

BDO Unibank (BDO PM)

FUNDAMENTAL VIEW ¹

As of 08 Mar 2024

- BDO Unibank (BDO) is the largest bank in the Philippines in terms of assets & market share and is rated Baa2(stb)/NR/BBB-(stb).
- Given its size and systemic importance, BDO is considered too big to fail and is strongly likely to be supported by its controlling shareholder SM Investments, as well as the Philippine government in times of stress.
- BDO is widely viewed as the soundest bank in the country given its strong fundamentals, well-diversified businesses, and good management. Its CET1 ratio is lower than its first-tier peers, BPI and Metrobank, but it is being steadily built up through internal profit generation.

RISKS & CATALYSTS

As of 08 Mar 2024

- Sustaining or further improving returns will be a challenge without the rates tailwind in 2024, but management is confident of achieving that through good volume growth in loans and CASA this year, while maintaining a stable NIM because of its strong deposit franchise. Credit costs are expected to trend down as well; BDO's asset quality has held up well in spite of high interest rates and inflation. Its large corporates-focused book (51% of total loans) and build up of loss absorption buffers give comfort.
- Any downgrade of the Philippine sovereign ratings (Baa2/ BBB+/ BBB) would negatively impact BDO's credit ratings.

KEY METRICS

As of 08 Mar 2024

PHP MN	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23
NIM	4.15%	4.36%	4.05%	4.14%	4.65%
Reported ROA (Cumulative)	1.4%	0.9%	1.2%	1.5%	1.7%
Reported ROE (Cumulative)	12.6%	7.6%	10.4%	13.0%	15.2%
Equity/Assets	11.6%	11.6%	11.7%	11.3%	11.5%
CET1 Ratio	12.7%	13.2%	13.6%	13.4%	13.8%
NPL ratio	1.2%	2.7%	2.8%	2.0%	1.9%
Provisions/Loans	0.29%	1.34%	0.72%	0.64%	0.59%
PPP ROA	2.1%	2.3%	2.1%	2.3%	2.7%
Liquidity Coverage Ratio	108%	127%	145%	141%	123%
Net Stable Funding Ratio	117%	122%	124%	124%	124%

BUSINESS DESCRIPTION

As of 08 Mar 2024

- BDO Unibank was established as Acme Savings Bank in 1968, and was then acquired by SM Investments in 1976. It became a commercial bank in 1994 and a universal bank in 1996.
- BDO was listed in May 2002. SM Investments remains the bank's largest shareholder with a 41% stake.
- BDO has expanded through a series of M&As. Among its key transactions, it merged with Dao Heng Bank Philippines in 2001, Banco Santander Philippines in 2003, UOB Philippines in 2005, Equitable PCI Bank in 2007, GE Money Bank in 2009, Citibank Savings, DB Trust and Real Bank in 2014, One Network Bank in 2015 (the largest rural bank in the Philippines), and RB Pandi's banking business in 2019. It also acquired the insurance business of Generali in the Philippines in 2016.
- BDO has the largest distribution network in the country and is ranked the largest bank in terms of consolidated resources, total assets, loans, deposits and trust funds under management.
- Its loan book is split 50% large corporates, 26% middle market, and 24% consumer at end-December 2023. 47% of the consumer book comprises mortgages, 24% are credit cards, 13% are auto loans and the remaining are personal loans and others.

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