

# **Indonesia Company Update**

20 June 2024

# Basic Materials | Metals

# Vale Indonesia (INCO IJ)

# **Buv** (Maintained)

**Keeping Its Head Above Water; Still BUY** 

IDR4,500 (+10%) Target Price (Return): Price (Market Cap): IDR4,120 (USD2,494m) ESG score: 2.9 (out of 4) Avg Daily Turnover (IDR/USD) 70,166m/4.50m

- Keep BUY, with new IDR4,500 TP (DCF and multiple EV/EBITDA) from IDR4,810, 10% upside. Almost all sectors in the JCI have undergone some pressure lately, but seen more evidently in commodities that spiralled from the continued uncertainty of rising inventory levels. We believe the pressure will continue, at least, until interest rates ease to provide a short-term respite to traders. We revise our benchmark nickel prices and turn our margin estimates more conservative, resulting in Vale Indonesia's FY24F-25F earnings at -8% and +1%.
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**Analyst** 

• Bleak sentiment prevails. Uncertainty over the easing of interest rates has further pressured the stability of commodity prices, while expectations from better inventory outlook that was initially triggered by the regional economic recovery to spur demand has yet to fully materialise. The surge seen in April to mid-May was short-lived (LME nickel jumped 30%, then slid 20% to the USD17,000/tonne level), ignited by news of troubled supply for raw materials (pending permits in Indonesia, and political risk in New Caledonia). This was then followed by a further downside to sentiment (ie stronger USD and prolonged weak demand ballooning supplies from a slower pace in manufacturing). As such, we cut LME's FY24F to USD17,500/tonne from USD18,500/tonne. Furthermore, we expect weakening sentiment on EVs going forward due to more interruption caused by the substitute material for the battery cathode - market anticipates a 25% downward correction from the initial forecast of nickel volume demand from EVs.

### **Share Performance (%)**

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	(4.4)	(14.0)	(1.4)	(1.2)	(36.6)
Relative	3.1	(5.9)	6.9	5.2	(37.2)
52-wk Price lov	v/high (I	DR)		3,660	-6,900

• Risk on pricing remains, but upsides stay feasible for the longer term - we see a few factors have been priced in for INCO: i) Changes to the Board of Directors, ii) expected dilution from the upcoming rights issuance, iii) minimal holdup on smelter output (due to the scheduled maintenance next year), and iv) higher profit sharing following its renewed permit. Apart from the crucial influences on pricing (c.1% change in ASP will have a c.5-6% impact on EPS), we believe INCO will have stable operational margins for the year. The company is deemed to be the closest proxy to LME's movement given the high-grade nickel content, making it more accessible to varied markets (Class I and Class II segments).



We retain our broader picture on INCO's profitability from its current businesses, albeit, with a more conservative margin estimate (served as base scenario for our medium term DCF projection) stemn in energy prices and varied utilisation rates to process the raw materials - all in, its cash flow remains healthy, in our view. The company's expansion needs will be well covered by its healthy balance sheet going forward. We incorporate a 2% ESG discount into INCO's intrinsic value, as its 2.9 ESG score is below the country median.

Source: Bloomberg

Overall ESG Score: 2.9 (out of 4)

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		lactaations	INICO

#### E: GOOD

INCO received a Green PROPER (beyond compliance) -Indonesia's pollution control, evaluation, and rating programme - recognition from the Ministry of Environment & Forestry in 2020. This is for its initiatives in environmental management systems, efficient utilisation of resources, and community empowerment. INCO will contribute to Vale Global's goal to reduce 33% of emissions produced by 2030. S: GOOD

A community development programme was built through active participation between the company, the community, and the Government. INCO's successful programmes includes the organic rice and herbal garden businesses. In 2020, it disbursed c.USD4.1m (+21% YoY) for community development and empowerment.

G: EXCELLENT

INCO's sustainability management responsibilities and decision-making are carried out collectively by the board of directors, with the supervision of the board of commissioners. Moreover, the company has a strategic risk management, ie the Framework for Integrated Risk Management (FIRM), which is based on ISO 31000 standards.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Total turnover (US Dm)	1,179	1,232	989	1,019	1,104
Recurring net profit (USDm)	216	273	141	135	167
Recurring net profit growth (%)	25.8	26.1	(48.2)	(4.3)	23.6
Recurring P/E (x)	11.54	9.14	17.65	18.45	14.93
P/B (x)	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8
P/CF (x)	9.76	5.66	7.32	7.95	10.21
Dividend Yield (%)	na	na	na	na	na
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.10	3.76	6.09	6.29	5.13
Return on average equity (%)	8.9	11.2	5.4	5.0	5.8
Net debt to equity (%)	net cash				

Source: Company data, RHB

# **Financial Exhibits**

Asia
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INCO IJ
Buy

#### Valuation basis

Medium-term DCF (5-years, WACC at 9%, and TG at 3%) with FY24F-25F EV/EBITDA target at c.7x.

#### Key drivers

- i. Improved ASPs from the increase in nickel prices;
- ii. Higher production and sales volumes;
- iii. Lower fuel costs.

#### Key risks

- i. Nickel price trends;
- ii. Rising fuel costs;
- iii. Lower-than-expected output;
- iv. Shifts in domestic policies, ie higher royalty rates for certain nickel products.

### **Company Profile**

Vale Indonesia produces nickel in matte, an intermediate product, from lateritic ores at its integrated metric and processing facilities near Sorowako, Sulawesi.

Financial summary (USD)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Recurring EPS	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02
BVPS	0.24	0.26	0.27	0.29	0.30
Return on average equity (%)	8.9	11.2	5.4	5.0	5.8
Valuation metrics	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Recurring P/E (x)	11.54	9.14	17.65	18.45	14.93
P/B (x)	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8
FCF Yield (%)	2.9	6.8	(12.4)	(9.5)	(0.2)
EV/EBITDA (x)	4.10	3.76	6.09	6.29	5.13
EV/EBIT (x)	6.08	5.21	12.19	13.99	9.79
Income statement (US Dm)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Total turnover	1,179	1,232	989	1,019	1,104
Gross profit	314	347	190	188	244
EBITDA	436	450	340	371	436
Depreciation and amortisation	(143)	(126)	(170)	(204)	(208)
Operating profit	294	325	170	167	228
Net interest	4	26	9	4	0
Pre-tax profit	276	353	181	174	232
Taxation	(75)	(78)	(38)	(37)	(62)
Reported net profit	200	274	143	138	170
Recurring net profit	216	273	141	135	167
Cash flow (USDm)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Change in working capital	(21)	59	54	12	(35)
Cash flow from operations	255	440	341	314	244
Capex	(182)	(271)	(650)	(550)	(250)
Cash flow from investing activities	(218)	(286)	(709)	(613)	(250)
Cash flow from financing activities	(1)	(65)	7	3	2
Cash at beginning of period	506	634	699	318	43
Net change in cash	36	89	(361)	(297)	(4)
Ending balance cash	634	699	318	43	133
Balance sheet (USDm)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Total cash and equivalents	634	699	318	43	133
Tangible fixed assets	1,550	1,696	2,346	2,896	3,146
Total investments	73	104	112	121	131
Total assets	2,658	2,926	3,035	3,175	3,318
Total long-term debt	0	0	4	4	5
Total liabilities	303	361	331	344	342
Total equity	2,355	2,565	2,704	2,831	2,975
Total liabilities & equity	2,658	2,926	3,035	3,175	3,318
Key metrics	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24F	Dec-25F	Dec-26F
Revenue growth (%)	23.7	4.5	(19.7)	3.0	8.3
Recurrent EPS growth (%)	25.8	26.1	(48.2)	(4.3)	23.6
Gross margin (%)	26.6	28.2	19.2	18.4	22.1
Operating EBITDA margin (%)	37.0	36.6	34.3	36.4	39.5
Net profit margin (%)	17.0	22.3	14.4	13.5	15.4
Canay/salas (9/)	15.4	22.0	457	E4.0	22.4

15.4

42.6

22.0

32.2

65.7

13.9

54.0

11.6

22.6

15.2

Source: Company data, RHB



Capex/sales (%)

Interest cover (x)

Figure 1: Valuation

DCF calculation (in USDm)	2024F	2025F	2026F	2027F	2028F	2029F
EBIT	170	167	228	236	235	233
EBIT (1-t)	134	132	180	187	185	184
Depreciation & amortisation	170	204	208	221	234	247
Changes in working capital	11	(3)	(35)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Capex	(650)	(550)	(250)	(200)	(200)	(200)
Free cash flow	(335)	(217)	103	205	217	229
Discounted FCF	(335)	(200)	87	161	156	152
Terminal Value						3,095
Terminal growth	3%					
WACC	9%					
Total discounted firm value	3,116					
24F Net debt	(305)					
24F Minority Interest	0					
Equity value (USDm)	3,421					
Equity value (IDRbn)	54,059					
Issued shares (bn)	9.9					
Equity value per share	5,500					
Multiple valuation						
Enterprise value (USDm) - at TP	3,154					
24F EBITDA	340					
Target EV/EBITDA	7					
TP at target EV/EBITDA	3,700					
	-,					
Average fair value (DCF & EV/EBITDA)	4,600					
Discount ESG	-2%					
TP Final	4,500					

- Despite having better margin and varied market penetration for its nickel matte product, investor sentiment in demanding for a more stable longer term outlook has somewhat held the valuation for a higher re-rating - the best case scenario for INCO to reach at above mean level remains in question
- ♦ On the other hand, we still believe the company shows a decent upside, although it would still depend on market expectations towards the sector in general

Note: Figures were rounded up due to currency translation

Source: Company data, RHB

## Figure 2: WACC breakdown

Percentage of equity	89%
Percentage of debt	11%
Tax rate (t)	21%
Weighted average cost of capital (WACC)	9%
Cost of equity (CAPM)	9%
Risk free rate (Rf)	7%
Beta (b)	1.0
Market return (Rm)	10%
Risk premium	4%
Cost of debt (Kd)	7%
Terminal growth	3%

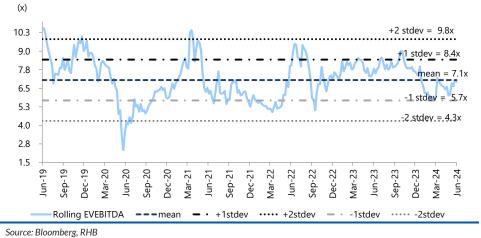
Source: Company data, RHB

Figure 3: RHB vs Street estimates

		RHB (new)			RHB (old)			Change		R	HB vs Stre	et
(USDm)	2024F	2025F	2026F	2024F	2025F	2026F	2024F	2025F	2026F	2024F	2025F	2026F
Revenue	989	1,019	1,104	1,032	974	1,086	-4%	5%	2%	1%	-1%	-1%
Gross profit	190	188	244	205	173	204	-7%	8%	20%	-8%	-23%	-17%
Operating profit	170	167	228	188	155	185	-10%	8%	23%	1%	-26%	-18%
EBITDA	340	371	436	362	369	418	-6%	0%	4%	-3%	-4%	-5%
Net profit	129	124	153	140	122	143	-8%	1%	7%	-9%	-28%	-29%
Margins												
Gross	19%	18%	22%	20%	18%	19%						
EBIT	17%	16%	21%	18%	16%	17%						
EBITDA	34%	36%	39%	35%	38%	39%						
NPM	13%	12%	14%	14%	13%	13%						
Key assumptions												
Vol. production (m tonnes)	70,800	68,000	72,500	70,800	65,000	72,500	0%	5%	0%			
ASP (USD/tonne)	13,973	14,985	15,228	14,580	14,985	14,985	-4%	0%	2%			
Cash cost (USD/tonne)*	8,731	9,048	8,825	8,961	8,804	8,739	-3%	3%	1%			

Note: \*Ex-royalty payments Source: Company data, RHB

Figure 4: INCO's 5-year average EV/EBITDA band



♦ INCO is now trading near its 5-year mean

Our initial optimistic view has been challenged by the persistent uncertainty stemming from prolonged high inventories, while signs of ongoing recovery in regional economies (ie China) have yet to catalyse commodity prices

Figure 5: Theoretical ex-rights price

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Shares outstanding	9,936,338,720
% free float	20.6%
Free float in shares	2,050,343,360
Rights issuance shares	603,445,814
% from current free float	29.4%
% from current shares outstanding	6.1%
Diluted share price	3,993
% dilution effect	-1.4%
RHB FY24F EPS (IDR)	203
RHB FY24F EPS (pro-forma; IDR)	191
% changes	-5.7%
FY24F current P/E	20.0
FY24F current P/E (pro-forma)	21.2

Note: "last price of INCO on 14 Apr (based on company's cum-date announcement) was IDR4,050 with the exercise price at IDR3,050  $\,$ 

Source: Company data, RHB

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## **Emissions And ESG**

#### Trend analysis

INCO has not yet calculated Scope 3 emissions but is gradually trying to reduce GHG emissions from its supply chain activities. Efforts to reduce emissions are progressing well despite fluctuations in the volume of GHG emissions every year (influenced by the proportion of fuel used in operations and amount of production). INCO is committed to reducing absolute GHG emissions from Scopes 1 and 2 by 33% by 2030 and achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

For its nickel processing activities, INCO partly uses hydropower energy. Almost 94% of its electrical energy (besides fuel and coal) needs are obtained from three hydro-powered plants (PLTA): Larona (165 MW), Balambano (110 MW), and Karambe (90 MW). Of the total 365 MW of electricity output, c.11 MW were distributed to residential areas and its surroundings.

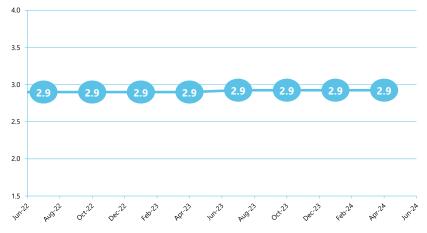
Emissions (tCO2e)	Dec-21	Dec-22	Dec-23
Scope 1	na	na	na
Scope 2	1,971,075	1,640,387	na
Scope 3	na	na	na
Total emissions	1,971,075	1,640,387	na

Source: Company data, RHB

# **Latest ESG-Related Developments**

- INCO's main nickel plant in Sorowako has a carbon intensity of 27.30 tonnes of CO2eq/tonnes
   Ni, giving the company amongst the lowest carbon intensity levels in Indonesia.
- INCO started testing electric cars and trucks for operational purposes in Jan and Aug 2022.
- INCO has been progressively reclaiming post-mining land, targeting the reclamation of 70% of the total area by 2025, and rehabilitating watersheds. The area of land rehabilitated in 2022 is 10,280 hectares, comprising 10,000 hectares outside the operational area and 296 hectares within the operational area. The company also planted 3.7m trees, including endemic species.

# **ESG Rating History**



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## 20 June 2024

# **Recommendation Chart**



Source: RHB, Bloomberg

Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2024-04-03	Buy	4,810	4,070
2024-02-13	Buy	6,000	4,050
2023-12-05	Buy	6,000	4,320
2023-10-30	Buy	7,120	5,225
2023-07-21	Buy	8,300	6,600
2023-02-17	Buy	8,300	6,775
2023-01-03	Buy	8,300	7,100
2022-10-31	Buy	7,600	6,500
2022-10-18	Buy	8,300	6,650
2022-07-04	Buy	7,700	5,450
2022-05-23	Buy	9,000	7,725
2022-04-04	Buy	7,940	6,975
2022-01-30	Buy	6,000	4,700
2021-11-01	Buy	6,500	4,800
2021-08-15	Buy	6,200	5,100

Source: RHB, Bloomberg

#### **RHB Guide to Investment Ratings**

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-

term outlook remains uncertain

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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