2Q earnings beat; Maintain Buy on positive risk return

20: +25% beat on treasury gains, offset by credit costs

Corp Bk's 2Q earnings came in at Rs4.0bn, a 14% yoy growth and a +25% higher than est. driven by a) treasury gains, partly offset by higher credit costs driven by higher than estimated slippages (+2x qoq). Top-line growth modest (~4% yoy), but ~3% ahead driven by 17% loan growth and margin decline by 45bps yoy (up 32bps qoq). Core fee growth strong (+30% yoy). CASA, while down yoy by +320bps, is up qoq by 80bps, to ~22%.

Slippages rise +2x gog, but asset quality is manageable

Corp Bank's slippages increased by +2x qoq to Rs5bn driven by corporate / non-priority slippages. However, mgmt. is looking at corporate recovery in the ensuing quarters. Resultantly, headline gross NPLs increased qoq by 27% (at 1.3%) and net increased by 81% qoq (at 0.9%), provision cover at ~65% (vs. ~75% in 1Q). We estimate FY12 slippages at ~Rs16/20bn (vs. Rs8.1bn in FY11) and credit costs normalizing at +60/80bps in FY12/13.

Maintain Buy and PO on positive risk-return

While 2Q earnings beat was +25%, we more or less maintain our FY12/13 (earnings tweak by ~1%), as we normalize strong 2Q treasury gains and build in higher credit costs. We maintain our Buy rating and PO, as risk-return remains positive, with stock trading at 0.9x FY12E adj. book / 0.8x FY13E adj. book, with RoEs of still +20%. Our PO is still at a +30% discount to Gordon theory multiples. We believe the discount may remain owing to weak liability franchise, as also we remain worried on its +55% SME loan growth that makes the loan profile riskier and, low stock liquidity (Govt. & LIC own ~84% of stock).

Estimates (Mar)

| (Rs) | 2010A | 2011A | 2012E | 2013E | 2014E |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Net Income (Adjusted - mn) | 11,703 | 14,133 | 15,776 | 18,204 | 21,090 |
| EPS | 81.59 | 95.41 | 106.50 | 122.89 | 142.37 |
| EPS Change (YoY) | 31.1% | 16.9% | 11.6% | 15.4% | 15.9% |
| Dividend / Share | 16.50 | 20.00 | 23.00 | 28.00 | 35.00 |
| Pre-exceptional EPS | 81.59 | 95.41 | 106.50 | 122.89 | 142.37 |
| Pre-exceptional EPS Change (YoY) | 31.1% | 16.9% | 11.6% | 15.4% | 15.9% |
| Book Value / Share | 402.60 | 481.86 | 540.91 | 633.00 | 736.87 |
| | | | | | |
| A | | | | | |

Valuation (Mar)

| 2010A | 2011A | 2012E | 2013E | 2014E |
|--------|---|--|---|--|
| 5.3x | 4.5x | 4.0x | 3.5x | 3.0x |
| 3.85% | 4.66% | 5.36% | 6.53% | 8.16% |
| 5.26x | 4.49x | 4.03x | 3.49x | 3.01x |
| 1.10x | 0.890x | 0.793x | 0.677x | 0.582x |
| 19.94x | 24.60x | 26.27x | 30.91x | 35.72x |
| 2.88x | 2.42x | 2.17x | 1.81x | 1.57x |
| | 5.3x 3.85% 5.26x 1.10x 19.94x | 5.3x 4.5x 3.85% 4.66% 5.26x 4.49x 1.10x 0.890x 19.94x 24.60x | 5.3x 4.5x 4.0x 3.85% 4.66% 5.36% 5.26x 4.49x 4.03x 1.10x 0.890x 0.793x 19.94x 24.60x 26.27x | 5.3x 4.5x 4.0x 3.5x 3.85% 4.66% 5.36% 6.53% 5.26x 4.49x 4.03x 3.49x 1.10x 0.890x 0.793x 0.677x 19.94x 24.60x 26.27x 30.91x |

Equity | India | Banks-Retail 01 November 2011

Bank of America Merrill Lynch

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Stock Data

| Price | Rs428.80 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| Price Objective | Rs540.00 |
| Date Established | 21-Aug-2011 |
| Investment Opinion | C-1-7 |
| Volatility Risk | HIGH |
| 52-Week Range | Rs399.00-Rs814.85 |
| Mrkt Val / Shares Out (mn) | US\$1,304 / 148.1 |
| Market Value (mn) | Rs63,518 |
| Average Daily Volume | 66,748 |
| BofAML Ticker / Exchange | XCRRF / BSE |
| Bloomberg / Reuters | CRPBK IN / CRBK.BO |
| ROE (2012E) | 20.8% |
| Total Dbt to Cap (Mar-2011A) | NA |
| Est. 5-Yr EPS / DPS Growth | 20.0% / 20.0% |
| Free Float | 16.5% |

Key Changes

| (Rs) | Previous | Current |
|-----------|----------|---------|
| 2012E EPS | 105.04 | 106.50 |
| 2013E EPS | 123.19 | 122.89 |
| 2014E EPS | 142.69 | 142.37 |

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Refer to important disclosures on page 7 to 9. Analyst Certification on Page 4. Price Objective Basis/Risk on page 4. Link to Definitions on page 4. 11104477

iQprofile[™] Corporation Bank

| Key Income Statement Data (Mar) | 2010A | 2011A | 2012E | 2013E | 2014E |
|--|-----------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| (Rs Millions) | | | | | |
| Net Interest Income | 19,033 | 29,397 | 32,977 | 39,246 | 44,904 |
| Net Fee Income | 6,458 | 7,594 | 8,505 | 9,610 | 11,052 |
| Securities Gains / (Losses) | 6,157 | 2,095 | 2,500 | 2,750 | 2,750 |
| Other Income | 2,318 | 3,555 | 3,797 | 4,330 | 4,966 |
| Total Non-Interest Income | 14,934 | 13,244 | 14,802 | 16,691 | 18,768 |
| Total Operating Income | 33,967 | 42,641 | 47,779 | 55,937 | 63,671 |
| Operating Expenses | (12,600) | (16,417) | (18,518) | (20,748) | (23,258) |
| Pre-Provision Profit | 21,367 | 26,224 | 29,260 | 35,189 | 40,413 |
| Provisions Expense | (3,453) | (5,478) | (6,025) | (9,339) | (10,273) |
| Operating Profit | 17,915 | 20,746 | 23,235 | 25,850 | 30,140 |
| Non-Operating Income | (1,292) | (1,410) | (2,200) | (1,250) | (1,250) |
| Pre-Tax Income | 16,623 | 19,336 | 21,035 | 24,600 | 28,890 |
| Net Income to Comm S/Hold. | 11,703 | 14,133 | 15,776 | 18,204 | 21,090 |
| Adjusted Net Income (Operating) | 11,703 | 14,133 | 15,776 | 18,204 | 21,090 |
| Key Balance Sheet Data | | | | | |
| Total Assets | 1,116,673 | 1,435,086 | 1,708,640 | 1,932,015 | 2,215,536 |
| Average Interest Earning Assets | 665,232 | 856,187 | 1,708,640 | 1,932,015 | 1,401,632 |
| Weighted Risk Assets | 698,550 | 900,336 | 985,188 | 1,244,648 | 1,401,632 |
| Total Gross Customer Loans | 636,563 | 900,330 872,429 | 1,025,361 | 1,186,361 | 1,394,298 |
| Total Customer Deposits | 927,337 | 1,167,475 | 1,417,258 | 1,607,966 | 1,854,871 |
| Tier 1 Capital | 64,616 | 78,239 | 87,125 | 1,007,900 | 116,153 |
| Tangible Equity | 64,616 | 78,239 | 87,125 | 100,767 | 116,153 |
| Common Shareholders' Equity | 57,749 | 71,378 | 80,125 | 93,767 | 109,153 |
| · · | 37,749 | 11,310 | 00,123 | 73,707 | 107,133 |
| Key Metrics | | | | | |
| Net Interest Margin | 2.86% | 3.43% | 3.11% | 3.22% | 3.20% |
| Tier 1 Ratio | 9.3% | 8.7% | 8.8% | 8.1% | 7.3% |
| Effective Tax Rate | 29.6% | 26.9% | 25.0% | 26.0% | 27.0% |
| Loan / Assets Ratio | 57.0% | 60.8% | 60.0% | 61.4% | 62.9% |
| Loan / Deposit Ratio | 68.6% | 74.7% | 72.3% | 73.8% | 75.2% |
| Oper Leverage (Inc Growth - Cost Growth) | 1.0% | -4.8% | -0.8% | 5.0% | 1.7% |
| Gearing (Assets / Equity) | 19.3x | 20.1x | 21.3x | 20.6x | 20.3x |
| Tangible Common Equity / Assets | 5.8% | 5.5% | 5.1% | 5.2% | 5.2% |
| Tangible Common Equity / WRAs | 9.3% | 8.7% | 8.8% | 8.1% | 7.3% |
| Revenue Growth | 21.4% | 25.5% | 12.0% | 17.1% | 13.8% |
| Operating Expense Growth | 20.4% | 30.3% | 12.8% | 12.0% | 12.1% |
| Provisions Expense Growth | 92.9% | 58.7% | 10.0% | 55.0% | 10.0% |
| Operating Revenue / Average Assets | 3.4% | 3.3% | 3.0% | 3.1% | 3.1% |
| Operating Expenses / Average Assets | 1.3% | 1.3% | 1.2% | 1.1% | 1.1% |
| Pre-Provision ROA | 2.2% | 2.1% | 1.9% | 1.9% | 1.9% |
| ROA | 1.2% | 1.1% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 1.0% |
| Pre-Provision ROE | 40.0% | 40.6% | 38.6% | 40.5% | 39.8% |
| ROE | 21.9% | 21.9% | 20.8% | 20.9% | 20.8% |
| RoTE | 18.1% | 18.1% | 18.1% | 18.1% | 18.2% |
| RoWRAs | 1.7% | 1.6% | 1.6% | 1.5% | 1.3% |
| Dividend Payout Ratio | 20.2% | 21.0% | 21.6% | 22.8% | 24.6% |
| Efficiency Ratio (Cost / Income Ratio) | 45.3% | 40.5% | 40.9% | 39.0% | 38.2% |
| Total Non-Interest Inc / Operating Inc | 44% | 31% | 31% | 30% | 29% |
| Market-Related Revenue / Total Revenues | 20.9% | 7.4% | 7.7% | 7.3% | 6.7% |
| Provisioning Burden as % of PPP | 16.2% | 20.9% | 20.6% | 26.5% | 25.4% |
| NPLs plus Foreclosed Real Estate / Loans | 1.0% | 0.9% | 1.6% | 2.4% | 2.9% |
| Loan Loss Reserves / NPLs | 69.7% | 49.7% | 57.0% | 62.6% | 67.3% |
| Loan Loss Reserves / Total Loans | 0.7% | 0.5% | 0.9% | 1.5% | 2.0% |
| Provisions Expense / Average Loans | 0.6% | 0.7% | 0.6% | 0.8% | 0.8% |
| Other Metrics | | | | | |
| Income / Employee | 2.58 | 3.08 | 3.43 | 4.01 | 4.54 |
| (Operating Expenses) / Employee | 0.959 | 1.18 | 1.33 | 1.49 | 1.66 |
| Pre-Provision Profit / Employee | 1.63 | 1.89 | 2.10 | 2.52 | 2.88 |
| Net Profit / Employee | 0.890 | 1.02 | 1.13 | 1.30 | 1.51 |
| * * | | | | | |

Company Description

Corporation Bank, established in 1906, is a midsized state-owned bank with a balance sheet size of Rs970bn. It has a network of +1000 branches with larger presence in southern India. LIC, the largest life insurer in India, has taken a strategic stake of 26% in the bank.

Investment Thesis

While Corporation Bank is a small government bank based in the southern city of Mangalore, it has a strategic alliance with LIC, India's largest life-insurance company. LIC has a 27% stake in the bank. The obvious synergies of this alliance are in insurance distribution and treasury. Additionally, its better than industry asset quality and high coverage levels should provide support to earnings and valuations in a rising interest rate scenario.

Stock Data

Price to Book Value 0.8x



2QFY12 Results Summary

Table 1: 2QFY12 Results Summary

| Particulars | 2QFY11 | 2QFY12 | yoy | Remarks |
|---|--------|--------|---------|---|
| Interest earned | 21,581 | 30,907 | 43.2% | |
| - on Advances / Bills | 14,795 | 22,104 | 49.4% | led by 17% yoy loan growth |
| - Income on investments | 6,072 | 7,895 | 30.0% | |
| - on bal with RBI | 31 | 86 | 180.0% | |
| - Others | 684 | 822 | 20.2% | |
| Interest Expended | 14,429 | 23,471 | 62.7% | |
| Net Interest Income | 7,152 | 7,436 | 4.0% | 3% ahead of estimates. Margins decline 45bps yoy but up 30bps qoq |
| Other income | 2,261 | 3,987 | 76.3% | |
| - Treasury Income | 45 | 1,233 | 2670.6% | |
| - Other Income | 2,217 | 2,754 | 24.3% | Core fee income up 30% yoy |
| Operating income | 9,414 | 11,423 | 21.3% | |
| Total Operating Expenses | 3,679 | 4,422 | 20.2% | |
| Employee expenses | 1,866 | 2,347 | 25.8% | |
| Other Operating expenses | 1,813 | 2,075 | 14.4% | |
| Operating profit | 5,735 | 7,001 | 22.1% | |
| Provisions | 976 | 2,048 | 109.7% | |
| | | | | Gross NPLs (at 1.3%) up 27% qoq and Net (at 0.9%) up 81%. Cover at ~65%. 2Q Slippages at Rs5bn vs |
| NPL provisions | 884 | 1,727 | 95.4% | Rs1.5bn in 1Q. |
| Investment provisions | 89 | 192 | 115.2% | |
| Other provisions | 3 | 129 | 3770.2% | |
| PBT | 4,759 | 4,954 | 4.1% | |
| Provision for Tax | 1,241 | 943 | -24.0% | |
| PAT | 3,517 | 4,011 | 14.0% | Earnings +25% ahead on treasury gains |

Source: BofA Merrill Lynch Global Research Estimates



Price objective basis & risk Corporation Bank (XCRRF)

We set our PO at Rs540 for Corporation Bk. Our PO is based on historical traded forward PB multiple, implying a multiple of 0.9x FY13 book. We maintain Buy and PO, as risk-return remains positive, with stock trading at 0.9x FY12 adj. book, with RoEs of still +20%. Our PO is still at a +30% discount to Gordon theory multiples. We believe the discount may remain owing to weak liability franchise, as also we remain worried on its +55% SME loan growth that makes the loan profile riskier, high exposure to high risk sectors (Power, Textiles, Steel ,etc) at almost 17% of loans and, low stock liquidity (Govt. & LIC own 84% of stock). Risks are margin compression owing to mismatch between lending and deposit cuts. Low CASA deposit franchise may lead to a spike in funding costs and hurt margins in rising rate environment.

Link to Definitions

Financials

Click here for definitions of commonly used terms.

Analyst Certification

I, Veekesh Gandhi, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

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| nvestment rating | Company | BofA Merrill Lynch ticker | Bloomberg symbol | Analyst |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| BUY | | | | |
| | Corporation Bank | XCRRF | CRPBK IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Federal Bank | XFDRF | FB IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | HDFC | HGDFF | HDFC IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | HDFC Bank | XHDFF | HDFCB IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | HDFC Bank | HDB | HDB US | Rajeev Varma |
| | ICICI Bank | ICIJF | ICICIBC IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | ICICI Bank - A | IBN | IBN US | Rajeev Varma |
| | IndiaBulls Financial Services | IBLFF | IBULL IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Indian Bank | INDIF | INBK IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | LIC Housing Finance, Ltd. | LHFLF | LICHF IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Manappuram | XMGPF | MGFL IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Max India | XMXIF | MAX IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | Power finance corporation Ltd | PWFEF | POWF IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Punjab | PUJBF | PNB IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | Reliance Capital | RLCCF | RCAPT IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd | XULEF | RECL IB | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | SBI | SBINF | SBIN IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | SBI -G | SBKFF | SBID LI | Rajeev Varma |
| | Shriram Transport Finance | SHTFF | SHTF IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Yes Bank Ltd | YESBF | YES IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| EUTRAL | | | | |
| | Axis Bank | XAXSF | AXSB IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | Axis Bank - GDR | XBKSF | AXB LI | Rajeev Varma |
| | Bank of Baroda | BKBAF | BOB IN | Rajeev Varma |
| INDERPERFORM | | | | |
| | Bank of India | XDIIF | BOI IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | Canara Bank | CNRKF | CBK IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | IDBI | XDBIF | IDBI IN | Veekesh Gandhi |
| | Infrastruct Dev | IFDFF | IDFC IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | Kotak Mahindra Bank | XXRVF | KMB IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | ORBC | ORBCF | OBC IN | Rajeev Varma |
| | Union Bank India | UBOIF | UNBK IN | Rajeev Varma |



iQmethod[™] Measures Definitions

Business Performance Numerator Denominator

Return On Capital Employed NOPAT = (EBIT + Interest Income) * (1 - Tax Rate) + Goodwill Total Assets – Current Liabilities + ST Debt + Accumulated Goodwill

Amortization Amortization
Net Income Shareholders' Equity

 Operating Margin
 Operating Profit
 Sales

 Earnings Growth
 Expected 5-Year CAGR From Latest Actual
 N/A

 Free Cash Flow
 Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex
 N/A

Quality of Earnings

Return On Equity

 Cash Realization Ratio
 Cash Flow From Operations
 Net Income

 Asset Replacement Ratio
 Capex
 Depreciation

 Tax Rate
 Tax Charge
 Pre-Tax Income

 Net Debt-To-Equity Ratio
 Net Debt = Total Debt, Less Cash & Equivalents
 Total Equity

 Interest Cover
 EBIT
 Interest Expense

Valuation Toolkit

Price / Earnings Ratio
Current Share Price
Diluted Earnings Per Share (Basis As Specified)
Price / Book Value
Current Share Price
Shareholders' Equity / Current Basic Shares

Dividend Yield Annualised Declared Cash Dividend Current Share Price

Free Cash Flow Yield Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex Market Cap. = Current Share Price * Current Basic Shares

Enterprise Value / Sales EV = Current Share Price * Current Shares + Minority Equity + Net Debt + Sales

EV / EBITDA Enterprise Value Basic EBIT + Depreciation + Amortization

iQmethod swis the set of BofA Merrill Lynch standard measures that serve to maintain global consistency under three broad headings: Business Performance, Quality of Earnings, and validations. The key features of iQmethod are: A consistently structured, detailed, and transparent methodology. Guidelines to maximize the effectiveness of the comparative valuation process, and to identify some common pitfalls.

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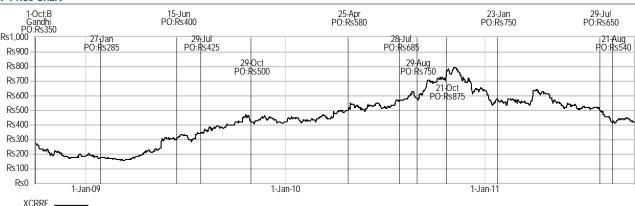
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XCRRF Price Chart

Neutral



B: Buy, N: Neutral, U: Underperform, PO: Price objective, NA: No longer valid, NR: No Rating

The Investment Opinion System is contained at the end of the report under the heading "Fundamental Equity Opinion Key". Dark grey shading indicates the security is restricted with the opinion suspended. Medium grey shading indicates the security is under review with the opinion withdrawn. Light grey shading indicates the security is not covered. Chart is current as of [September 30, 2011] or such later date as indicated.

Investment Rating Distribution: Banks Group (as of 01 Oct 2011)

| investment Rating Distribution, Danks | Group (as or or c | JCI 2011) | | | |
|--|---------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------|---------|
| Coverage Universe | Count | Percent | Inv. Banking Relationships* | Count | Percent |
| Buy | 123 | 48.05% | Buy | 63 | 63.00% |
| Neutral | 76 | 29.69% | Neutral | 41 | 65.08% |
| Sell | 57 | 22.27% | Sell | 27 | 49.09% |
| Investment Rating Distribution: Globa | I Group (as of 01 (| Oct 2011) | | | |
| Coverage Universe | Count | Percent | Inv. Banking Relationships* | Count | Percent |
| Buy | 2073 | 54.13% | Buy | 923 | 49.12% |

Sell 796 20.78% Sell 287 38.32% * Companies in respect of which BofA Merrill Lynch or one of its affiliates has received compensation for investment banking services within the past 12 months. For purposes of this distribution, a stock rated Underperform is included as a Sell.

Neutral

25.09%

961

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Investment rating Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating) Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster*

| Buy | ≥ 10% | ≤ 70% |
|--------------|-------|-------|
| Neutral | ≥ 0% | ≤ 30% |
| Underperform | N/A | ≥ 20% |

^{*} Ratings dispersions may vary from time to time where BofA Merrill Lynch Research believes it better reflects the investment prospects of stocks in a Coverage Cluster.

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460

52.57%



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