

# Malaysia Company Update

9 May 2025 Property | Real Estate

## **UOA Development** (UOAD MK)

## **Buy** (from Neutral)

Maiden Exposure In Iskandar Malaysia; U/G To BUY

Target Price (Return): MYR1.93 (+10%)
Price (Market Cap): MYR1.75 (USD1,083m)
ESG score: 2.9 (out of 4)
Avg Daily Turnover (MYR/USD) 0.63m/0.14m

- Upgrade to BUY from Neutral with new MYR1.93 TP from MYR1.91, 10% upside and c.6 % yield. We are positive on UOA Development's recent land acquisition at Johor Bahru (JB) city centre. Known for being prudent in development and site selection, management's decision to venture into a new area outside the Klang Valley for the first time suggests it is confident of Iskandar Malaysia's growth prospects. Given the incremental value from the new project to our RNAV estimate and hence higher upside from the current share price, we upgrade our call.
- **Analyst**

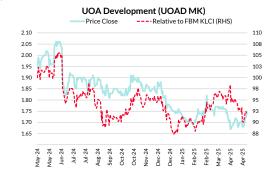
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- New project near the Johor Bahru–Singapore Rapid Transit System (RTS) Link Bukit Chagar station. UOAD recently announced that it has entered into a 75:25 JV with a landowner to jointly develop a 1.21-acre land in JB into service apartments. The land is valued at MYR62.44m, and UOAD should fund the acquisition via internal funds given its solid net cash position.
- Share Performance (%) YTD

	YTD	1m	3m	6m	12m
Absolute	0.0	2.3	2.9	(4.9)	(10.3)
Relative	5.6	(5.1)	5.5	(0.5)	(6.9)
52-wk Price low/high (MYR)				1.67	7 -2.06

• Strategic position for the land. The land is currently an empty open car park fronting Jalan Tun Abdul Razak, just 1km away from the Bukit Chagar RTS station. The acquisition price translates into a land cost of MYR1,180 psf. While the plot ratio is unknown for now, and recent land transactions surrounding the RTS station were mostly at MYR600-700 psf, the 4.23-acre integrated mixed-use development project by Sunway was valued at MYR2,447 psf with a plot ratio of 10-12x. Land prices at JB city centre have generally escalated given the positive construction progress of the RTS link, which is to be completed by the end of 2026.



• First project outside the Klang Valley. Management has yet to determine the project's ASP, GDV and launching timeline, but we estimate that this development could fetch a GDV of about MYR600-650m, with an ASP of MYR1.4-1.5k psf, largely in line with the current going price in the market for new launches. Apart from the local buyers, we believe UOAD may also be able to attract buyers from Singapore. Its parent company UOA Ltd currently has an office presence in the city state, and hence a sales gallery can be set up easily to market this project upon its launch.

Source: Bloomberg

• Expect slightly lower margin from this JB project. Given this will be UOAD's maiden project in a new area, we think the development margin may be slightly lower compared to its existing projects in the Klang Valley, where land costs are much lower. Nevertheless, we are positive with management's move to venture outside of the Klang Valley region to widen its presence and raise property sales over the medium term. We make no changes to our earnings forecasts for now, pending management's guidance of the timing of the launch.

• ESG. Our TP includes a 2% ESG discount.

Forecasts and Valuation	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Total turnover (MYRm)	399	546	563	670	720
Recurring net profit (MYRm)	215	287	263	282	299
Recurring net profit growth (%)	(4.1)	33.6	(8.6)	7.3	6.1
Recurring EPS (MYR)	0.07	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10
DPS (MYR)	0.30	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11
Recurring P/E (x)	25.96	15.98	18.01	17.28	16.78
P/B (x)	1.03	0.81	0.84	0.86	0.89
Dividend Yield (%)	17.0	5.7	5.7	5.7	6.3
Return on average equity (%)	5.0	5.2	4.6	5.0	5.3
Net debt to equity (%)	net cash				

Overall ESG Score: 2.9 (out of 4)

E Score: 2.7 (GOOD) S Score: 3.3 (EXCELLENT) G Score: 3.0 (GOOD)

Please refer to the ESG analysis on the next page

Source: Company data, RHB



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### **Emissions And ESG**

Trend analysis

UOAD currently does not track Scope 3 emission.

Emissions (tCO2e)	Dec-22	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25
Scope 1	169	na	na	na
Scope 2	24,964	na	na	na
Scope 3	na	na	na	na
Total emissions	25,133	na	na	na

Source: Company data, RHB

## **Latest ESG-Related Developments**

UOAD is going to adopt renewable energy sources and technologies to new projects such as roof top solar panel in Bamboo Hills.

### **ESG Unbundled**

Overall ESG Score: 2.9 (out of 4)

Last Updated: 8 May 2025

E Score: 2.7 (GOOD)

UOAD adopts proper construction waste management, and water and energy savings designs in most of its developments. Its hotel and internal operations are also taking the Go-Green initiatives to reduce water, energy and paper usage.

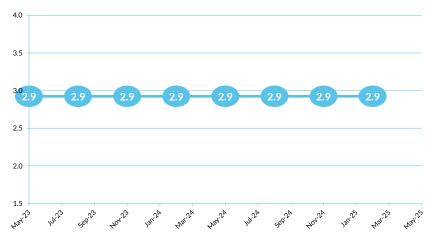
#### S Score: 3.3 (EXCELLENT)

UOAD builds pedestrian link to LRT station, as well as direct interchange to Bangsar South from Federal Highway. It also sponsors various education programme and organises community activities in Sentul and Kerinchi areas. Some schooling materials were distributed to low-income group in the past.

#### G Score: 3.0 (GOOD)

UOAD only has six board members, 50% of which is independent, and only one female director. All directors' remunerations are fully disclosed. UOAD has an in-house investor relations team, and it is easily accessible.

### **ESG** Rating History



Source: RHB

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## **Financial Exhibits**

Asia	Financial summary (MYR)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
Malaysia	Recurring EPS	0.07	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10
Property	EPS	0.09	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.10
UOA Development	DPS	0.30	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.11
UOAD MK	BVPS	1.70	2.16	2.09	2.04	1.97
Buy	Return on average equity (%)	5.0	5.2	4.6	5.0	5.3
	Return on average assets (%)	4.5	4.6	4.1	4.3	4.5
Valuation basis						
35% discount to RNAV	Valuation metrics	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
	Recurring P/E (x)	25.96	15.98	18.01	17.28	16.78
Key drivers	P/B (x)	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9
New property sales	Dividend Yield (%)	17.0	5.7	5.7	5.7	6.3
	EV/EBITDA (x)	13.88	9.18	9.17	9.58	9.70
Key risks						
Weaker/better-than-expected market conditions	Income statement (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
·	Total turnover	399	546	563	670	720
Company Profile	Gross profit	174	195	192	215	229
UOA Development is a Klang Valley-based developer.	EBITDA	276	316	338	363	385
The company specialises in building high-rise residential	Depreciation and amortisation	(18)	(17)	(17)	(17)	(18)
and commercial developments. Its flagship development	Operating profit	258	299	321	345	367
at Bangsar South has seen strong enbloc transactions	Net interest	45	47	49	52	54
	Pre-tax profit	368	394	370	397	421
	Taxation	(82)	(99)	(92)	(99)	(105)
	Reported net profit	280	287	263	282	299
	Recurring net profit	215	287	263	282	299
		-				
	Cash flow (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
	Change in working capital	61	(142)	(43)	(234)	(94)
	Cash flow from operations	334	158	288	119	278
	Capex	(72)	(182)	(30)	(30)	(20)
	Cash flow from investing activities	(73)	(189)	(30)	(30)	(20)
	Dividends paid	(950)	(262)	(270)	(278)	(315)
	Cash flow from financing activities	(609)	(38)	(269)	(276)	(312)
	Cash at beginning of period	847	402	467	423	200
	Net change in cash	(348)	(69)	(11)	(187)	(54)
	Ending balance cash	500	334	456	235	146
	Balance sheet (MYRm)	Dec-23	Dec-24	Dec-25F	Dec-26F	Dec-27F
	Total cash and equivalents	1,846	1,800	1,756	1,533	1,442
	Tangible fixed assets	2,460	2,625	2,638	2,651	2,653
	Total investments	87	77	77	77	77
	Total other assets	34	40	40	40	40
	Total assets	6,081	6,389	6,454	6,571	6,620
	Short-term debt	0	0	0	0	0,020
	Total long-term debt	0	0	0	0	0
		492	554	608	702	746
	Total liabilities					,
	Total liabilities			5.658		5.654
	Shareholders' equity	5,413	5,662	5,658 188	5,666	
	Shareholders' equity Minority interests	5,413 176	5,662 173	188	5,666 204	5,654 221 5,874
	Shareholders' equity Minority interests Total equity	5,413 176 5,589	5,662 173 5,835	188 5,846	5,666 204 5,870	221 5,874
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Source: Company data, RHB



105.5

Dividend payout ratio (%)

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Figure 1: RNAV estimate

Projects	Location/	Stake	GDV	NPV @ 9%
-	Туре	(%)	(MYRm)	(MYRm)
Desa Center, Taman Desa	Mixed development	85%	300	64.3
UOA Business Park (Ph. 2)	Commercial	74%	140	20.9
Komune Living & Wellness	Retirement home	100%	300	55.6
Bamboo Hills	Mixed development	100%	6,000	939.2
Aster Hill	Residential	100%	480	82.0
Desa 3	Residential	100%	18	3.6
Medical Suites	Commercial	100%	237	59.9
New land at Cyberjaya	Retirement home	100%	265	37.5
Undeveloped Bangsar South land	Commercial	100%	2,300	435.9
Undeveloped Bangsar South land	Residential	100%	1,850	350.6
Land around Bangsar South	Commercial	100%	900	155.0
Johor Bahru	Commercial	75%	650	90.1
Subtotal				2,294.7
Shareholders' fund				5,661.88
Total RNAV				7,956.57
Shares base (mil)				2,623.79
RNAV per share (MYR)				3.03
Discount				35%
Intrinsic value				1.97
ESG discount/premium				-2%
TP				1.93

Source: RHB

## **Recommendation Chart**



Source: RHB, Bloomberg

Date	Recommendation	Target Price	Price
2025-02-25	Neutral	1.91	1.77
2024-05-28	Neutral	2.02	1.99
2024-02-27	Neutral	1.86	1.86
2023-11-27	Neutral	1.86	1.74
2023-08-23	Neutral	1.86	1.73
2023-07-09	Neutral	1.71	1.58
2023-05-22	Neutral	1.86	1.75
2023-02-23	Buy	1.90	1.65
2022-11-29	Neutral	1.78	1.60
2022-08-23	Neutral	1.78	1.70
2022-02-24	Neutral	1.78	1.70
2021-11-28	Neutral	1.76	1.70
2021-08-26	Neutral	1.76	1.62
2021-05-26	Neutral	1.76	1.82
2021-05-03	Neutral	1.76	1.82

Source: RHB, Bloomberg



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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

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