very Good, Certified, **MC** – Very Good, Certified, **MCOT** – Excellent, Certified, **MEGA** – Very Good, n/a, **MINT** – Excellent, Certified, **MTC** – Excellent, Declared, **NETBAY** – Good, n/a, **PLANB** – Excellent, Declared, **PLAT** – Very Good, Certified, **PSH** – Excellent, Certified, **PSTC** – Good, Certified, **PTT** – Excellent, Certified, **PTTEP** – Excellent, Certified, **PTTGC** – Excellent, Certified, **QH** – Excellent, Certified, **RATCH** – Excellent, Certified, **ROBINS** – Excellent, Certified, **RS** – Very Good, n/a, **RSP** – not available, n/a, **SAMART** – Excellent, n/a, **SAPPE** – Very Good, Declared, **SAT** – Excellent, Certified, **SAWAD** – Very Good, n/a, **SC** – Excellent, Declared, **SCB** – Excellent, Certified, **SCC** – Excellent, Certified, **SCN** – Very Good, Certified, **SF** – Good, n/a, **SIRI** – Very Good, Certified, **SPA** – Good, n/a, **SPALI** – Excellent, n/a, **SPRC** – Excellent, Certified, **STA** – Very Good, Certified, **STEC** – Excellent, n/a, **SVI** – Excellent, Certified, **SYNEX** – Very Good, Declared, **TASCO** – Excellent, Certified, **TCAP** – Excellent, Certified, **TIPCO** – Very Good, Certified, **TISCO** – Excellent, Certified, **TKN** – Very Good, Declared, **TMB** – Excellent, Certified, **TNR** – Very Good, Declared, **TOP** – Excellent, Certified, **TPCH** – Good, n/a, **TPIPP** – Good, n/a, **TRUE** – Excellent, Certified, **TU** – Excellent, Certified, **TVO** – Very Good, Declared, **UNIQ** – Good, n/a, **VGI** – Excellent, Certified, **WHA** – Excellent, Certified, **WHART** – not available, n/a, **WORK** – Good, n/a.

Companies participating in Thailand's Private Sector Collective Action Coalition Against Corruption programme (Thai CAC) under Thai Institute of Directors (as of August 31, 2018) are categorized into:

- Companies that have declared their intention to join CAC, and
- Companies certified by CAC

* The company, its director or management had been reportedly accused for breaching proper corporate governance such as violation of the SEC's regulations or charged with corruption.

RECOMMENDATION FRAMEWORK

Stock Ratings

Definition:

| | |
|--------|---|
| Add | The stock's total return is expected to reach 15% or higher over the next 12 months. |
| Hold | The stock's total return is expected to be between negative 10% and positive 15% over the next 12 months. |
| Reduce | The stock's total return is expected to fall below negative 10% over the next 12 months. |

The total expected return of a stock is defined as the sum of the:(i) percentage difference between the target price and the current price and (ii) the forward net dividend yields of the stock. Stock price targets have an investment horizon of 12 months.

Sector Ratings

Definition:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Overweight | An Overweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a positive absolute recommendation. |
| Neutral | A Neutral rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a neutral absolute recommendation. |
| Underweight | An Underweight rating means stocks in the sector have, on a market cap-weighted basis, a negative absolute recommendation. |

Country Ratings

Definition:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Overweight | An Overweight rating means investors should be positioned with an above-market weight in this country relative to benchmark. |
| Neutral | A Neutral rating means investors should be positioned with a neutral weight in this country relative to benchmark. |
| Underweight | An Underweight rating means investors should be positioned with a below-market weight in this country relative to benchmark. |

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