

CCXAP assigns A_g+ to Wuhan Urban Construction Group Co., Ltd.'s proposed USD bonds

Hong Kong, 16 June 2024 – China Chengxin (Asia Pacific) Credit Ratings Company Limited (“CCXAP”) has assigned a senior unsecured debt rating of A_g+ to the proposed USD bonds to be issued by Wuhan Urban Construction Group Co., Ltd. (“WUCG” or the “Company”) (A_g+/*stable*).

The bonds will constitute direct, unsubordinated, unconditional, and unsecured obligations of WUCG, which shall at all times rank *pari passu* with all the Company’s other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations. The Company intends to use the net proceeds for refinancing the Company’s offshore indebtedness in accordance with the Sustainable Finance Framework.

Corporate Profile

Established in 2002, the Company was formerly known as Wuhan Real Estate Development & Investment Group Co., Ltd. In 2020, after the merger of six state-owned enterprises (SOEs), it grew into an important local infrastructure investment and financing company (“LIIFC”) in Wuhan City. The Company is primarily focused on the execution of public-policy projects, such as indemnificatory housing, shantytown renovation and urban infrastructure construction. Additionally, it also involves commercial activities, including property development, construction and leasing business. As of 31 March 2024, WUCG is ultimately controlled and 100% owned by the Wuhan State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission (“Wuhan SASAC”).

Rating Rationale

WUCG’s senior unsecured debt rating is in line with its long-term credit rating. We believe that government support will flow through the Company given its strategic position in the development of Wuhan City, thereby mitigating any differences in an expected loss that could result from structural subordination.

The A_g+ long-term credit rating of WUCG reflects (1) Wuhan Municipal Government’s excellent capacity to provide support, and (2) the local government’s very high willingness to provide support, based on our assessment of the Company’s characteristics.

The rating also reflects the local government’s willingness to support, which is based on the Company’s (1) important role in Wuhan’s economic and social development; (2) strategic position in the implementation of public projects; (3) good track record of receiving ongoing government payments; and (4) prudent debt management. However, the rating is constrained by the Company’s (1) medium exposure to commercial activities; (2) moderate reliance on non-standard financing; and (3) medium contingent liability risk.

Rating Outlook

The stable outlook on WUCG's rating reflects our expectation that the local government's capacity to support will remain stable, and the Company will maintain its strategic position in the development of Wuhan City.

What could upgrade the rating?

The rating could be upgraded if (1) the local government's capacity to support strengthens; and (2) the Company's characteristics change in a way that strengthens the local government's willingness to support, such as decrease in exposure to commercial activities or improvement in assets quality.

What could downgrade the rating?

The rating could be downgraded if (1) the local government's capacity to support weakens; or (2) the Company's characteristics change in a way that weakens the local government's willingness to support, such as decrease in its strategic significance; decrease in government payments; or increase in debt burden.

Rating Methodology

The methodology used in this rating is the Rating Methodology for [China's Local Infrastructure Investment and Financing Companies \(July 2022\)](#).

Regulatory Disclosures

CCXAP's Rating Symbols and Definitions are available on its website at:

http://www.ccxap.com/en/rating_services/category/6/

This rating is solicited. Please refer to CCXAP's Policy for designating and assigning Solicited and Unsolicited Credit Ratings available on its website at:

http://www.ccxap.com/en/rating_services/category/9/

The rating has been disclosed to the rated entity or its related party prior to publication, and issued with no amendment resulting from that disclosure.

CCXAP considers a rated entity or its related party to be participating when it maintains an overall relationship with CCXAP. Unless specifically noted in the Regulatory Disclosures as a non-participating entity, the rated entity or its related party is participating and the rated entity or its related party generally provides CCXAP with information for the purposes of its rating process.

Regulatory disclosures contained here apply to press release, rating report, and if applicable, the related rating outlook or rating review.

CCXAP's public ratings are available at www.ccxap.com (Rating Results) and may be distributed through media and other means.



The first name below is the lead rating analyst for this rating and the last name below is the person primarily responsible for approving this rating.

Olivia Feng

Senior Analyst

+852-2860 7133

olivia_feng@ccxap.com

Elle Hu

Executive Director of Credit Ratings

+852-2860 7120

elle_hu@ccxap.com

Client Services: +852-2860 7111



Copyright © 2024 China Chengxin (Asia Pacific) Credit Ratings Company Limited ("CCXAP"). All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, resold or redistributed in any form or by any means, without prior written permission of CCXAP.

A credit rating is the analytical result of current credit worthiness and forward-looking opinion on the credit risk of a rated entity or a debt issue. Credit ratings issued by CCXAP are opinions on the current and relative future credit risk of the rated entities or debt issues, but do not address any other risks, including but not limited to liquidity risk, market price risk, and interest rate risk.

Credit ratings, non-credit assessments, and other opinions included in CCXAP's publications are not recommendations for investors to buy, sell, or hold particular securities, nor measurements of market value of the rated entities or debt issues. While obtaining information from sources it believes to be reliable, CCXAP does not perform audit and undertakes no duty of independent verification or validation of the information it receives from the rated entities or third-party sources.

All information contained herein belongs to CCXAP and is subject to change without prior notice by CCXAP. CCXAP considers the information contained herein to be accurate and reliable. However, all information is provided on an "as is" and "as available" basis and CCXAP does not guarantee accuracy, adequacy, completeness, or timeliness of the information included in CCXAP's publications.

To the extent where legally permissible, CCXAP and its directors, officers, employees, agents and representatives disclaim liability to any person or entity (i) for any direct or compensatory losses or damages, including but not limited to by any negligence on the part of, and any contingency within or beyond the control of CCXAP or any of its directors, officers, employees, agents or representatives, arising from or in connection with the information contained herein or the use of or inability to use any such information; and (ii) for any indirect, special, consequential, or incidental losses or damages whatsoever arising from or in connection with the information contained herein or the use of or inability to use any such information, even if CCXAP or any of its directors, officers, employees, agents or representatives is advised in advance of the possibility of such losses or damages.

China Chengxin (Asia Pacific) Credit Ratings Company Limited

Address: Suites 1904-1909, 19/F, Jardine House,
1 Connaught Place, Central, Hong Kong

Website: www.ccxap.com

Email: info@ccxap.com

Tel: +852-2860 7111

Fax: +852-2868 0656