

# Malaysia Company Update

20 January 2025

# Construction & Engineering | Construction

# **Buv** (Maintained)

Target Price (Return): MYR5.50 (+51%) Price (Market Cap): MYR3.63 (USD1,039m) ESG score: 3.3 (out of 4) 13.4m/3.01m

Avg Daily Turnover (MYR/USD)

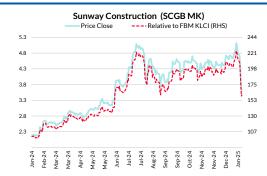
### **Analyst**

Adam Bin Mohamed Rahim +603 2302 8101 adam.mohamed.rahim@rhbgroup.com



## **Share Performance (%)**

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(21.6)	(17.5)	(19.2)	(26.5)	65.0
Relative	(17.0)	(15.6)	(14.6)	(22.4)	59.9
52-wk Price low/high (MYR)				2.17	-5.12



Source: Bloomberg

• Mai	ntain BUY and MYR5.50 TP, 51% upside with c.3% FY25F yield.
Out	going US president Joe Biden's restriction of artificial intelligence (AI)
chip	exports to Tier-2 countries like Malaysia should have a limited impact on
Sun	way Construction. SCGB's major data centre (DC) clients are mainly from
Tier	-1 countries, which could obtain the Universal Validated End User
(UV	EU) status, enabling larger quantities of AI chips to be brought into Tier-
2 co	ountries. Hence, we believe SCGB's latest selldown is overdone. We make
no c	hange to our TP and earnings estimates, for now.

Sunway Construction (SCGB MK)

The Sun Has Not Set: Maintain BUY

- While DCs easily make up c.50% of SCGB's outstanding orderbook, roughly 80-90% of its DC orderbook is related to clients that are headquartered in Tier-1 countries. As for its MYR11bn active tenderbook (as at end-Sep 2024). we understand that DC-related tenders could be up to 80%, ie worth c.MYR9bn. On further scrutiny, we gathered that the majority of DC tenders are related to project owners headquartered in Tier-1 countries. Therefore, it could be the case that these DC clients would apply for the UVEU status.
- To address the concern of these DC clients of likely having off-takers from Tier-3 countries (such as China, according to the US Bureau of Industry and Security), we gathered that SCGB's DC clients are either hyperscalers who are building DCs for their own consumption or co-location providers that mostly have off-takers from non-Tier 3 countries.
- JHBX10 DC job in Johor. We believe SCGB may have a chance in clinching future expansion works for the JHBX10 DC (client from a Tier-1 country) as we gathered that total planned capacity is to be c.200-300MW. SCGB's MYR3.9bn of total jobs awards for the said DC is estimated to cover between 100MW and 150MW of capacity contracted out, based on our projections.
- Looking ahead, incoming DC capacity in Malaysia may mainly still come from DC providers from Tier-1 countries (Figure 1) which may continue providing potential opportunities for SCGB. Additionally, other potential jobs for SCGB include the Segment 2 of the Penang Light Rail Transit, and upcoming medical centres from its parent Sunway (SWB MK, BUY, TP: MYR5.75).
- No changes to our estimates. As such, our TP of MYR5.50 (which bakes in a 6% ESG premium) remains put. Our TP was derived by pegging FY25F EPS to an unchanged target P/E of 27x to reflect SCGB's prominence for DC providers from Tier-1 countries. The stock is currently trading at 18.9x FY25P/E - close to the c.18x observed during the 2017 construction upcycle (which had no DC factor at that time) - which we view is unjustified, based on the nation's digitalisation push which could ensure that investments by global tech giants in Malaysia remain in place.
- Key risks: Lower-than-expected job wins.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Total turnover (MYRm)	2,155	2,671	2,920	3,935	5,066
Recurring net profit (MYRm)	144	170	162	248	314
Recurring net profit growth (%)	(0.3)	18.2	(4.8)	52.9	26.8
Recurring P/E (x)	32.50	27.50	28.90	18.90	14.91
P/B (x)	6.3	5.7	5.3	4.8	4.2
P/CF(x)	na	na	10.37	36.17	15.25
Dividend Yield (%)	1.5	1.7	2.1	3.2	4.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	21.16	17.34	19.26	13.39	11.26
Return on average equity (%)	18.8	18.6	19.0	26.5	30.0
Net debt to equity (%)	net cash	38.7	26.9	30.8	38.6

Source: Company data, RHB

## Overall ESG Score: 3.3 (out of 4)

### F: FXCFLLENT

It implemented rooftop solar panels at its Sunway Precast Industries plant at Senai, Johor, to reduce the carbon emissions of site operations. With this, 98.6MWh of energy can be consumed via solar generation at this Senai plant, avoiding 57.7 tonnes of carbon emissions. In FY21, the group guided that its carbon emission intensity per unit revenue has declined from 98 tonnes of CO2/MYRm.

The group ensures the safety and health of all its employees, and public areas surrounding the construction sites, via various training and safety programmes. Apart from up-tostandard health & safety policies, we see active community engagement and efforts to uplift employee relations.

### G: EXCELLENT

57% of its board members are independent, with full disclosure on director remuneration, including salaries and bonuses. The group has an in-house investor relations team. Accessibility to investor relations is excellent, and the team mostly helps to deal with investor queries.



# **Financial Exhibits**

Asia
Malaysia
Construction & Engineering
Sunway Construction
SCGB MK
Buy

#### Valuation basis

We value the company based on a FY25F P/E of 27x. Sunway Construction's minimal net debt position allows it to gear up for more jobs moving forward.

### Key drivers

Sunway Construction's earnings are backed by:

- i. An outstanding order backlog of MYR7.1bn, of which >90% is from construction, which would keep the firm busy for the next three years;
- ii. Recurring orders from its parent company.

### Key risks

Lower-than-expected job wins

### **Company Profile**

Sunway Construction is one of the largest construction companies in Malaysia. Apart from civil & infrastructure construction services, the company also provides the more specialised:

- i. Foundation & geotechnical engineering services;
- ii. Mechanical, electrical & plumbing (MEP) services.

In addition, it runs a highly profitable precast concrete product manufacturing operation in Malaysia and Singapore. Aside from fulfilling local requirements, it also largely supplies hose concrete products for Housing & Development Board (HDB) projects in the island republic.

Financial summary (MYR)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Recurring EPS	0.11	0.13	0.13	0.19	0.24
DPS	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.12	0.15
BVPS	0.57	0.64	0.69	0.76	0.86
Return on average equity (%)	18.8	18.6	19.0	26.5	30.0

Valuation metrics	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Recurring P/E (x)	32.50	27.50	28.90	18.90	14.91
P/B (x)	6.3	5.7	5.3	4.8	4.2
FCF Yield (%)	(5.2)	(6.5)	8.5	1.6	5.4
Dividend Yield (%)	1.5	1.7	2.1	3.2	4.0
EV/EBITDA (x)	21.16	17.34	19.26	13.39	11.26
EV/EBIT (x)	23.85	21.60	23.17	15.35	12.72

Income statement (MYRm)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Total turnover	2,155	2,671	2,920	3,935	5,066
Gross profit	366	198	457	853	1,046
EBITDA	210	279	247	360	441
Depreciation and amortisation	(24)	(55)	(42)	(46)	(50)
Operating profit	187	224	205	314	390
Net interest	(4)	(21)	(7)	(3)	(4)
Pre-tax profit	184	189	199	306	387
Taxation	(45)	(43)	(39)	(60)	(75)
Reported net profit	135	145	162	248	314
Recurring net profit	144	170	162	248	314

Cash flow (MYRm)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Change in working capital	(382)	(498)	250	(163)	(55)
Cash flow from operations	(215)	(286)	451	129	307
Capex	(27)	(18)	(55)	(55)	(56)
Cash flow from investing activities	424	(88)	(54)	(53)	(256)
Dividends paid	(90)	(72)	(97)	(149)	(188)
Cash flow from financing activities	143	349	267	142	96
Cash at beginning of period	99	492	470	595	587
Net change in cash	351	(25)	664	219	147
Ending balance cash	446	467	1,135	815	735

Balance sheet (MYRm)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Total cash and equivalents	576	582	707	699	627
Tangible fixed assets	108	99	183	191	196
Total investments	223	253	253	253	253
Total assets	2,236	3,083	2,959	3,421	4,064
Short-term debt	172	438	488	538	588
Total long-term debt	312	489	477	487	497
Total liabilities	1,415	2,191	2,000	2,362	2,877
Total equity	821	892	959	1,059	1,187
Total liabilities & equity	2,236	3,083	2,959	3,421	4,064

Key metrics	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Revenue growth (%)	24.6	23.9	9.3	34.8	28.7
Recurrent EPS growth (%)	(0.3)	18.2	(4.8)	52.9	26.8
Gross margin (%)	17.0	7.4	15.7	21.7	20.6
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	9.8	10.5	8.5	9.2	8.7
Net profit margin (%)	6.3	5.4	5.5	6.3	6.2
Dividend payout ratio (%)	52.5	53.3	60.0	60.0	60.0
Capex/sales (%)	1.3	0.7	1.9	1.4	1.1
Interest cover (x)	10.3	4.7	3.4	6.4	8.6

Source: Company data, RHB

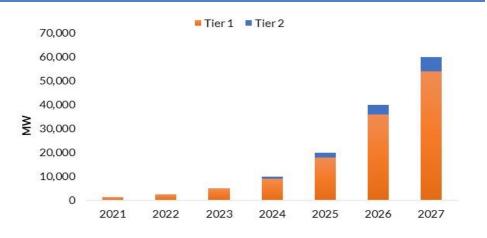


Figure 1: DC providers in Malaysia aside from Google, Microsoft and Amazon Web Services (list not exhaustive)

DC Provider	Headquartered In	Country Tier (in respect to headquarters)	Live/launched capacity	Upcoming Planned Capacity
Yondr Group	Netherlands	Tier 1	n.a.	300MW
AirTrunk	Australia	Tier 1	50MW	100MW
EdgeConneX	US	Tier 1	n.a	Close to 300MW
NTT Global Data Centres	Japan	Tier 1	22MW	290MW
Equinix	US	Tier 1	n.a.	n.a.
NextDC	Australia	Tier 1	OMW	65MW
Vantage DC	US	Tier 1	31MW	256MW
Stack Infrastructure	US	Tier 1	0MW	220MW
K2 DC	Singapore	Tier 2	n.a	Up to 300MW
Princeton Digital Group (PDG)	Singapore	Tier 2	OMW	150MW
STT GDC JV	Singapore	Tier 2	20MW (in JV with Basis Bay	120MW
Bridge DC (BDC)	China	Tier 3	16MW	135MW + 100MW (via partnership with Mah Sing)
GDS Holdings	China	Tier 3	69.5MW	168MW (co-developed with YTL Power)

Source: RHB, Various sources

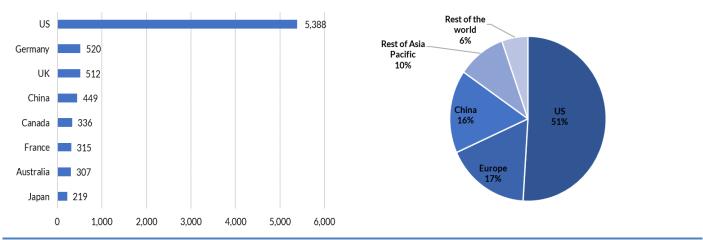
Figure 2: DC capacity in Tier-1 and Tier-2 countries



Source: www.semianalysis.com

Figure 3: Number of DCs in top 10 markets

Figure 4: Global DC capacity breakdown (%)



Source: Data Centre Solutions, Cloudscene Platform

Source: Synergy Research Group

# **Emissions And ESG**

Trend	ana	lysis
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While total emissions have been increasing, SCGB's Scope 1 emissions have eased to 7,440 tonnes in FY23 from 9,713 tonnes in FY20.

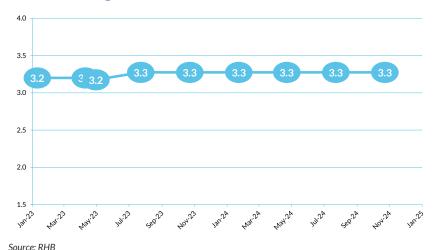
Emissions (tCO2e)	Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
Scope 1	6,104	7,167	7,440
Scope 2	3,863	4,504	6,997
Scope 3	144,401	168,888	314,414
Total emissions	154,368	180,559	328,851

Source: Company data, RHB

# **Latest ESG-Related Developments**

- Through its Sustainable Energy Services division, SCGB continues to be at the forefront of ongoing efforts to enable the transition towards a greener economy.
- In FY22, the division completed 18 rooftop solar panels installation projects with a cumulative clean energy generating capacity of 17,866 kWp.

# **ESG** Rating History



# **Recommendation Chart**



Source: RHB, Bloomberg

Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2024-11-22	Buy	5.50	4.56
2024-08-26	Buy	5.50	4.14
2024-08-23	Buy	5.50	4.16
2024-07-19	Buy	6.29	5.02
2024-07-05	Buy	4.92	4.35
2024-07-01	Buy	4.32	3.90
2024-06-11	Buy	4.12	3.74
2024-06-10	Buy	3.81	3.31
2024-05-21	Buy	3.81	3.25
2024-03-21	Buy	3.34	2.73
2024-02-22	Buy	3.34	2.60
2024-02-21	Buy	3.34	2.61
2024-01-12	Buy	2.42	2.19
2023-11-22	Buy	2.22	1.89
2023-10-06	Buy	2.22	1.92

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

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Buy: Share price may exceed 10% over the next 12 months

Trading Buy: Share price may exceed 15% over the next 3 months, however longer-

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Neutral: Share price may fall within the range of +/- 10% over the next

12 months

Take Profit: Target price has been attained. Look to accumulate at lower levels Sell: Share price may fall by more than 10% over the next 12 months

Not Rated: Stock is not within regular research coverage

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## **KUALA LUMPUR**

RHB Investment Bank Bhd Level 3A, Tower One, RHB Centre Jalan Tun Razak Kuala Lumpur 50400 Malaysia

Tel:+603 2302 8100 Fax:+603 2302 8134

### **SINGAPORE**

RHB Bank Berhad (Singapore branch) 90 Cecil Street #04-00 RHB Bank Building Singapore 069531 Fax: +65 6509 0470

## **JAKARTA**

PT RHB Sekuritas Indonesia Revenue Tower, 11th Floor, District 8 - SCBD Jl. Jendral Sudirman Kav 52-53 Jakarta 12190 Indonesia

Tel: +6221 5093 9888 Fax: +6221 5093 9777