SECTOR UPDATE REPORT

MNC Sekuritas Research Division June 20, 2017





TELECOMMUNICATION SECTOR UPDATE

The Digital Revolution Has Arrived

The Strongest Engine of Indonesia Economic Growth 1Q17

Information and communication sector has become the strongest engine of growth with a pace of 9.1% YoY in 1Q17. Total mobile cellular (SIM connections) stood at more than 371 mm, way more than the national population of 259 mn. Going forward, we estimate that the national information and communication sector will continue to grow by 9.7% YoY in FY17E and 10.5% YoY in FY18F, tracking increasing of Indonesian GDP of 5.1%/5.4% in FY17E/FY18F.

Key Growth Catalysts in 2017

We believe that the positive trend in 1Q17 will continue throughout the year. In 2017, we estimate the sector will continue its growth by 9%-10% YoY, mainly due to by: 1) Upside potential from increasing numbers of mobile phone and internet users in FY17E; 2) High growth of data traffic in line with increasing smart phone usage and availability of 4G LTE services; 3) Rapid development infrastructure in a growing 'digital economy'.

Investment Risks: Focus on Interconnection Cut Rate and Network Sharing Issue

In our view, interconnection rate cuts and infrastructure sharing will be the main concerns in the near future. However we believe that the government has a best plan to create a healthier competition to increase efficiency and decrease churn rate for each operators. We expect that the government to review and provide incentives to compensate the operators who have existing infrastructure investment which will be shared to the other providers.

OVERWEIGHT Outlook with Top Picks: TLKM and ISAT

We are being **OVERWEIGHT** for this sector. Our top picks for the Indonesian telecommunication sector are **TLKM** (**BUY**; **TP**: **Rp5,000**), maintaining its leading position in the industry and **ISAT** (**BUY**; **TP**: **Rp7,450**) with the highest growth of subscribers and good performance during the year.

Ticker	Market Cap	PER (x)		EV/EBITDA (x)		Doo	Target Price
	(Rp tn)	FY17E	FY18F	FY17E	FY18F	Rec.	(Rp)
TLKM	445.53	18.34	17.27	6.89	6.60	BUY	5,000
ISAT	34.23	20.07	13.94	4.61	3.52	BUY	7,450
EXCL	33.98	124.77	40.48	5.54	4.85	HOLD	3,330

Sources: Companies, MNCS Estimate



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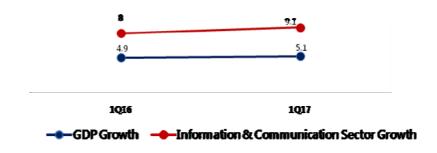
Attractive Sector with Promising Growth

The telecommunication industry has played an important role in the development of Indonesia's economy over the last few years. Despite currently challenging economic conditions, the demand for telecommunication products is increasing. This is evidenced from the communications sector that contributed the most to the growth of the Indonesian economy, at a rate of 8.90% throughout 2016 (BPS). In the last few years, the communication and information sector has regularly been above the commonly-quoted figure of 5% national economic growth. In 1Q17, information and communication sector still enjoys positive growth, reaching 9.1% YoY, higher than national economic growth (5.1% YoY). Exhibit 3 shows that information and communication sector has become the strongest engine of growth with a pace of 9.1% YoY in 1Q17. Going forward, we estimate that the national information and communication sector will continue to grow by 9.7% YoY in FY17E and 10.5% YoY in FY18F, tracking increasing of Indonesian GDP of 5.1%/5.4% in FY17E/FY18F (Exhibit 1).



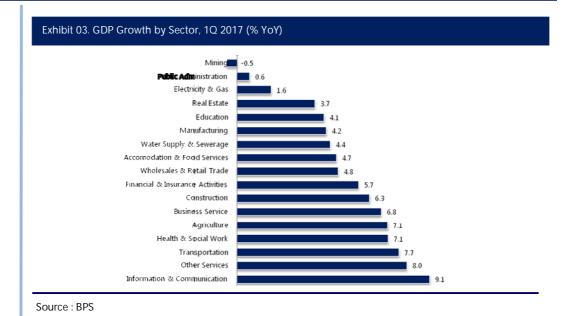
Source: BPS, MNCS Estimate

Exhibit 02. Indonesia GDP vs. Information and Communication Sector Growth in 1Q16 and 1Q17 (% YoY)



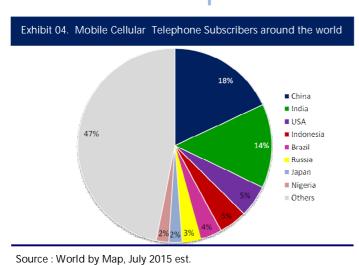
Source : BPS

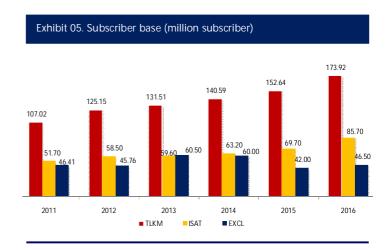




Upside Potential from Increasing Numbers of Mobile Phone and Internet Users The telecommunication industry has grown rapidly in Indonesia in recent years, as seen from the number of mobile cellular subscribers, continuing to increase from year to year. As of July 2015, Indonesia was the world's fourth-largest telecommunication market in terms of mobile cellular subscribers (Exhibit 4).

The growth of mobile phone users in Indonesia is quite rapid, and is marked by a rising penetration rate of mobile devices. According to the Ministry of Communications and Informatics and Company of Telecommunications Network Operation, total mobile cellular (SIM connections) stood at 371 mn in 2016, way more than the national population of 259 mn. This means that mobile cellular penetration in Indonesia remains relatively high at 143% of the total population. Total mobile cellular subscriber numbers grew by 8.23% CAGR from 2011 to 2016. Meanwhile, internet users reached 132.7 mn in 2016, growing by 19.26% CAGR from 2011. Still, internet penetration in Indonesia remains relatively low at 51% of the total population. We see that the number of Indonesian internet users has wide room for growth in years ahead. This also implies that Indonesia's telecommunication sector is in a great position to grow sharply.

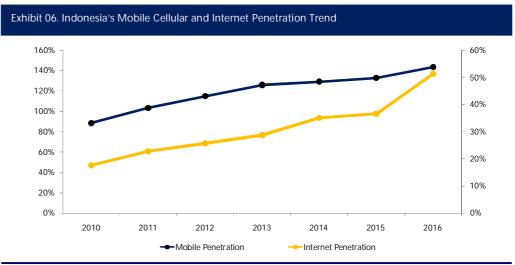




Source : Company, Bloomberg

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Source : MCIT, BPS, MNCS

Data Business Will be The Main Catalyst for Future Market Growth

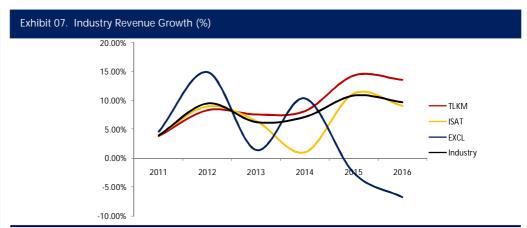
We see that demand for voice and SMS services is shifting toward data service requests. Online services will become a basic need in the future, in line with the growth of Indonesia's young population. High population density and growth of middle-class income have made Indonesia a highly attractive country for telecommunication services, promising the robust development of digital business in the future. An expanding middle class with more digital lifestyle characteristics (such as the use of social media) also supports high demand for data services, which are expected to be the main contributor to telecommunication operators' long-term net profit.

Big Telco Players in Indonesia are Enjoying the Remarkable Enhancement of LTE 4G Service We see that the growth of data traffic from each operator has increased significantly. The three big telecommunication operators showed a trend of strong traffic growth with CAGR (2014-2016) of 102.04% p.a. for TLKM, 140.03% for ISAT p.a. and 100.02% for EXCL p.a. Going forward, we believe that there will be a higher uptake of mobile data services driven by factors such as increasing economic growth, a growing middle class, increased smart phone usage and the increasing availability of 4G LTE services.

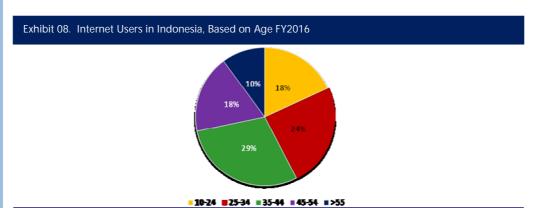
Since its launch at the end of 2014, LTE 4G services in Indonesia have seen the number of users grow significantly. The Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) reported 4G users in Indonesia reached 40% of total cellular users in 2016. The achievement grew by nearly 50% when compared to when the fourth generation of mobile technology was first launched. In the early days of its commercialization, the number of users of 4G in the new industry ranged from 20% to 30%. We estimate that 4G users could reach 60% in 2017. Therefore, it will be important for telecommunication operators to invest in their mobile broadband capabilities now, to prepare for future market growth.

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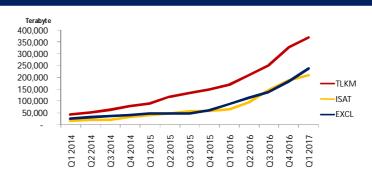


Source: Company, Bloomberg



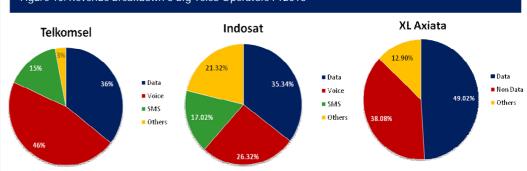
Source : APJII

Figure 09. Traffic Trend of 3 Big Telco Operators 1Q14-1Q17



Source : Company

Figure 10. Revenue Breakdown 3 Big Telco Operators FY2016



Source : Company



Investment Risks: A Price War Led to the Fall of Data Tariff but... Indonesia's telecommunication sector is a highly competitive. 'Over The Top' (OTT) service and tariff wars have become the main challenge. We also note how OTT service has cannibalized operators' voice and data businesses. OTT is exceeding voice and SMS volumes globally, so telecom operators are facing a decline in average revenue per user (ARPU), since OTTs usually ride on top of operator network infrastructure, with low operational costs and smaller capex.

Against this, tariff wars between operators are on the rise. There are operators offering IDR 1 tariffs for voice and SMS among 'same operators' (on-net) while tariffs for 'between operators' (off-net) remain steep. Off-net tariffs could be much higher than on-net ones. Churn rate (customer movement to another operator) will increase and ARPU will fall as a result of tariff wars.

Figure 11. Prepaid handset-based mobile data price for 500 MB in Asia (2015)

Country	Mobile broadband (500 MB/month in USD)
Japan	82.98
Hong Kong	9.80
Malaysia	8.14
Singapore	7.27
Thailand	5.81
China	4.82
Philippines	4.37
Indonesia	4.11
India	4.04
Vietnam	3.46

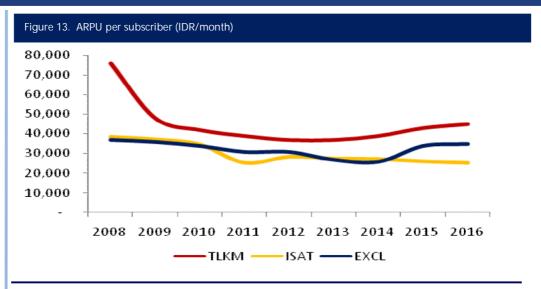
Source : International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Figure 12. Declining Data Pricing in Asia Pacific, CAGR 2011-2016 (%)



Source : Mc Kinsey





Source: Company, MNCS

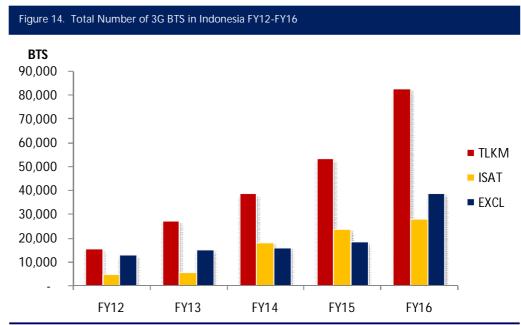
....The Bloody Competition Seemed to Fade Away The Government of Indonesia has attempted to create fair competition in telecommunication industry, in dealing with this tight competition. Currently, off-net tariffs in Indonesia are higher than on-net ones. In 2017, the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT) plans to reduce interconnection tariff by 18% from previous rate, moving from a current IDR250/min to IDR204/min. Hence, the government hopes to increase efficiency and decrease churn rate for each operator. Nevertheless, MCIT has continued to postpone implementation of the regulation which was originally planned to start on 2 February 2017. Many investors think that these regulatory changes will hit TLKM performance. In our view, the planned interconnection rate cut will not exert strong pressure on TLKM, because interconnection segment only contributes around 4% of TLKM's total revenue. Therefore, this policy will only have a minimal impact on operator revenue in the future, because revenue and cost of interconnections decrease in line with data shifting. Although the ARPU slowed down, there is still room for data growth as we mentioned above.

Pros and Cons of Network
Sharing Regulation: Is It Fair?

Network sharing is considered by the government to be a correct strategy to ensure telecommunication connections to all corners of the country. The network-sharing proposals could be part of a strategy to support the government's goal of extending connectivity to every Indonesian island by 2019. The revision of Government Regulations 52/2000 and 53/2000 will push operators to share their networks in certain areas (particularly their backbones). There are five models of network sharing, namely, multi-carrier radio access network (MORAN), CME sharing, multi-operator core network (MOCN), roaming and mobile virtual network operator (MVNO).

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Source : Company, Bloomberg

Figure 15. Total Spectrum Holdings in Indonesia FY12-FY16										
Spectrum	850MHz	900MHz	1800MHz	2100MHz	2300MHz					
Telkomsel	4.5MHz x 2	7.5MHz x 2	22.5MHz x 2	15Mhz x 2	15MHz					
Indosat	2.5MHz x 2	10MHz x 2	20MHz x 2	10MHz x 2	15MHz					
XL Axiata		7.5MHz x 2	22.5MHz x 2	15Mhz x 2						
Hutchison			10MHz x 2	10MHz x 2						

Source : Indosat

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ISAT and EXCL will Potentially Get a Tail Wind

So far Indosat Ooredoo has established a 'Multi Operator Radio Access' (MORAN) based sharing network with XL Axiata, but recently the operator tried to improve, through a 'Multi Operator Core Network' (MOCN), which allows for frequent use of frequencies for higher efficiency. MCIT is prepared to allow network sharing with the MOCN scheme this year, despite no regulation permitting such a scheme to be issued. Therefore, network sharing will reduce the operator's operating expenses and investment cost.

In our view, this network sharing plans, including the sharing of backbones and spectra will the main driver for ISAT and EXCL to expand their networks outside Java. On the other hand, we believe that TLKM will not lose its dominance outside Java, considering that TLKM still holds around 80% market share in the outer islands. We expect the government to provide incentives to compensate TLKM for its existing infrastructure investment which will be shared with other providers.



OVERWEIGHT Outlook

Outlook with Top Picks: TLKM and ISAT

In 2017, we estimate the sector will continue its growth by 9%-10% YoY, mainly due to 1) High growth of mobile subscriber numbers, 2) High growth of data traffic and 3) Rapid development infrastructure in a growing 'digital economy'. Going forward, an expanding youthful population, coupled with an increase in smartphone penetration and data speeds, will be the positive catalysts for this sector. Interconnection rate cuts and infrastructure sharing will be the main concerns in the near future and could shape Indonesia's telecom industry in the long run. Therefore, we are being **OVERWEIGHT** for this sector. Our top picks for the Indonesian telecommunication sector are TLKM (BUY; TP: Rp5,000), maintaining its leading position in the industry and ISAT (BUY; TP: Rp7,450) with the highest growth of subscribers and good performance during the year.

As a result, we believe TLKM deserves a premium valuation by end-FY17 due to its strong presence, both in Java and outer island markets, which could boost revenue and earnings growth. TLKM currently trades at close to+1STD (average 3-year EV/ EBITDA). Our TP of Rp5,000 implies an FY17 EV/EBITDA of 7.77x or +1.5SD of its three -year EV/EBITDA multiple.

We also see that significant growth of subscriber numbers and favorable government regulations will be positive catalysts for ISAT. Our new target price implies FY17E EV/ EBITDA of 5.04x, still at a discount relative to TLKM's 7.77x. Going forward, we believe ISAT will have room for growth by end-FY17E.







Source: Bloomberg

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MNC Research Investment Ratings Guidance

BUY: Share price may exceed 10% over the next 12 months

HOLD: Share price may fall within the range of +/- 10% of the next 12 months

SELL: Share price may fall by more than 10% over the next 12 months

Not Rated: Stock is not within regular research coverage

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