

Georgian Railway successfully issued US\$ 500mn 4.00% 7-year green Eurobonds

Georgia | Fixed Income June 18, 2021

On 17 June 2021, Georgian Railway successfully priced a US\$ 500mn, 7-year Eurobond, with coupon rate at 4.0%. Strong investor demand led to 8.4x oversubscription as orders reached US\$ 4.2bn. 2 International Financial Institutions participated in the deal as anchor investors. After the book building, the yield on the Eurobond was set at 4.00%, representing c. 100bps spread over extrapolated GEORGIA 26 sovereign Eurobond yield (comparable 7-year). GR achieved green bond framework for the new placement, with S&P Global Ratings providing Full Alignment Opinion. Notably, proceeds of the new bond will be used to refinance its US\$ 500mn, 7.75% Eurobond maturing in 2022 (the company offered a 107.5% price on the tender, which included 2.25% early redemption premium).

The transaction records several milestones for the company, namely:

- Securing the financing at the lowest coupon and yield in history of the company;
- The coupon rate on the new Eurobond is almost half of the 2012 Notes (4.0% vs. 7.75%);
- The lowest yield among Georgian corporate Eurobonds;
- Due to strong investor interest, during the book building the yield tightened by c. 100bps from initial price target (4.875%-5.000%);
- GRAIL's spread vs. sovereign has averaged 130bps in 2019 and 220bps in 2020, making the pricing (100bps spread) of the new Eurobond a huge success.

International investment banks J. P. Morgan Securities, Citi and Renaissance Capital participated in the Eurobond issuance process, along with local investment banks Galt & Taggart and TBC Capital.

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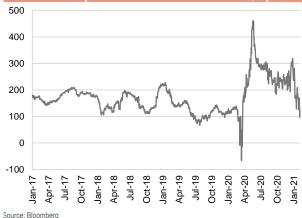
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Transaction details

Issuer:	Georgian Railway
Issue Ratings:	BB- (Fitch) / /B+ (S&P)
Status	Senior unsecured
Format	RegS/144A
Issue Size	US\$ 500mn
Settlement Date	17 June 2021
Maturity Date	17 June 2028
Coupon	4.000%
Yield	4.000%
Issue price	100%
Use of proceeds	Refinancing of US\$ 500mn 7.75% Notes due 2022
Listing/Law	London Stock Exchange/ English Law

Source: Bloomberg, Galt & Taggart Research

GRAIL 22 spread over GEORGIA 21 & 26, bps



Georgian Railway's credit ratings

Fitch
Ratings

BBNegative
Affirmed Dec-2020

S&P Global Ratings B+ Negative Affirmed May-2021



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