

SBN Holdings Limited 1H23 Initial Impression August 2023



Research Analyst:

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4.85% 13.04% 50.00%

14.29% 0,0003

Standard Bank Namibia Holdings Ltd

1H23 Initial Impression

Target Price (c) 818 Current Price (c) 700

Year End 31 December	FY21	FY22	1H23	FY23E	FY24E	Recommendation	BUY
Net Interest Income (N\$ m)	1,237	1,445	864	1,753	1,787	NSX Code	SNO
Non-Interest Income (N\$ m)	1,209	1,283	675	1,350	1,404	Market Cap (N\$ m)	3,657.3
Profit after Tax (N\$ m)	371	624	363	791	780	Shares in Issue (m)	522
HEPS (c)	71	119	70	151	149	Free Float (%)	15.0
DPS (c)	31	66	42	91	90	52-Week High (c)	845
DY (%)	7.0	7.8	12.0	13.0	12.8	52-Week Low (c)	420
P/E (x)	6.3	7.1	5.0	4.6	4.7	Expected Total Return (%)	29.8
P/B (x)	0.5	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7		

Source: Standard Bank Namibia Holdings Limited, IJG Securities

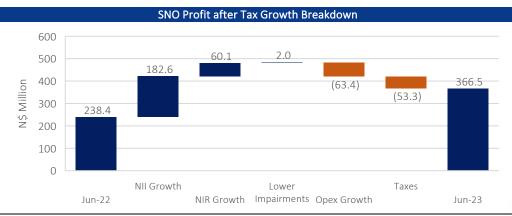
1H23 Initial Impression

Standard Bank Namibia Holdings Ltd (SNO) released interim results for the period ended 30 June 2023 (1H23). Profit after tax grew by 53.7% y/y from an upward restated N\$238.4 million during 1H22 to N\$366.5 million during 1H23. ROE improved from 10.8% in 1H22 to 15.5% in 1H23. Earnings and headline earnings per share rose by 53.7% y/y from 46cps to 70cps. An interim dividend of 42cps was declared (1H22: 20cps), translating to a payout ratio of 60%, an increase from the 44% payout ratio of the last two years.

(N\$ '000)	1H22	1H23	Δ%
Net Interest Income	681 214	863 798	26.8%
Non-Interest Income	614 926	675 031	9.8%
Total Income	1 296 140	1 538 829	18.7%
Credit Impairment Charges	(132 069)	(130 027)	-1.5%
Net Income before Operating Expenses	1 164 071	1 408 802	21.0%
Operating Expenses	(832 948)	(896 302)	7.6%
Net Income before Taxation	331 123	512 500	54.8%
Taxation (Direct and Indirect)	(92 709)	(146 050)	-44.6%
Profit for the Period	238 414	362 638	53.7%

Source: SNO

Net Interest Income: The profit growth was unsurprisingly driven by an increase in net interest income of 26.8% y/y to N\$863.8 million, with the Bank of Namibia having raised rates by 300bps from June 2022 to the end of 1H23. SNO's net interest margin impressively rose from 4.4% at FY22 to 5.3% in 1H23.



Source: SNO, IJG Securities

Assets and Advances: Total assets grew by 7.6% over the interim period to N\$38.4 billion at 1H23. The growth was driven by a 100.4% or N\$1.68 billion increase in cash and balances with the central bank and a 44.0% or N\$1.63 billion increase in loans to banks. Investment securities rose by 16.7% or N\$820.0 million to N\$5.74 billion. Gross loans and advances to customers fell by 6.0% to N\$21.6 billion, versus PSCE growth of 1.0% over the same period. All loans and advances categories bar 'card and payments' recorded contractions since FY22. Corporate lending fell by 19.3% to N\$4.08 billion, mortgage loans fell by 2.2% to N\$11.6 billion and vehicle and asset finance contracted by 0.2% to N\$2.89 billion.

SNO Share Price vs Target Price (c)



Dividends

SNO declared an interim dividend of 42 cents per share.

• Last Day to Trade: 08 September 2023

• Ex-Dividend Date: 11 September 2023

• Record Date: 15 September 2023

• Payment Date: 29 September 2023



0,0005 4,83% 0,0003 13,04% 0,6001 50,00% 14,29%

Impairments: Credit impairment charges fell marginally by 1.5% y/y to N\$130.0 million, with the group's credit loss ratio coming in at 0.90% (1H22: 1.00%), in line with management's target of 0.7-1.0% through the cycle.

Non-Interest Revenue: SNO recorded NIR growth of 9.8% y/y to N\$675.0 million. Fee and commission revenue increased by 3.5% y/y to N\$606.3 million on the back of strong card-based commission and account transaction fee growth. Fee and commission expenses rose by 3.0% y/y to N\$150.6 million, resulting in net fee and commission revenue of N\$455.8 million, growth of 3.6% y/y. Trading revenue grew by a strong 29.9% y/y to N\$88.9 million due to "increased client flows and volatility in the currency markets". 'Other' revenue grew by 32.3% y/y to N\$90.6 million, supported by property-related revenue growth of N\$24 million following the property portfolio acquisition.

Operating Expenses: Operating costs increased by 7.6% y/y to N\$896.3 million, quicker than inflation of 5.3% over the same period. Management ascribed the higher costs to expenses incurred to "support client growth strategies" and the inclusion of expenses related to the new property portfolio. IT expenses were the biggest driver, rising by 24.4% y/y. Staff costs rose by a relatively subdued 3.6% y/y. Auditors remuneration for the six-month period, meanwhile, rose by 131.9% y/y to N\$12.8 million, which was ascribed to an "increase in the scope of services resulting from the acquisition of the Spearmint property portfolio", coupled with an inflationary increase. SNO's cost-to-income ratio improved to 58.2% (1H22: 64.3%), coming in below management's 60% target for the first time since FY19.

Funding: Deposits from customers grew by a sturdy 12.4% or N\$3.22 billion during the six-month period to N\$29.1 billion, while deposits from banks declined by 51.9% or N\$742.2 million to N\$688.2 million. Apart from savings accounts, all deposit categories posted growth during the interim period. The largest increases were seen on call deposits, which grew by N\$1.65 billion to N\$11.6 billion and current account deposits which climbed by N\$940.5 million to N\$8.65 billion. These are both relatively cheap sources of funding and would have aided with the margin expansion. The relatively more expensive NCDs rose by N\$507.0 million to N\$3.79 billion. Debt securities meanwhile rose by a more subdued N\$5.86 million or 0.2% to N\$2.53 billion. In line with the rest of the commercial banks, SNO remains very well capitalised with a capital adequacy ratio of 20.3% (FY22: 17.7%).

Management and Board: SNO announced in May the appointment of Nelson Lucas as Acting Chief Executive for a period of six months, while the board of directors continues the search for a permanent chief executive, following Mercia Geises' surprise resignation. The board is also continuing its search for a new Chief Financial Officer, following Letitia du Plessis' resignation. Suné Brugman, a Standard Bank Group appointed director, resigned from the board during the period, while Ashley Tjipitua, Josephat Mwatotele and Gerald Riedel were appointed to fill the vacant seats. During the second half of the year, Natasha Bassingthwaighte, Birgit Rossouw and Herbert Maier, chairman of the board, will be retiring after serving for more than 10 years.

Our Take

SNO delivered another strong set of results aided by the continued rate hikes by the BoN, as well as the company's focus on growing the relatively cheap deposit base, which allowed for margin expansion.

Using a panel of standard valuation techniques, a cost of equity of 16.0% and a long-term sustainable return on equity of 14.0%, we derive a **target price of N\$c818**. Coupled with an expected final dividend of 49cps, we derive a potential total return of 29.8%. Based on this, we view the current share price as undervalued and upgrade our recommendation on SNO to **BUY**.







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