

China Policy

Credit growth slowed in December yet may rebound in 2023

China's new credit continued to decline in December as population mobility and economic activity temporarily dropped after reopening. New mortgage, consumer credit and short-term business operation loans all declined as housing sales, household consumption and business condition remained weak. Looking forward, credit growth may gradually rebound in 2023, as the reopening, credit loosening and pro-business shift should support a resumption in economic activity as well as in credit demand. We expect new renminbi loans and total social financing to increase 11% and 10% in 2023 after rising 4.9% and 1.4% in 2022. The GDP growth is expected to rise from 2.7% in 2022 to 5.1% in 2023.

- New credit continued to decline as economic activity followed a J-curve trend after reopening.** Total social financing dropped 44.7% YoY in December after rising 23.5% YoY in November. The YoY growth of outstanding social financing decelerated from 10% in November to 9.6% in December. New renminbi loans to real sector picked up 38.7% in December after dropping 12.1% in November. However, off-balance-sheet credit continued to shrink amid the new WMP regulation and risk aversion towards property projects. Meanwhile, corporate bond financing sharply declined as business capex weakened. Local government bond financing also dropped as local governments used up most of their special bond quotas in the first three quarters.
- New mortgage, consumer credit and short-term business loans continued to decline as housing sales, consumption and business condition remained weak.** New medium to long-term loans to households dropped by 47.6% in December after decreasing 63.9% in November as housing sales remained weak. Meanwhile, new short-term loans to households were negative as individual consumption declined before resumption shortly after the reopening. Short-term loans to enterprises also experienced MoM declines as business condition further deteriorated. However, new medium & long-term loans to enterprises jumped over 200% thanks to credit support to manufacturing and infrastructure investment.
- China is likely to maintain easing liquidity and credit policy ahead.** China's growth will remain below the potential growth this year as overseas economy slows down and the resumption of domestic demand should be in a gradual manner. The reflation pressure after reopening should be mild for China. Therefore, China is likely to maintain easing liquidity and credit policy ahead. We expect the PBOC to cut RRR and LPRs by moderate magnitudes this year. The central bank will further ease mortgage policy to first-home and second-home buyers. Credit condition for manufacturing and service sector should be very easing. The central bank will encourage banks to roll over the debt of qualified property developers and local government financing vehicles.

Bingnan YE, Ph.D

(852) 3761 8967

yebingnan@cmbi.com.hk

Kevin Zhang

(852) 5336 4682

kevinzhang@cmbi.com.hk

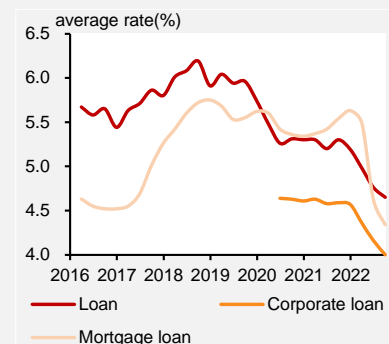
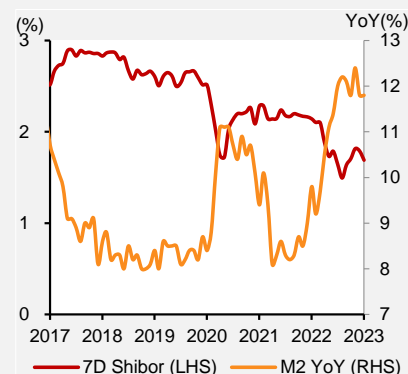
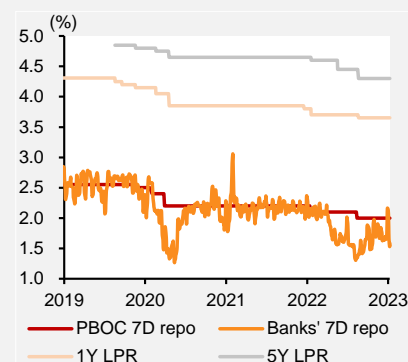
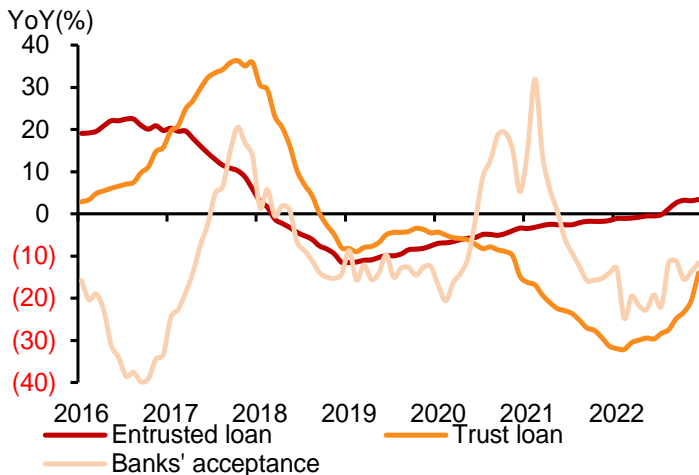
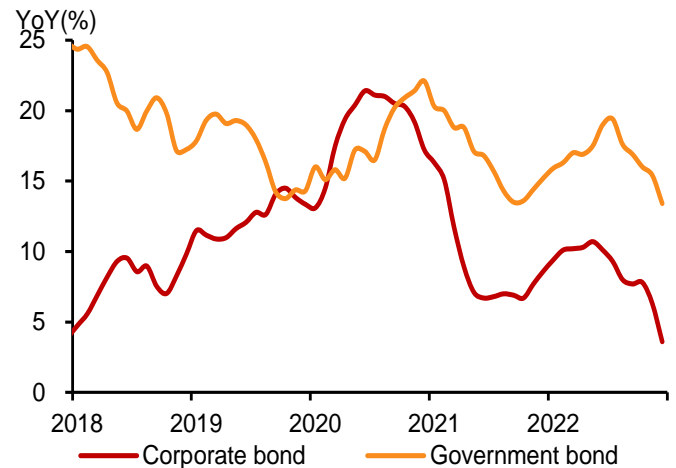
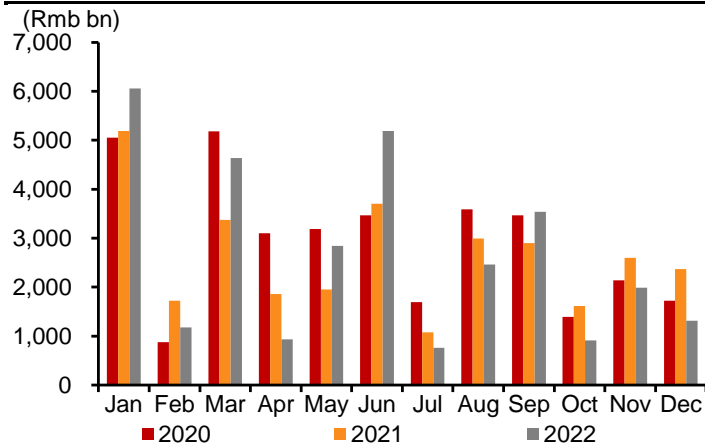


Figure 1: Growth of outstanding OBS financing

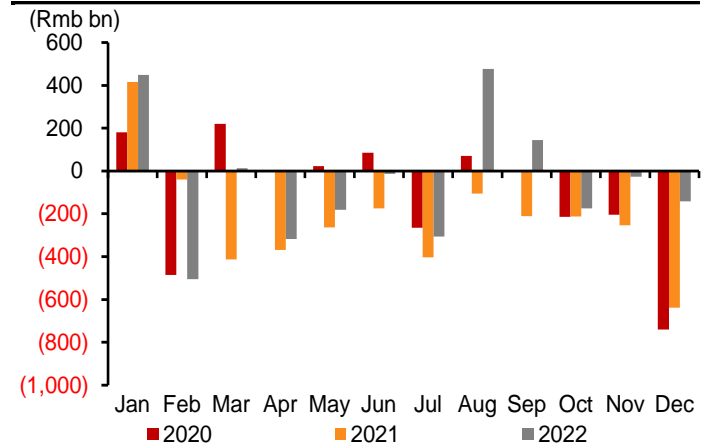
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 2: Growth of outstanding bond financing

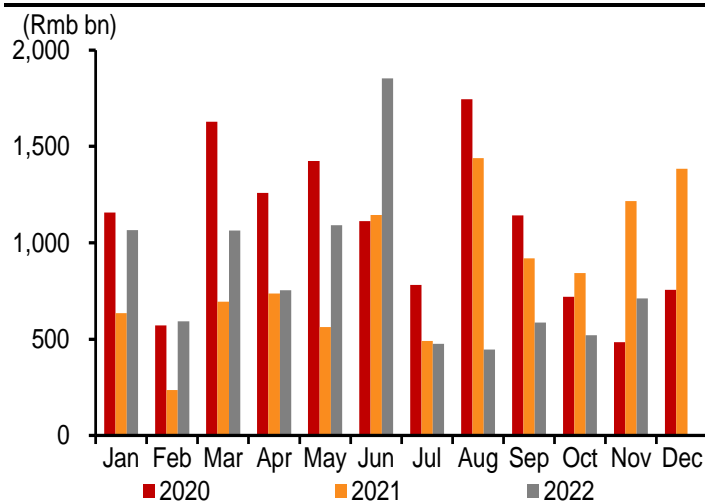
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 3: Total social financing

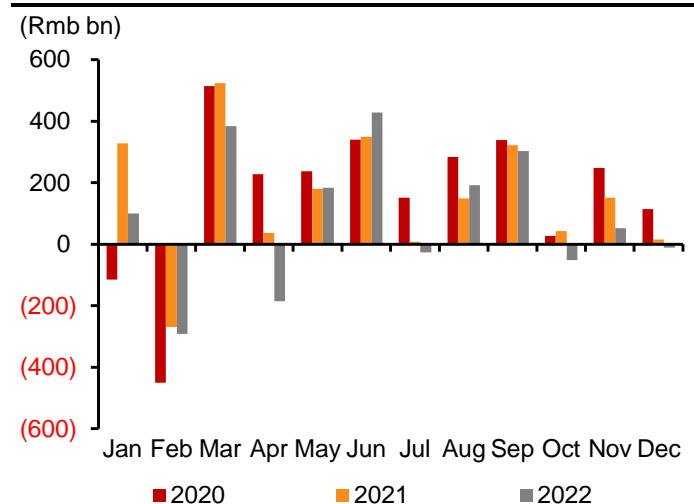
Source: MoF, CMBIGM

Figure 4: OBS financing

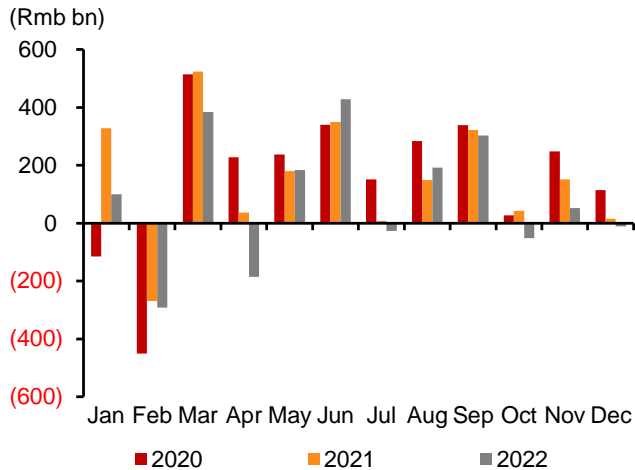
Source: MoF, CMBIGM

Figure 5: Bond financing

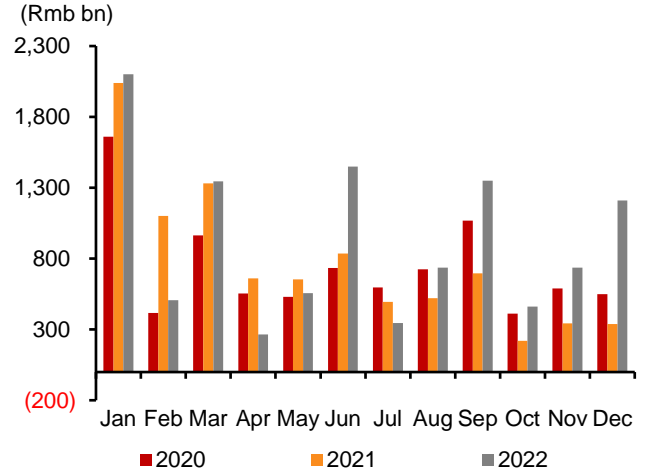
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 6: New M&L term loans to households

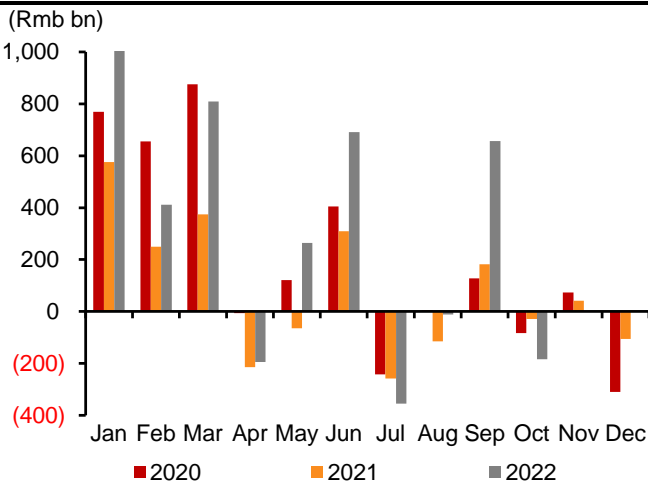
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 7: New short term loans to households

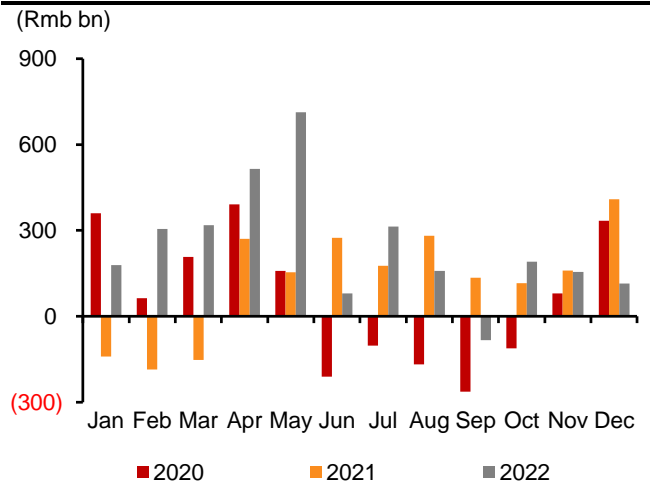
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 8: New M&L term loans to enterprises

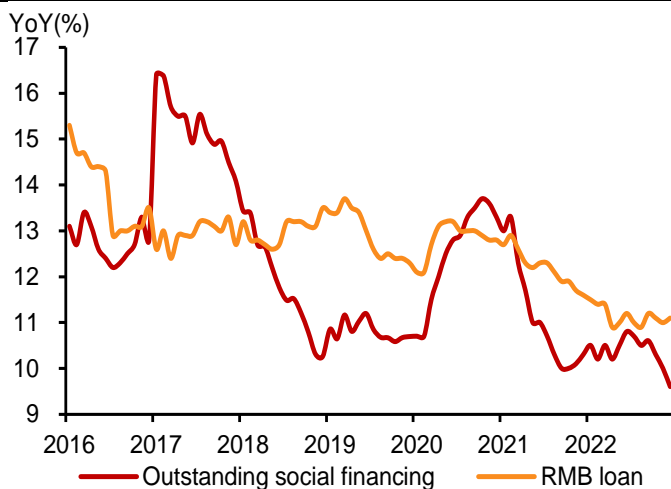
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 9: New short term loans to enterprises

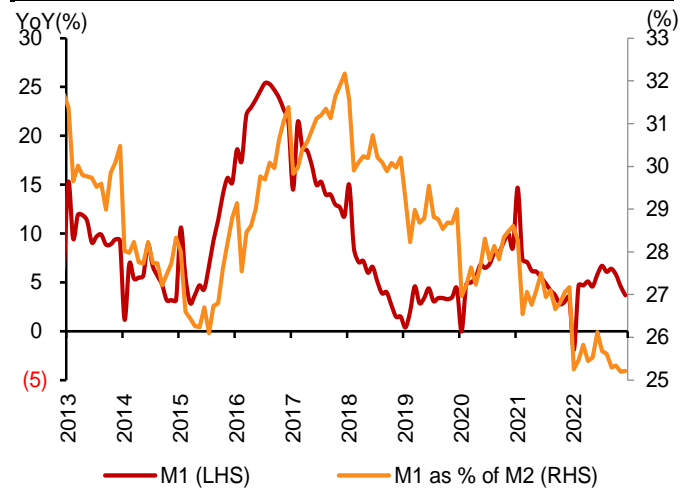
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 10: Bill financing to enterprises

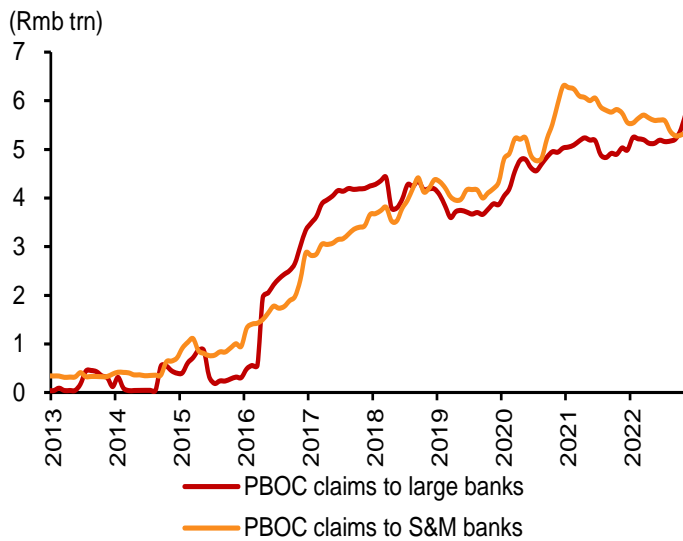
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 11: Growth of credit & money supply

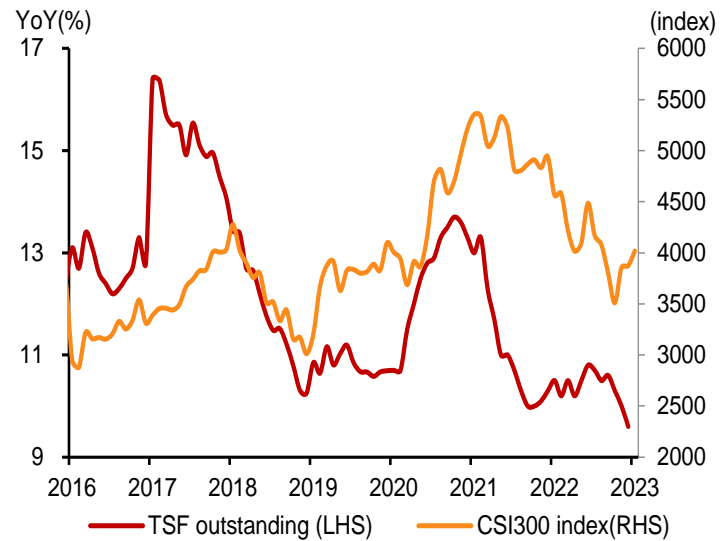
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 12: M1 growth & M1 as % of M2

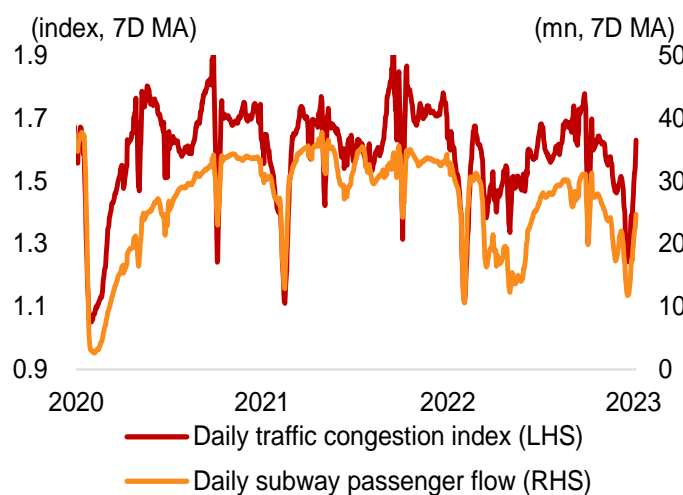
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 13: PBOC claims to large and S&M banks

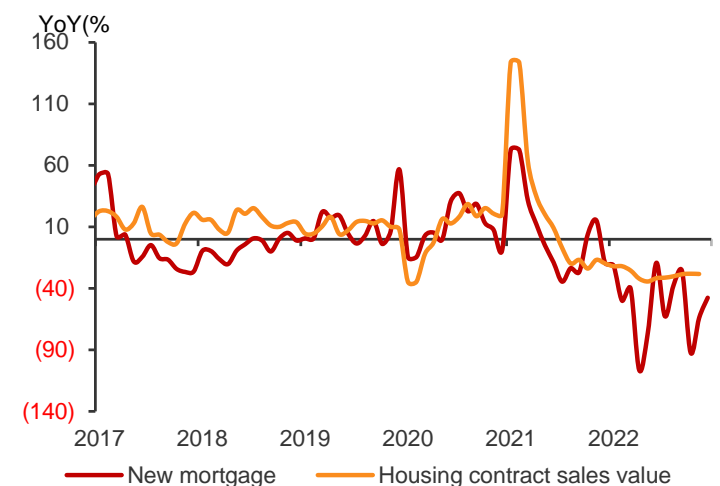
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 14: Total social financing & CSI300 index

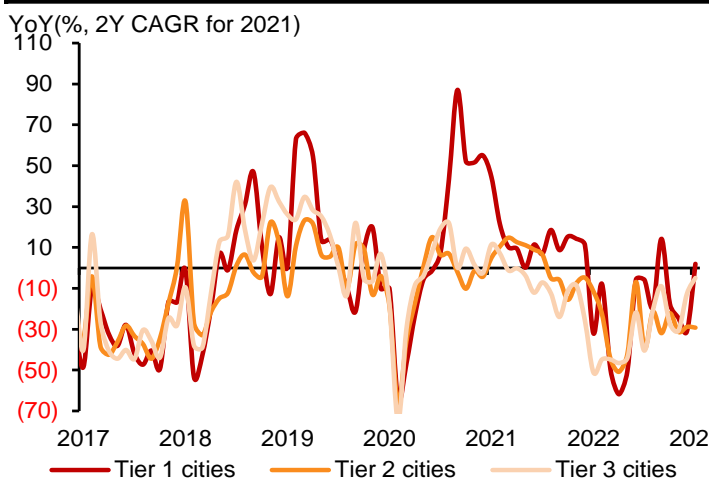
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 15: Daily domestic traffic flow

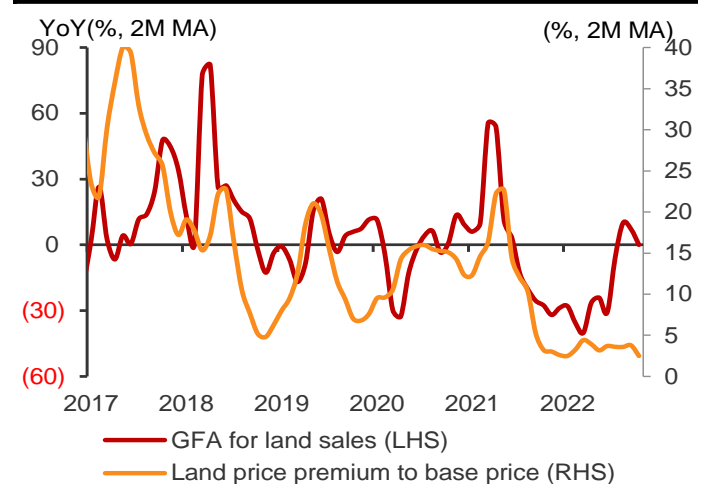
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 16: New mortgage & housing sales

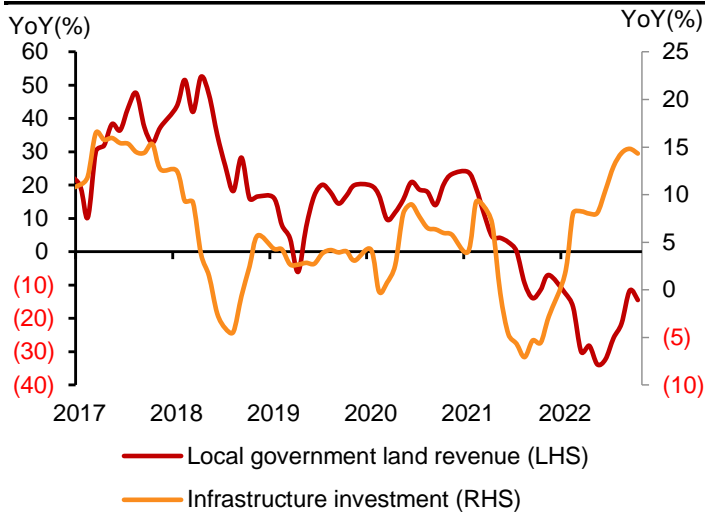
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 17: Growth of housing sales by cities

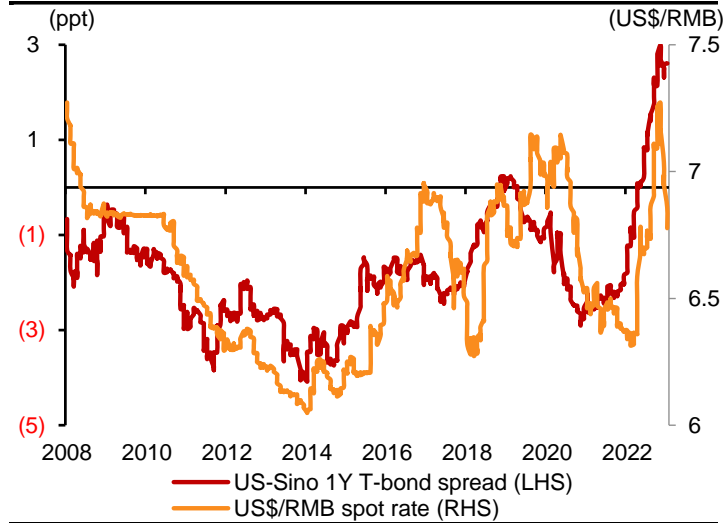
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 18: Growth of land sales

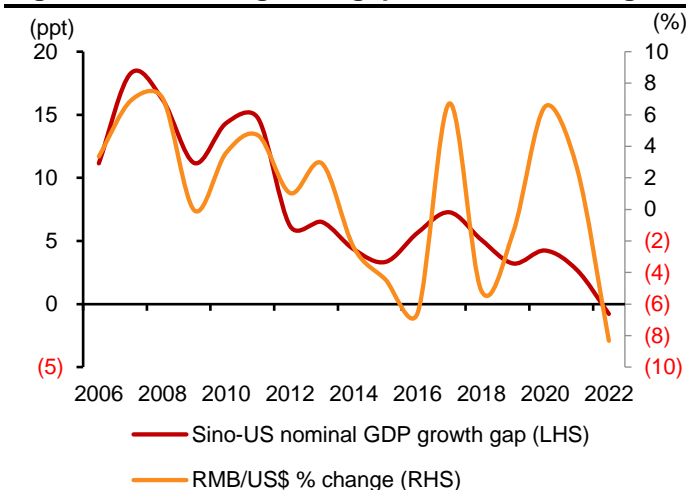
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 19: Infrastructure investment

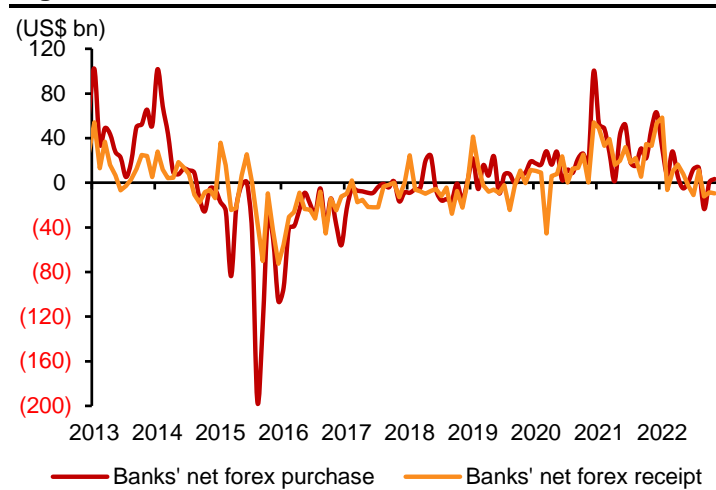
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 20: US-Sino interest spreads

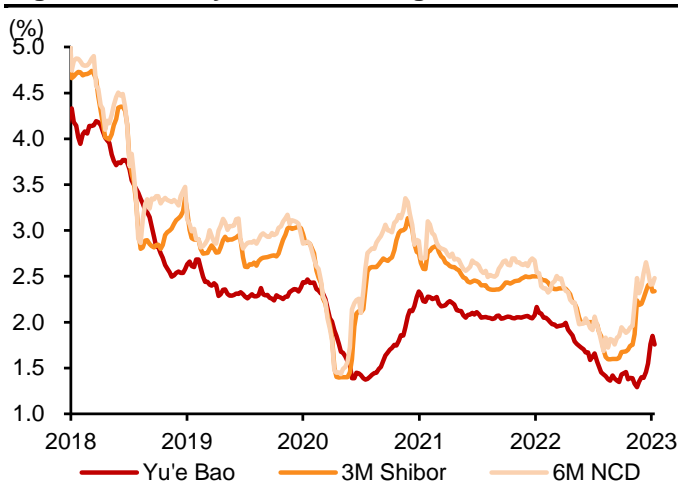
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 21: Sino-US growth gap & RMB/US\$ change

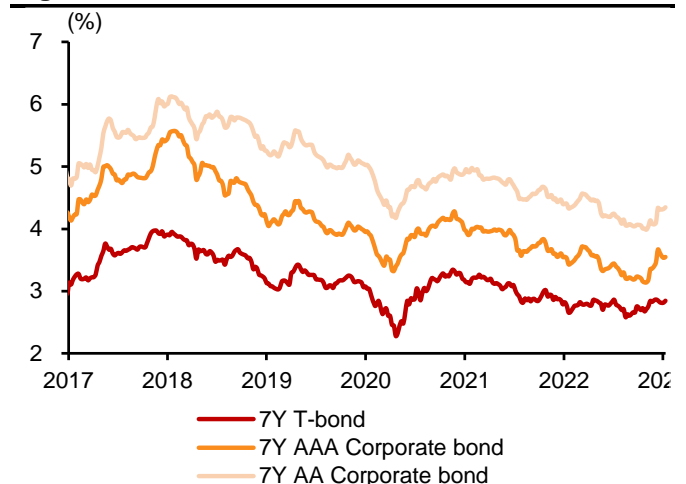
Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 22: Net forex inflow

Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 23: Money market funding cost

Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Figure 24: Bond market rates

Source: Wind, CMBIGM

Disclosures & Disclaimers

Analyst Certification

The research analyst who is primary responsible for the content of this research report, in whole or in part, certifies that with respect to the securities or issuer that the analyst covered in this report: (1) all of the views expressed accurately reflect his or her personal views about the subject securities or issuer; and (2) no part of his or her compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific views expressed by that analyst in this report.

Besides, the analyst confirms that neither the analyst nor his/her associates (as defined in the code of conduct issued by The Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission) (1) have dealt in or traded in the stock(s) covered in this research report within 30 calendar days prior to the date of issue of this report; (2) will deal in or trade in the stock(s) covered in this research report 3 business days after the date of issue of this report; (3) serve as an officer of any of the Hong Kong listed companies covered in this report; and (4) have any financial interests in the Hong Kong listed companies covered in this report.

CMBIGM Ratings

BUY	: Stock with potential return of over 15% over next 12 months
HOLD	: Stock with potential return of +15% to -10% over next 12 months
SELL	: Stock with potential loss of over 10% over next 12 months
NOT RATED	: Stock is not rated by CMBIGM

OUTPERFORM	: Industry expected to outperform the relevant broad market benchmark over next 12 months
MARKET-PERFORM	: Industry expected to perform in-line with the relevant broad market benchmark over next 12 months
UNDERPERFORM	: Industry expected to underperform the relevant broad market benchmark over next 12 months

CMB International Global Markets Limited

Address: 45/F, Champion Tower, 3 Garden Road, Hong Kong, Tel: (852) 3900 0888 Fax: (852) 3900 0800

CMB International Global Markets Limited ("CMBIGM") is a wholly owned subsidiary of CMB International Capital Corporation Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of China Merchants Bank)

Important Disclosures

There are risks involved in transacting in any securities. The information contained in this report may not be suitable for the purposes of all investors. CMBIGM does not provide individually tailored investment advice. This report has been prepared without regard to the individual investment objectives, financial position or special requirements. Past performance has no indication of future performance, and actual events may differ materially from that which is contained in the report. The value of, and returns from, any investments are uncertain and are not guaranteed and may fluctuate as a result of their dependence on the performance of underlying assets or other variable market factors. CMBIGM recommends that investors should independently evaluate particular investments and strategies, and encourages investors to consult with a professional financial advisor in order to make their own investment decisions.

This report or any information contained herein, have been prepared by the CMBIGM, solely for the purpose of supplying information to the clients of CMBIGM or its affiliate(s) to whom it is distributed. This report is not and should not be construed as an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any security or any interest in securities or enter into any transaction. Neither CMBIGM nor any of its affiliates, shareholders, agents, consultants, directors, officers or employees shall be liable for any loss, damage or expense whatsoever, whether direct or consequential, incurred in relying on the information contained in this report. Anyone making use of the information contained in this report does so entirely at their own risk.

The information and contents contained in this report are based on the analyses and interpretations of information believed to be publicly available and reliable. CMBIGM has exerted every effort in its capacity to ensure, but not to guarantee, their accuracy, completeness, timeliness or correctness. CMBIGM provides the information, advices and forecasts on an "AS IS" basis. The information and contents are subject to change without notice. CMBIGM may issue other publications having information and/or conclusions different from this report. These publications reflect different assumption, point-of-view and analytical methods when compiling. CMBIGM may make investment decisions or take proprietary positions that are inconsistent with the recommendations or views in this report.

CMBIGM may have a position, make markets or act as principal or engage in transactions in securities of companies referred to in this report for itself and/or on behalf of its clients from time to time. Investors should assume that CMBIGM does or seeks to have investment banking or other business relationships with the companies in this report. As a result, recipients should be aware that CMBIGM may have a conflict of interest that could affect the objectivity of this report and CMBIGM will not assume any responsibility in respect thereof. This report is for the use of intended recipients only and this publication, may not be reproduced, reprinted, sold, redistributed or published in whole or in part for any purpose without prior written consent of CMBIGM.

Additional information on recommended securities is available upon request.

For recipients of this document in the United Kingdom

This report has been provided only to persons (I) falling within Article 19(5) of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (Financial Promotion) Order 2005 (as amended from time to time) ("The Order") or (II) are persons falling within Article 49(2) (a) to (d) ("High Net Worth Companies, Unincorporated Associations, etc.") of the Order, and may not be provided to any other person without the prior written consent of CMBIGM.

For recipients of this document in the United States

CMBIGM is not a registered broker-dealer in the United States. As a result, CMBIGM is not subject to U.S. rules regarding the preparation of research reports and the independence of research analysts. The research analyst who is primary responsible for the content of this research report is not registered or qualified as a research analyst with the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA"). The analyst is not subject to applicable restrictions under FINRA Rules intended to ensure that the analyst is not affected by potential conflicts of interest that could bear upon the reliability of the research report. This report is intended for distribution in the United States solely to "major US institutional investors", as defined in Rule 15a-6 under the US, Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and may not be furnished to any other person in the United States. Each major US institutional investor that receives a copy of this report by its acceptance hereof represents and agrees that it shall not distribute or provide this report to any other person. Any U.S. recipient of this report wishing to effect any transaction to buy or sell securities based on the information provided in this report should do so only through a U.S.-registered broker-dealer.

For recipients of this document in Singapore

This report is distributed in Singapore by CMBI (Singapore) Pte. Limited (CMBISG) (Company Regn. No. 201731928D), an Exempt Financial Adviser as defined in the Financial Advisers Act (Cap. 110) of Singapore and regulated by the Monetary Authority of Singapore. CMBISG may distribute reports produced by its respective foreign entities, affiliates or other foreign research houses pursuant to an arrangement under Regulation 32C of the Financial Advisers Regulations. Where the report is distributed in Singapore to a person who is not an Accredited Investor, Expert Investor or an Institutional Investor, as defined in the Securities and Futures Act (Cap. 289) of Singapore, CMBISG accepts legal responsibility for the contents of the report to such persons only to the extent required by law. Singapore recipients should contact CMBISG at +65 6350 4400 for matters arising from, or in connection with the report.