

21 February 2025

RHB

Sunway Construction (SCGB MK)

DC Jobs To Keep Firing On All Cylinders In FY25; BUY

- Still BUY, new MYR5.63 TP from MYR5.50, 37% upside and c.3% FY25F yield. FY24 core earnings of MYR171m (+13% YoY) exceeded our estimates, making up 105% of our projections but were considered in line with Street's at 101%. The positive deviation was mainly due to faster-than-expected progress for Sunway Construction's data centre (DC) projects. We envisage FY25 seeing stronger earnings growth of 48%, given many more DC jobs entering their work intensive phases.
- The construction arm's PBT grew by 102% YoY in 4Q24 with a stronger PBT margin of 8% (4Q23: 6.7%) amid accelerated progress of ongoing projects (particularly DCs) and the Johor Bahru-Singapore Rapid Transit System Link initiative. For instance, the first package for JHB1X0 has hit a 73% completion rate as at end 4Q24 (end 3Q24: 36%). Moreover, said project's progress only hovered between 14.1% and 14.7% from end 4Q23 to end 2Q24 (Figure 2). Meanwhile, SCGB's precast segment recorded a 4Q24 PBT of MYR3.4m (4Q23: MYR7.7m) due to reduced turnover.
- Orderbook update. The construction orderbook as at end 4Q24 stood at c.MYR5.8bn vs MYR7.1bn as at end 3Q24 with MYR4.2bn worth of new orders secured. As at end Dec 2024, SCGB has MYR14.6bn worth of active tenders vs MYR10.6bn as at end 3Q24 with c.70% comprising DC jobs mainly for DC providers from the UK, US, and Singapore.
- We tweak FY25F and FY26F earnings upwards by 3% and 1% as we adjust for faster progress billings assumptions for its DC projects. We also introduce FY27F earnings, which imputes a job replenishment assumption of MYR4.5bn. Hence, we arrive at a new TP of MYR5.63, which is derived by pegging FY25F EPS to an unchanged target P/E of 27x and ascribing a 6% ESG premium. Our TP also implies 22.8x FY26F P/E, in line with comparable large cap contractors with DC exposure. This is justified by SCGB's current position as a public listed contractor with a 55% orderbook from DCs the highest amongst peers in addition to above-industry ROEs and job prospects from its parent which has a strong presence in Ipoh and Johor.
- **Prospective jobs for SCGB** include Segment 2 of the Penang Light Rail Transit, upcoming medical centres by Sunway (SWB MK, BUY, TP: MYR5.77), and potential expansion of the latter's Ipoh Mall. We also do not discount the possibility of SCGB being involved in SWB's integrated mixed-use development at Bukit Chagar, Johor Bahru (GDV: MYR2.6bn), given the its track record for MYR1.2bn worth of completed jobs at Sunway City Iskandar Puteri. Therefore, we believe our MYR5bn job replenishment target for FY25 is achievable.
- Key risk: Lower-than-expected job wins.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Total turnover (MYRm)	2,671	3,522	4,135	5,066	5,422
Recurring net profit (MYRm)	151	171	254	317	392
Recurring net profit growth (%)	5.0	13.3	48.2	25.0	23.6
Recurring P/E (x)	35.13	31.01	20.93	16.74	13.55
P/B (x)	6.5	6.1	5.4	4.8	4.2
P/CF (x)	na	7.41	na	17.21	14.13
Dividend Yield (%)	1.5	2.1	2.9	3.6	4.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	19.60	18.74	13.84	11.18	8.68
Return on average equity (%)	18.6	22.0	27.3	30.4	33.1
Net debt to equity (%)	38.7	net cash	net cash	net cash	net cash

Source: Company data, RHB

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Buy (Maintained)

Target Price (Return):	MYR5.63 (37%)
Price (Market Cap):	MYR4.12 (USD1,199m)
ESG score:	3.3 (out of 4)
Avg Daily Turnover (MYR/USD)	18.7m/4.18m

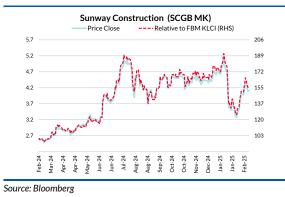
Analyst

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Share Performance (%)

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(11.0)	17.7	(8.5)	(0.7)	57.9
Relative	(7.1)	17.4	(7.2)	3.3	56.5
52-wk Price lo	ow/high (M	1YR)		2.49	-5.12



Overall ESG Score: 3.3 (out of 4)

E Score: 3.4 (EXCELLENT) S Score: 3.0 (GOOD) G Score: 3.3 (EXCELLENT) Please refer to the ESG analysis on the next page



Emissions And ESG

Trend analysis	Emissions (tCO2e)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25
While total emissions have been increasing, Scope 1 emissions have eased to 7,440 tonnes in FY23 from 9,713 tonnes in FY20.	Scope 1	7,167	7,440	na	na
	Scope 2	4,504	6,997	na	na
	Scope 3	168,888	314,414	na	na
	Total emissions	180,559	328,851	na	na
	Source: Company data RH	B			

urce: Company data, RHB

Latest ESG-Related Developments

With an increasing spotlight on ESG adoption across SCGB's entire supply chain, the group has conducted social assessments on its contractors and suppliers in FY23, particularly in relation to forced and bonded labour, as well as housing of workers.

Having surveyed close to 80% of its active business partners, the group has identified potential gaps in labour standards and management within the supply chain.

ESG Unbundled

Overall ESG Score: 3.3 (out of 4)

Last Updated: 20 Feb 2025

E Score: 3.4 (EXCELLENT)

SCGB's solar investment projects are generating green attributes which enables carbon avoidance of about 3,305 tonnes CO2e, offsetting close to 50% from the group's FY23 Scope 2 emission, placing it in a good position to prematurely achieve the group's 2030 target. This includes offsets generated from rooftop solar panels on assets at Sunway Enterprise Park and Sunway Precast Industries.

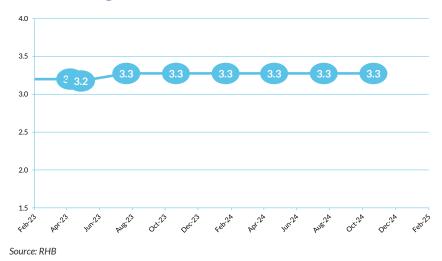
S Score: 3.0 (GOOD)

SCGB 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-to-standard health & safety policies, we see active community engagement and efforts to uplift employee relations.

G Score: 3.3 (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 helping to deal with most investor queries.

ESG Rating History



Financial Exhibits

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Asia	Financial summary (MYR)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Malaysia	Recurring EPS	0.12	0.13	0.20	0.25	0.30
Construction & Engineering	DPS	0.06	0.09	0.12	0.15	0.18
Sunway Construction	BVPS	0.64	0.68	0.76	0.86	0.98
SCGB MK	Return on average equity (%)	18.6	22.0	27.3	30.4	33.1
Buy						
	Valuation metrics	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Valuation basis	Recurring P/E (x)	35.13	31.01	20.93	16.74	13.55
We value the company based on FY25F P/E of 27x.	P/B (x)	6.5	6.1	5.4	4.8	4.2
CGBG's net cash position allows it to gear up for more	FCF Yield (%)	(6.0)	13.3	(3.3)	5.5	6.8
obs moving forward.	Dividend Yield (%)	1.5	2.1	2.9	3.6	4.4
Key drivers	EV/EBITDA (x)	19.60	18.74	13.84	11.18	8.68
SCGB's earnings are backed by:	EV/EBIT (x)	24.41	18.56	15.87	12.63	9.59
i. An outstanding order backlog of MYR5.8bn, of	Income statement (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
which >90% is from construction, which would	Total turnover	2,671	3,522	4,135	5,066	5,422
keep the firm busy for the next three years;				4,133		
ii. Recurring orders from its parent company.	Gross profit EBITDA	434 279	211 260	361	1,046 441	1,223 579
	Depreciation and amortisation	(55)	260	(46)	(50)	(55)
(ey risks	Operating profit	224	262	315	390	524
ower-than-expected job wins	Net interest	(21)	11	40	390	40
tower than expected job wind	Pre-tax profit	189	273	349	426	544
Company Profile	Taxation	(43)	(76)	(94)	(109)	(147)
CGB is one of Malaysia's largest construction	Reported net profit	145	187	254	317	392
companies. Apart from civil & infrastructure	Recurring net profit	145	187	254	317	392
construction services, the group also provides the more	Recurring her pront	151	1/1	234	517	572
pecialised: i) Foundation & geotechnical engineering	Cash flow (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
ervices; and ii) mechanical, electrical, and plumbing or /IEP services. In addition, it runs highly profitable	Change in working capital	(511)	535	(335)	(59)	(77)
recast concrete product manufacturing operations in	Cash flow from operations	(299)	717	(162)	309	376
Alaysia and Singapore. Aside from fulfilling local	Capex	(18)	(9)	(15)	(15)	(15)
equirements, the group also largely supplies hose	Cash flow from investing activities	(63)	139	(42)	(45)	(44)
oncrete products for Housing & Development Board	Dividends paid	(72)	(116)	(152)	(190)	(235)
HDB) projects in Singapore.	Cash flow from financing activities	337	(303)	229	84	41
	Cash at beginning of period	492	470	1,016	733	862
	Net change in cash	(24)	552	25	347	373
	Ending balance cash	467	1,023	1,042	1,082	1,238
		D 00	D 04	D	D., 0/5	D 075
	Balance sheet (MYRm) Total cash and equivalents	Dec-23 582	Dec-24 1,016	Dec-25F 845	Dec-26F 974	Dec-27F 1,130
	Tangible fixed assets	99	1,010	191	196	1,130
	Total investments	253	224	256	238	29
	Total assets	3,083	3,596	3,187	3,728	3,850
	Short-term debt	438	731	731	781	831
	Total long-term debt	489	1	(11)	(11)	(11)
	Total liabilities	2,191	2,658	2,148	2,562	2,532
	Total equity	892	939	1,039	1,166	1,318
	Total liabilities & equity	3,083	3,596	3,187	3,728	3,850
	<u> </u>					
	Key metrics	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
	Revenue growth (%)	23.9	31.8	17.4	22.5	7.0
	Recurrent EPS growth (%)	5.0	13.3	48.2	25.0	23.6
	Gross margin (%)	16.3	6.0	20.6	20.7	22.6
	Operating EBITDA margin (%)	10.5	7.4	8.7	8.7	10.7
	Net profit margin (%)	5.4	5.3	6.1	6.3	7.2
	Dividend payout ratio (%)	53.3	58.6	60.0	60.0	60.0
				0.4	0.2	0.3
	Capex/sales (%) Interest cover (x)	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	12.85

Source: Company data, RHB



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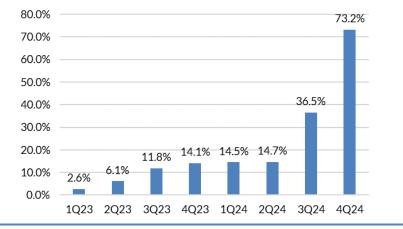
Results At a Glance

Figure 1: SCGB's results review

FYE Dec (MYRm)	4Q23	3Q24	4Q24	QoQ (%)	YoY (%)	FY23	FY24	YoY (%)	Comments
Revenue	871.5	865.3	1,400.3	61.8	60.7	2,671.2	3,521.7	31.8	Better progress billings from DC jobs.
EBIT	81.8	64.8	91.6	41.4	12.0	224.3	262.2	16.9	
EBIT margin (%)	9.4	7.5	6.5			8.4	7.4		
Interest expense	(15.2)	(16.6)	(14.6)	(12.6)	(4.1)	(47.9)	(65.2)	36.0	
Interest income	8.6	22.4	33.2	48.5	>100	26.4	75.7	>100	
Pretax profit	60.8	70.5	110.6	56.8	82.0	188.6	273.0	44.7	
Pretax margin (%)	7.0	8.2	7.9			7.1	7.8		
Тах	(12.3)	(21.9)	(32.7)	49.4	164.9	(42.8)	(75.9)	77.4	
Effective tax rate (%)	(1.4)	(31.0)	(29.6)			(21.1)	(27.9)		
Minority interest	0.8	(2.2)	(8.7)	>100	nm	(0.7)	(10.1)	nm	
Net profit	49.3	46.5	69.2	48.9	40.4	145.1	186.9	28.8	
Core profit	74.0	34.2	65.8	92.5	(11.1)	151.2	171.3	13.3	Above expectations
Core net margin (%)	8.5	3.9	4.7			6.4	4.9		

Source: Company data, RHB

Figure 2: Cumulative progress of the JHBX10 DC package worth MYR1.7bn (excluding the revised notice to proceed and tenant improvement works)



Source: Company data

Recommendation Chart



2025-02-17 Buy 5.50 4.18 2025-01-19 5.50 Buy 3.63 2024-11-22 5.50 4.56 Buv 2024-08-26 5.50 Buv 4.14 2024-08-23 Buy 5.50 4.16 2024-07-19 Buv 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 3.34 2.73 Buy 2024-02-22 3.34 2.60 Buv 2024-02-21 3.34 2.61 Buy 2024-01-12 2.42 Buy 2.19

Target Price

Price

Recommendation

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

Date

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