

CCXAP affirms Jiangsu Yueda Group Co., Ltd's BBB_g- long-term credit rating, with stable outlook

Hong Kong, 28 June 2021 -- China Chengxin (Asia Pacific) Credit Ratings Company Limited ("CCXAP") has affirmed BBB_g- long-term credit rating of Jiangsu Yueda Group Co., Ltd ("Jiangsu Yueda" or the "Company"), with stable outlook. At the same time, CCXAP has affirmed Jiangsu Yueda's BBB_g- senior unsecured debt rating.

Corporate Profile

Founded in 1989, Jiangsu Yueda is a local state-owned conglomerate in Yancheng City of Jiangsu Province. It focuses on four core business segments, namely (1) modern services (which accounted for 61% of the Company's revenue in 2020), (2) energy and mineral resources (25%), (3) industrial manufacturing (10%), and (4) infrastructure investments (4%).

The Company's key operating subsidiaries include Jiangsu Yueda Investment Co., Ltd (600805.SH), Yue Da International Holdings Limited (00629.HK), Shanghai Yueda New Industrial Group Go., Ltd., Jiangsu Yueda South Holding Co., Ltd., and Yueda Capital Co., Ltd. The Company is wholly owned and supervised by Yancheng State-Owned Asset Supervision and Administrative Commission ("Yancheng SASAC"), with a registered capital of RMB5.0 billion as of 31 December 2020.

Rating Rationale

The BBBg- rating of Jiangsu Yueda is underpinned by the Company's (1) solid shareholder support as one of the largest state-owned enterprises under the Yancheng Municipal Government; (2) large investment portfolio in line with Yancheng City's development strategy; and (3) diversified lines of business and quality asset resources. However, the rating is constrained by the Company's (1) exposure to business volatility from cyclical industries; (2) modest financial profile with weak profitability and high debt leverage; and (3) high refinancing pressure, which could nonetheless be mitigated by its diversified funding channels.

Rating Outlook

The stable outlook on Jiangsu Yueda's rating reflects our expectation that the Company will continue to receive solid support from the Yancheng government. We also expect the Company's credit metrics to gradually recover as its business profile improves over the next 12 to 18 months.

What could upgrade the rating?

The rating could be upgraded if (1) the Company's business profile improves with increase in operating profits; and (2) the Company demonstrates better credit metrics, including a lower total capitalization ratio and a higher EBITDA interest coverage ratio.



What could downgrade the rating?

The rating could be downgraded if the Company's (1) likelihood of shareholder support significantly decreases; (2) business profile weakens; or (3) credit metrics materially deteriorates.

Rating Methodology

The methodology used in this rating is the Rating Methodology for <u>Business and Customer</u> Service Companies (December 2019).

Regulatory Disclosures

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