



CREDIT RATING AGENCY

CORPORATE PROFILE



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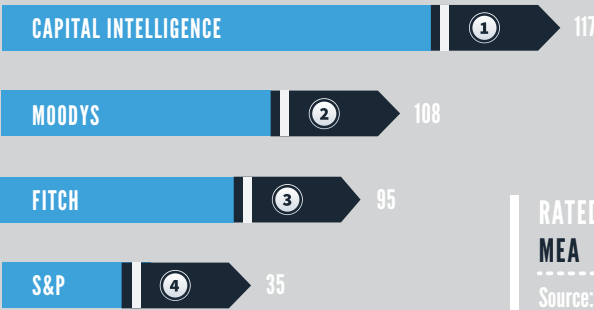


About Us

“A Pioneering Credit Rating Agency Offering Diversified Rating Services”

Capital Intelligence Ratings (CI) or CI Ratings is a privately owned, independent, international credit rating agency that has been providing credit risk analysis and independent rating opinions for over 40 years since 1982. We are dedicated to providing high-quality, forward-looking credit ratings and research with integrity, transparency, and consistency. We help our clients make informed credit decisions and our aim is to be the rating agency of choice for both issuers and investors in the markets we cover.

CI Ratings is best known traditionally for its expertise on the analysis of banks in emerging markets and, in particular, of entities based in the Middle East & North Africa (MENA). We continue to maintain the largest coverage in the region compared to other credit rating agencies

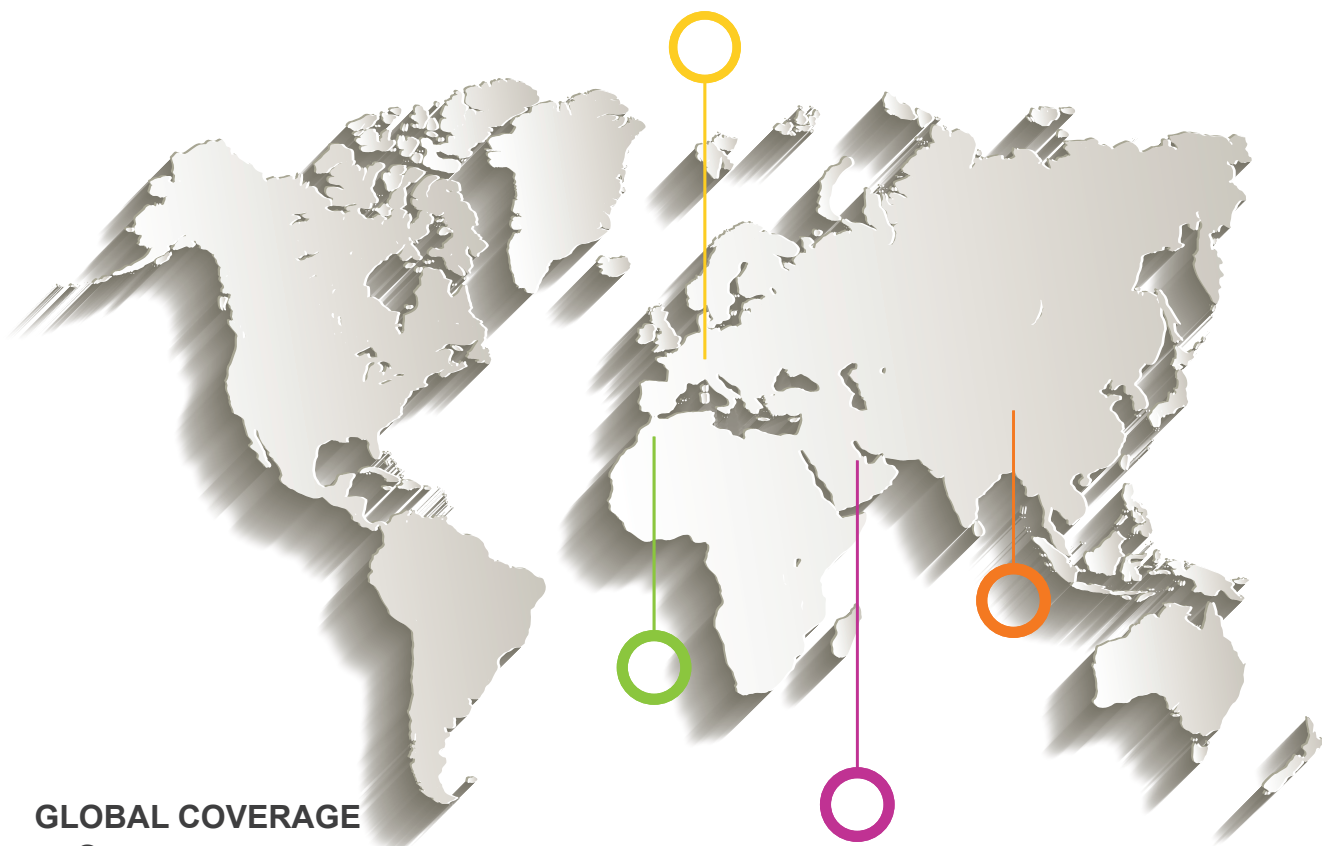


RATED BANKS MEA

Source: SNL 2024

Our initial focus has evolved over the years and we have developed analytical capabilities in new areas and extended our geographical coverage across continents and including a growing number of more developed economies in Europe and Asia.

Today, we maintain ratings and research on over 200 banks, corporates and sovereigns, as well as bonds, sukuk and other financial instruments in 25 countries. Our clients are based globally, and our Head Office is in Cyprus.



GLOBAL COVERAGE Over

80

Banks
Corporates
Sovereigns

EUROPE

Cyprus
Czech Republic
Greece
Hungary
Poland

MIDDLE EAST

Bahrain
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Oman
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Turkey
UAE
Yemen

AFRICA

Egypt
Morocco
Tunisia

ASIA / PACIFIC

China
India
Pakistan
Philippines
South Korea
Taiwan

CI RATINGS GLOBAL COVERAGE



“ESMA Regulated”



Regulation & Recognition

CI Ratings is registered as a credit rating agency in the European Union in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 on Credit Rating Agencies.

Our activities are supervised to the highest international standards by the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), based in France. CI Ratings is also recognised as an External Credit Assessment Institution (ECAI) across the European Union and in a number of jurisdictions in the Middle East, particularly in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region, including Iraq and particularly in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region.

We adhere not only to the rigorous requirements of the European Union Regulation, but also apply the International Organization of Securities Commissions' (IOSCO) Code of Conduct Fundamentals for Credit Rating Agencies. We understand that independence and good governance are essential for credible, unconflicted credit ratings and have established strong internal control mechanisms to safeguard the objectivity of our rating process and ensure compliance with regulatory standards.



Our Clients

CI's clients and subscribers include many of the world's leading commercial and investment banks, government agencies, international financial institutions and Islamic financial institutions, export credit agencies and government agencies. We are proud to have long-term relationships with many of our clients, in some cases for over 30 years.



Our Team & Values

CI's multicultural team bring with them a range of skills and expertise, which are applied to produce insightful, objective and timely credit rating opinions and related research. Our Senior Credit Analysts, who lead the rating process, generally have more than 20 years of relevant experience in ratings, banking or in other areas of the financial industry. Our Analyst Team value their analytical independence and are committed to acting with fairness and honesty in their dealings with rated entities and clients.



Credit Rating Services

Credit ratings are a vital element of both public and private debt markets. CI's credit ratings are forward looking opinions about the relative creditworthiness of an obligor, in particular the willingness and capacity of a borrower to honour its financial obligations.

CI offers a range of rating services for banks, corporates and governments. These include:

- Bank Ratings
- Bond Ratings
- Corporate Ratings
- Covered Bond Ratings
- Insurance Ratings
- NBFIs Ratings
- Sovereign Ratings
- Sub-Sovereign Ratings
- Sukuk Ratings

We offer international scale ratings – which are comparable across countries – and national scale ratings, which capture relative credit risk within a specific country.

Our credit ratings may be used for a variety of purposes, including to attract funding, to broaden the investor base, to increase the marketability of planned issuances and to benchmark creditworthiness against peers. Our ratings may also be used for promotional or marketing purposes, including strengthening investor relations and increasing a company's visibility in the market.

Credit ratings reflect an opinion on credit risk for example, the ability and willingness of an issuer such as a bank, corporation, government or local authority to meet financial obligations in full and on time. Ratings of individual Issues such as bonds or sukuk reflect the relative likelihood that the issue may default.



Credit Rating Services

Independent credit ratings offer benefits to a wide range of market participants including Issuers, Investors and Regulators:

- Credit ratings enable Issuers to demonstrate creditworthiness and enable wider access to external funds.
- Counter-parties use credit ratings as part of their risk assessment process and to set credit limits.
- Credit ratings supplement investors own credit evaluation and facilitate entry into new markets.
- Regulators welcome the improved transparency provided by credit ratings and their contribution to the development of capital markets.



Subscription Services

CI's rating reports are highly regarded within the industry, and we offer a range of online subscription services at www.ciratings.com, which provide access to all of our publicly available reports, news releases and ratings.

Types of online Subscriptions include Global, Regional, Multi-Country, Single Country or access to individual banks, financial institutions and sovereigns.



Professional Development Programme

CI has conducted Bank Credit Analysis training seminars and workshops for banking, finance and other professionals for over 20 years. These have been held across 10 countries and include in-house seminars at the client's premises.

Our seminars are designed to ensure that participants gain an in-depth understanding of our rating process and rating methodologies and receive practical training on how to analyse financial statements, identify risks and vulnerabilities and determine the credit quality of issuers.

CI seminars are conducted by our experienced credit analysts and include the use of case studies, which provide participants with practical and relevant experience in the application of credit risk analysis techniques.

PDP list of seminars and workshops currently available:

- Bank Counterparty Risk Analysis
- Advanced Bank Counterparty Risk Analysis
- Islamic Banking Risk Management
- Basel III
- Advanced Corporate Credit Analysis
- Insurance Credit Analysis
- Introduction to Islamic Finance & Banking

** Consult our PDP catalogue for more details about individual seminars*



PDP Popular Seminars

01 Bank Credit Analysis

Targeted at intermediate level risk management professionals, this 2 day seminar provides participants with a set of structured analytical skills, based on CI processes and methodologies, required for the credit analysis of banks and financial institutions.

02 Advanced Bank Credit Analysis

Designed for experienced risk management professionals with a good understanding of the analysis of financial institutions, including those who have attended the Bank Credit Analysis seminar, this 3 day seminar provides participants with an understanding of advanced credit analysis skills and techniques, with extensive use of interactive case studies/work groups.

03 Islamic Banking & Risk Management

This modular seminar covers the full spectrum of Islamic finance and banking. Individual modules address Islamic financing and placements, sukuk, the global Islamic market, Islamic funds and investment, Sharia compliance, risk and liquidity management, hedging and corporate governance. Case studies and workshops are an important part of the seminar programme.

04 Basel III

The 2 day seminar is targeted at senior risk management, heads of compliance, financial controllers and auditors, and other professionals who require an understanding of capital adequacy and its importance within the institution. Key topics include the Basel reform programme, strengthening the global capital framework, enhancing risk coverage, liquidity and funding ratios, liquidity monitoring tools, capital assessment and planning.

05 Corporate Credit Analysis

Designed for finance professionals who will benefit from an understanding of the key elements of the corporate credit rating process, this 2 day seminar addresses qualitative and quantitative analytical factors, strategy evaluation, diversification, organisation, comparative risk factors and corporate governance. Participants benefit from team workshops and case studies.

06 Insurance Credit Analysis

The seminar provides participants with a structured approach to the assessment of the financial strength of insurance companies. Designed for insurance practitioners with management responsibility who require an understanding of how to identify, measure and manage the key elements that contribute to financial strength. Key topics include industry trends, operating environment, industry risk, capital market development, regulation, franchise strength, risk profile and mitigation.



Credit Rating Process

CI analyses the information available on an issuer or borrower, its market and its economic environment in order to evaluate repayment risk, which we summarize in a credit rating. Our credit analysis is based on detailed, sector-specific methodologies and our rating policies and procedures are documented and strictly followed. We only assign ratings when there is sufficient information available to form a credible opinion of future creditworthiness and always seek the co-operation of the rated entity.

CI's credit ratings are assigned and all subsequent rating actions determined by rating committees and not by individual analysts. Rating committees are composed of rating analysts who, individually or collectively, have appropriate knowledge and experience in developing a rating opinion for the type of credit being considered.

The rating process, summarized in the diagram below, typically involves an analysis of financial and non-financial information, the calculation of standardized performance ratios, a client visit, the drafting of a credit report and its consideration and evaluation by a CI Rating Committee.



We pride ourselves on thorough research and market intelligence. During the rating process, CI analysts typically hold lengthy face-to-face meetings with an organisation's senior management and meet with key market participants and observers such as central banking authorities and external auditors.



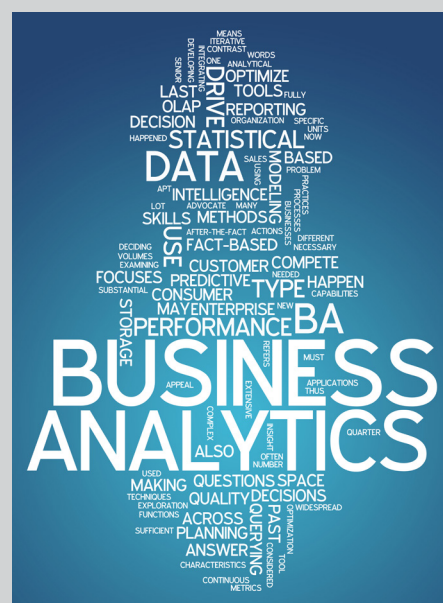
Surveillance

Surveillance is an important part of CI's work and rated entities are continuously monitored. All ratings are reviewed at least annually and in some cases more frequently, particularly if the credit profile has altered. While ratings tend to change over time, it should be a source of comfort to long-term investors in high-quality issuers to know that CI's rating trend studies confirm that higher ratings tend to change less frequently than lower ratings, and that investment grade ratings are more stable than speculative grade ratings.



Our Analytical Approach

CI's approach to assigning credit ratings is based on fundamental credit analysis and involves a thorough evaluation of the quantitative and qualitative factors that may affect the ability and willingness of a rated entity to meet its financial obligations in full and on time. The focus is usually on the intrinsic financial strength and financial resilience of the rated entity, but external support factors are also taken into consideration. Analysis of each general type of entity (bank, corporate, sovereign) is disaggregated into a number of analytical categories in order to build a rated entity's credit risk profile and facilitate meaningful comparison between rated entities within the same industry or sector.



Bank Ratings

For banks, we examine key quantitative factors such as asset quality, capital adequacy, liquidity and profitability. Performance ratios relating to the breakdown of the balance sheet and profit and loss account and their rates of growth are analyzed. Calculations are complemented by peer group and trend analysis. We also look at factors that may be important for longer term creditworthiness, such as the bank's market position, business strategy and management capabilities. We also analyze the bank's operating environment, including the degree of economic and political risk in the bank's principal markets and the quality of the regulatory and supervisory regime in which it operates.



Operating Environment Risk Anchor(OPERA)

OPERA encapsulates our assessment of the political, economic, institutional and system-wide factors that may impact the standalone financial strength of a bank and is, therefore, a key element of the Bank Standalone Rating (BSR).

OPERA is not a credit rating and differs from sovereign ratings, which are an opinion on the likelihood of a government defaulting on its financial obligations. However, since many of the economic and institutional factors that affect bank financial soundness also matter for sovereign credit risk, and given the association between systemic banking crises and sovereign debt crises, a country's OPERA will normally be highly correlated with the sovereign's long-term foreign currency rating.

To assign OPERA we consider a number of key rating factors across five analytical dimensions:

- Macroeconomics Strength
- Monetary Flexibility and Capital Market Development
- Industry Structure and Performance
- Regulatory Environment and Institutional Frameworks
- Political and Policy Risk



Bond & Sukuk Rating

Issue-specific ratings, such as bond and sukuk ratings, typically take into account the general creditworthiness of the issuer, as determined by the appropriate issuer methodology (bank rating methodology or corporate rating methodology), but also consider the terms, conditions and other specific features of the financial obligation. These may include factors such as whether the bond is secured, guaranteed or subordinated and the legal enforceability of the bond's provisions.



Corporate Rating

In the case of corporates, analytical categories aim to capture key financial and business risks. Financial aspects include cash flow, debt profile, debt service capacity, leverage, and earnings. Non-financial categories include operations, management, strategies and prospects, including an examination of the market and operating environment.



Covered Bond Rating

The Covered Bond Rating (CBR) is the main rating that CI assigns to covered bonds issued globally. CBRs primarily reflect default risk – namely the likelihood of the obligor or issuer being unable or unwilling to meet its financial obligations in a timely manner – but also take general account of the repayment priority of the rated instrument in the event of liquidation, as well as the likelihood of full recovery of principal.



Insurance Ratings

The Insurer Financial Strength Rating (IFSR) provides a forward-looking opinion of an insurer's capacity and willingness to pay its valid insurance contract obligations when they become due. IFSRs take into account an insurer's standalone strengths and weaknesses, as well as the likelihood of it receiving extraordinary support from private or public sector owners in the event of financial difficulties. The assessment of standalone credit strength is based on six analytical pillars:

- Operating Environment
- Business Model & Strategy
- Ownership & Governance
- Risk Profile & Risk Mitigation
- Earnings Strength & Sustainability
- Balance Sheet Strength & Financial Flexibility



Non-Bank Financial Institution Ratings (NBFI)

NBFI ratings are assigned to a broad range of companies including finance and leasing companies, securities firms and asset management companies. It is also applicable to investment companies, particularly those in the Middle East region that undertake a variety of non-bank financial activities and services such as direct investment, asset management, commercial and consumer financing, and corporate financial advisory services (M&A, debt raising, refinancing etc.).



Sovereign Ratings

Sovereign ratings capture the default risk of the national government. Central to this assessment is an analysis of the level of political and policy risk, the country's economic growth prospects, and the sustainability of both the public finances and the external position including the balance of payments and foreign debt.



Why Approach CI Ratings?



Specialist Focus

We focus on the regions where we have the expertise, which are the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Europe, and South East Asia. Doing what we know best enables us to consistently deliver insightful analysis and reliable credit opinions for our expanding client base.



Experience

CI has been in the ratings business for over 40 years, and our rating analysts have levels of experience, which are higher than the industry average and who take a lead role in our credit rating assignments.



Quality Service

We pride ourselves on delivering high levels of customer service and support, with the explicit aim of developing strong, long-term client relationships. Our Subscribers enjoy direct access to our analysts by email or telephone whenever the need arises. The banks and corporates that we rate are provided with advance notification of rating actions and are given the opportunity to review and comment on the rating reports prior to publication.



High Standards

CI is regulated and supervised by the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), and we operate to the same high standards as those of our competitors. Our ratings are respected because we are independent and rigorous in our assessment of credit risk.



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