# **ACBS**



**March 2022** 

**April 6, 2022** 

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Associate - Macro





# **Macro Update**

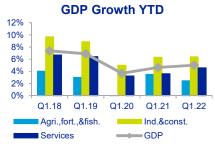
After several months of switching to the living-with-COVID-19 strategy, Vietnam's economy has basically regained its growth momentum and continued to record relatively good fundamentals in 1Q2022.

Specifically, GDP in 1Q2022 increased 5.03% YoY compared with 1Q2021. Industrial activities continued to recover and accelerate, in which IIP recorded positive growth rate of 6.44% YoY 1Q2022 (vs +5.74% YoY in 1Q2021). Furthermore, the PMI continued to show signs recovery in three consecutive months in 1Q2022 (January -53.7, February -54.3, March -51.7).

Disbursed FDI remained strong in 1Q2022 (+7.8% YoY vs +6.5% YoY in 1Q2021) as travel restrictions eased and industrial activities continued to recover and accelerate. Even though registered FDI in 1Q2022 decreased 21.9% YoY, it remained high compared with 2020 and 2019 (+10.4% and +42.2% over 1Q2020 and 1Q2019 respectively) and we are optimistic FDI inflows in the future will remain strong as Vietnam continues to be an attractive investment destination for FDI firms. Last but not least, Consumer Price Index (CPI) 1Q2022 increased 1.92% YoY, a little on the high side due to rising gasoline prices, but inflation still remain far below government's target 4% and remained under control.

Over the past months, there have been several events which could affect Vietnam's economy in terms of growth prospects which include (1) FED rate hike (2) geopolitical tensions at the Russia-Ukraine border; (3) China lockdowns several major cities due to COVID-19 outbreaks, included Shenzhen, Dongguan, Shanghai and Xi'an city; and (4) surging inflation globally. However, despite fear of those events could slowed our growth prospects in upcoming quarters of 2022, we still maintain our expectation that GDP growth rate will gradually recover in the last three quarters of 2022 with supported by (1) the continuing recovery of all industrial activities which will push activities from FDI sector in term of investment and export; and (2) the recovery of service sectors after relaxing majority of service businesses included reopening international tourism and normalization of transportation.

Furthermore, the fiscal and monetary stimulus package worth VND337tn (VND291tn for fiscal package and VND46tn for monetary package), to support the socio-economic recovery and development program after the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will be disbursed starting in 2Q2022, along with over VND453tn (of total VND530tn) realized Capital under State Budget needed to disburse in 2022 will pushed socio-economic recovery in the last three quarters of 2022. Overall, we maintain our view that Vietnam's economy will have good performance in 2022.



#### Vietnam's economy continued to record relatively good fundamentals in 1Q202

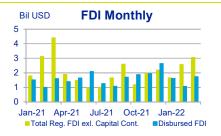
- Generally, GDP in 1Q2022 rose 5.03% YoY, in which:
  - Agriculture, forestry and fishery sector grew 2.45% YoY in 1Q2022 (vs +3.51% YoY in 1Q2021);
  - Industry and construction sector increased 6.38% YoY in 1Q2022 (vs +6.33% YoY in 1Q2021); and
  - Service sector increased 4.58% YoY in 1Q2022 (vs +3.62% in 1Q2021).



# Vietnam's industrial activities continued to recover and accelerate in 1Q2022

- IIP 1Q2022 increased 6.44% YoY (vs +5.74% YoY in 1Q2021), in which:
  - Manufacturing increased 7.04% YoY in 1Q2022 (vs +7.95% in 1Q2021);
  - Production and distribution of electricity IIP increased 7.10% YoY in 1Q2022 (vs +3.32% in 1Q2021);
  - Water supply and waste treatment IIP increased 5.25% YoY in 1Q2022 (vs +6.38% in 1Q2021);
  - o Mining IIP growth grew 1.00% YoY in 1Q2022 (vs -8.13% in 1Q2021).





# Bn USD **Exports & Imports** Mn USD 4,000 2,000 10 10 2,000 (4,000) Jan-21 Apr-21 Jul-21 Oct-21 Jan-22 EX IM Net EX (RHS)



#### FDI inflows recovered in 1Q2022 and are expected to remain stable in 2022

- Disbursed FDI in Vietnam reached USD4.4bn in 1Q2022 increasing 7.8% compared with same period last year, while registered FDI in 1Q2022 decreased 21.9% YoY reached USD7.3bn. The capital contribution & share repurchase increased 102% YoY to USD1.6bn in 1Q2022.
- Vietnam's top 3 FDI investors registered in 1Q2022 are Singapore (USD1.8bn, -59% YoY), Korea (USD1.5bn, +35% YoY) and Denmark (USD1.3n).
- Vietnam's top 3 sectors are the manufacturing sector with USD5bn of registered FDI; the real estate sector with registered capital of USD1.7bn; and the production and distribution of electricity, gas, air conditionals sector accounted for USD183mn.

#### Total trade value of Vietnam remained strong

 Generally, according to GSO, total export-import turnover in 1Q2022 reached USD176bn (+14.5% YoY) with exports reaching USD88.6bn (+13.0% YoY) and imports USD87.8bn (+16.1% YoY). As a result, trade surplus in 1Q2022 reached over USD809mn.

### Inflation remained under control, and still far below government's target 4%

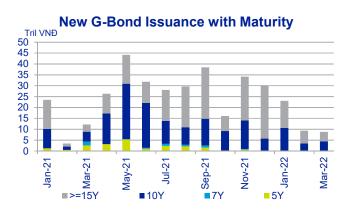
 Generally, CPI average in 1Q2022 increased 1.92% compared to average 1Q2021. In addition, average core CPI of 1Q2022 stood at 0.81% YoY.

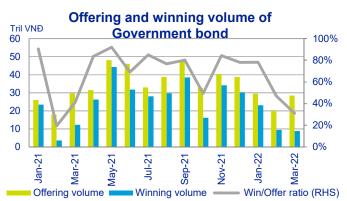




# VGB-GGB MARKET

### PRIMARY BOND MARKET





Source: HNX. ACBS

Total G-bonds issued in March 2022 reached VND8.8tn (vs VND12.2tn in March 2021). Yields of all terms remain almost the same during March, and all yield terms remain a little bit lower than same period last year. The winning rate of all terms decreased 30.9% in March 2022, which was also decreased by 46.9% in February 2022 mainly due to unattractive offering rate.

10Y and 15Y attracted investor's attention in March 2022 accounted for 51% and 34% of the total issuance amount respectively, and winning rate reach 45% and 29% respectively.

Bond Yields in the primary market									
	5Y	7Y	10Y	15Y	20Y	30Y			
End of March 2022	0.76%	1.10%	2.15%	2.45%	2.75%	3.00%			
vs February 2022	0.76%	1.10%	2.09%	2.39%	2.75%	2.98%			
vs March 2021	1.06%	1.45%	2.22%	2.45%	2.89%	3.05%			

By the end of March, the VST only issued VND41.3tn of G-bonds in 1Q2022, fulfilling only 39% of 1Q2021's issuance plan (VND105tn) and 10.3% of 2022's issuance plan (VND400tn).

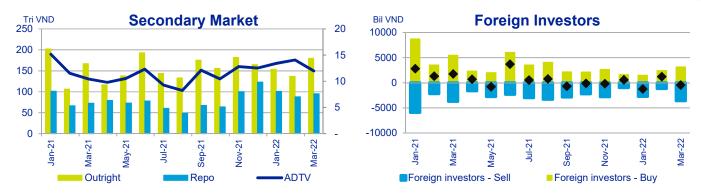
	Government Bond Issuance Plan									
VND Bn	1Q2022 Target	QTD Issuance	QTD Issuance/Target	2022 Target	2022 YTD Issuance	2022 YTD Issuance/ Target				
5-year	5,000	0	0.0%	30,000	0	0.0%				
7-year	5,000	0	0.0%	15,000	0	0.0%				
10-year	35,000	18,642	53.3%	140,000	18,642	13.3%				
15-year	40,000	12,950	32.4%	150,000	12,950	8.6%				
20-year	10,000	1,685	16.9%	30,000	1,685	5.6%				
30-year	10,000	8,005	80.1%	35,000	8,005	22.9%				
Total	105,000	41,282	39.3%	400,000	41,282	10.3%				

**ANALYST COMMENT:** We expect that the VST will ramp up issuances in the last three quarters of 2022 as the government needs to push disbursement of public investment and finance their fiscal and monetary stimulus package, which was planned to disburse starting in 2Q2022, in order to boost economic development after end of COVID-19 outbreak and start a new normal strategy in 2022. In addition, VST also need to increase offering rates especially short-term rates to increase winning rate of issuance which was currently low due to unattractive low yields.





# SECONDARY BOND MARKET

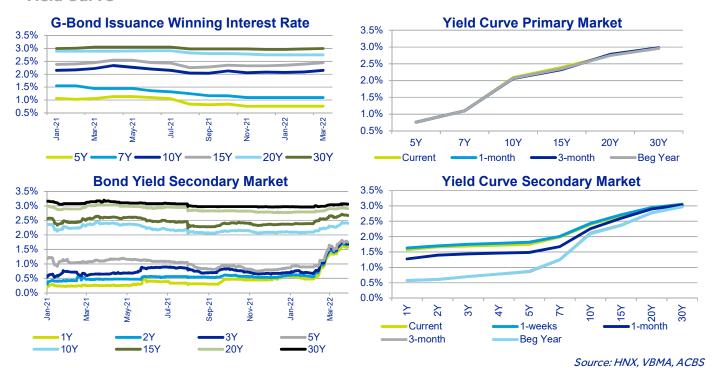


Source: HNX, ACBS

Total trading volume of outrights and repos in the secondary market in March 2022 increased 22.4% compared with last month, reaching VND275.5tn and with the average daily trading value (ADTV) reaching VND12tn (-14.8% MoM). Of the total trading volume in the secondary market, outright transactions accounted for 65% and ADTV of outright decreased 9% MoM to VND7.8tn. Of the total trading volume in the secondary market, repo transactions accounted for 35%.

Foreign investors trading position recorded a net sell of VND465bn in March 2022, the cumulative net sell since start of 2022 increased to VND485bn

# **Yield Curve**



Primary bond yields remained almost the same during March 2022, and all yields remained low compared with same period last year. In addition, bond yields in the secondary market increased during March compared to last month, especially short-term yields due to the liquidity constraints in banking system coming from rising credit growth and major holidays, which caused a sharp increase in the supply of Government Bonds of commercial banks.







Bond Yields in the primary market										
					5Y	7Y	10Y	15Y	20Y	30Y
End of March 2022					0.76%	1.10%	2.15%	2.45%	2.75%	3.00%
+/- MoM (bps)					0	0	6	6	0	2
	Bond Yields in the secondary market									
	1Y	2Y	3Y	4Y	5Y	7Y	10Y	15Y	20Y	30Y
End of March 2022	1.57%	1.67%	1.70%	1.72%	1.75%	1.99%	2.40%	2.67%	2.91%	3.06%
+/- MoM (bps)	34	35	33	32	31	35	16	10	4	4

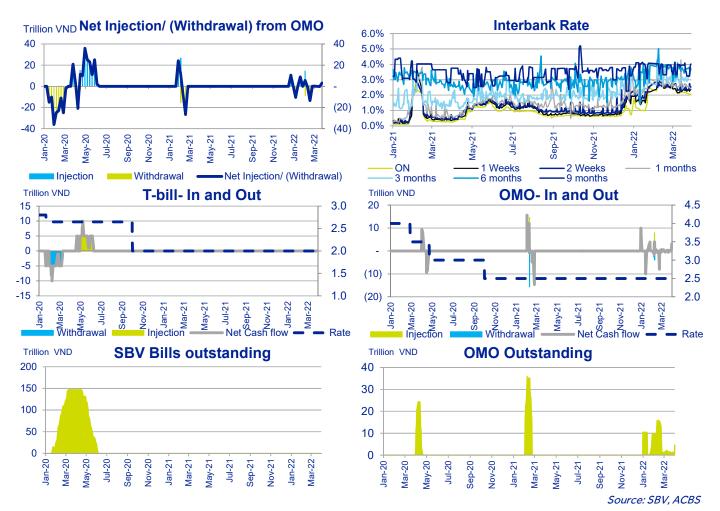
**ANALYST COMMENT:** In our opinion, the VST will need ramp up issuances in upcoming quarters of 2022. As a result, if the VST wants to fulfill their 2022's issuance plan, they need to increase their offering yield in order to attract more investors, as winning value of bond issuance recently was low compared with total registering value due to high bidding rates.

In the secondary market, March saw fairly sharp increases in yields, especially in the shorter term tenors driven by short term spending demand during the Tet holidays and rising credit growth. We expect those yields in the secondary market could normalize in 2Q2022, but will likely find stability at levels slightly higher than beginning of 2022.





# MONEY MARKET



Interbank interest rates decreased throughout March 2022 as liquidity of banking system stabilized after being constrained in January and February due to rising spending demand during major holidays and rising credit growth at the beginning of 2022 (+2.49% YTD in January 2022 and +4.03% YTD in March 2022 vs. +0.76% YTD in January 2021 and +2.95% YTD in March 2021). During March, the SBV had also pumped in over VND3tn into system which continued to support short-term liquidity, which were constrained in January and February, and stabilized interbank rate in March.

Interbank Rate									
	ON	1 Weeks	2 Weeks	1 months	3 months	6 months	9 months		
Average of January 2022	2.23%	2.33%	2.53%	2.67%	3.14%	3.62%	3.68%		
+/- MoM (bps)	-52	-43	-15	-24	-4	-32	-11		

#### **ANALYST COMMENT:**

We expect banking system liquidity will stabilize in 2Q2022 and the SBV will also help maintain the stability in short-term by using reverse repos OMO when needed to curb the interbank interest rate surging aggressively. However, due to rising credit growth (+4.03% YTD in March 2022 vs +2.95% YTD in March 2021), we expect that interbank rate will not return to low level of 2021 but will stay around 1-1.5% in upcoming months of 2022.





# **OTHER MARKETS**

### **FOREX MARKET**



Source: SBV, Bloomberg, ACBS

The USD/VND interbank exchange rate almost unchanged in March 2022. As the end of March 2022, USD/VND exchange rate of the market stood at VND22,837 (+0.07% MoM and -0.99% YoY). In addition, USD/VND exchange rate in black market also appreciated slightly to VND23,360 (-0.72% MoM and -2.36% YoY).

**ANALYST COMMENT:** We expect the VND in general (in banking system and in black market) will maintain its strength in upcoming months of 2022 despite the FED rate hike, supported by:

- (1) Inflation remained low and under control below 4%;
- (2) Exports which is the country's key economic growth driver, will remained strong as manufacturing activities gradually recovered and is expected to continue its upward trajectory given the recovery of the global economy. In addition, our trade balance in 1Q2022 also recorded trade surplus of USD809mn.
- (3) FDI inflows disbursement remain stable in 1Q2022 (+7.8% YoY); and
- (4) Abundant foreign reserves (stood at around USD113bn at the end of 2021).







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